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with power driven cutting cylinders

The '73" cut' Junior Motor Triple is the latest addition to the Ransomes family of power-driven gang mowers. A compact weather-beater with ample power where you want it - at the cutting cylinders.

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Hon. Secretary: W. Machin, Addington Court Golf Club, Featherbed Lane, Addington, Croydon, Surrey.
AUGUST CONTENTS

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It takes one professional to recognise another. Which is why ATCO mowers are used on some of the most famous stretches of turf in the country.

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Duddingston Golf Club in Edinburgh is looking around for ways to raise £31,000; the price needed to buy their course which they have leased for the past 75 years.

Jock Millar, the Burnham and Berrow head greenkeeper, won the Somerset County Championship at Burnham in May by one stroke from Michael Ham. Millar came to the last hole needing a four to win. He was 25 yards from the pin in two but the approach putt and the final three-footer gave him the championship. The week later, Millar and Ham together tied for first place in the Bristol Scratch Foursomes Championship at Shirehampton Park. The Burnham greenkeeping pair won after four extra holes in the play-off.

Portsmouth’s Great Salterns Golf Course will lose seven holes to industrial development next January, but an £8,000 scheme to provide 18 holes again within the next three years has already been approved.

The local residents’ association is up in arms about Dartford Rural Council’s plans for an additional nine-hole course in Lullingstone Park. Copies of their protest letter were sent to two M.P.s, three district councils, the Department of the Environment, the Countryside Commission, the Nature Conservancy, the Council for the Preservation of Rural England, the Footpaths Preservation Society, the Committee for the Preservation of Rural Kent, Orpington Field Club and the Kent Trust for Nature Conservation. A fairly wide coverage.

An American-European company, Hamblyn-Collett (Europe), is looking into the possibility of building a new course overlooking the Severn Gorge in the new town of Telford in Shropshire.

Ireland’s first public course is now taking shape 15 miles from Dublin city centre. Eddie Hackett is the designer and the length will be about 6,540 yards. A member of Cill Dara Golf Club, Richard Mather, owns the land and plans to do most of the work himself as he is a highly mechanised farmer.
The plus and minus aspects of automatic systems as they have been developed to date are presented.

Golfers' demands for top-quality turf on golf courses have never been more emphatic than they are today. One of the major maintenance operations affected by this trend is turfgrass irrigation, as manual procedures give way to sophisticated automatic systems.

Modern technology and extensive experience are producing automatic systems today that are extremely reliable, involve minimum maintenance, and can be tailored to meet superintendents' exacting needs for individual courses.

Surely, an irrigation system that is properly engineered, installed and managed can be one of a club's greatest assets. Thus, a great deal of preplanning should be given to proposed watering systems commensurate with the amount of money invested. When you install something as critically important as an underground irrigation system, you get only one chance to do it right.

A smooth-operating and efficient automatic irrigation system must be properly designed and installed so that it is more than just plumbing. It should be regarded as a precision tool for turf management that can provide true quality control for golf course superintendents.

Through the superintendent's efficient work plan for daily watering, absorption will be maximum and run-off minimum. Damage from overwatering, puddling and run-off is appreciably reduced by multishortcycling with appropriate delay intervals adjusted to soil infiltration rates. The varying ranges of moisture requirements from low-lying, damp fairways to high, dry areas is best met by automatic irrigation's precise timing of each individual sprinkler head. Contemporary design provides this necessary factor of full control of each individual head.

Many Benefits

Another significant advantage of an automatic system is that it eliminates total dependence on night watermen. This is a job that nobody wants as it is usually a cold, wet and lonely one. However, it has always been one of the most critical jobs in the entire turfgrass management programme.

In the final analysis, probably the most notable benefit of automated irrigation is the constancy of service it offers: always on duty; capable of performing exactly to a superintendent's time plan; ready on command seven days a week with no time out for coffee breaks, vacations or illness.

What is happening in the golf industry today? What factors are influencing the irrigation scene? Actually there are a number of dominating factors. An analysis of some of the most prominent of these follows.

Manufacturers. In the past, most irrigation equipment was designed for large-scale agricultural uses. The fine-turf golf course market generally has been neglected, even though it has currently shown a considerable potential for growth. Until recently, very little research work was attempted to advance irrigation "hardware".

In taking advantage of the lack of adequate irrigation at most courses, some manufacturers have offered "free" engineering services to the unwary club or superintendent. Their blueprints were designed, of course, around specific equipment and could not be used for
competitive bidding on competitive components. Due to the many variations inherent within a single course, as well as from one course to another, these services proved to be impractical, often incomplete and did not give the superintendent complete control over his irrigation practices.

Within the last five years, several responsible manufacturers have invested in research and development programmes to upgrade sprinkler heads, valves, controllers, pumping plants and pipe. An additional boost for the industry is the improved communication between manufacturers and superintendents, which has helped to pinpoint the needs of the superintendents more accurately.

**Installing Contractors.** Among contractors, as with manufacturers, there are a few who are guilty of offering similar “free” plans to clubs, exploiting the allure of the “package deal” to eliminate competition. The contractor’s plans, too, are far from being ideally customised. Their contract proposals are usually nebulous, being more favourable for the contractor than for the club. Also, such contractors frequently attempt to bypass the superintendent entirely by dealing directly with club officials. Some contractors are also distributors of various lines of equipment. Their plans obviously will be designed around the use of their equipment.

Fortunately, as communications improve, golf clubs and superintendents are becoming better informed and more alert to such pitfalls. Also, many of these unscrupulous operators are falling along the wayside since bone fide contractors will guarantee their work for at least three years.

On the more positive side, there are many talented and reliable contractors who have developed remarkably improved techniques for fast but economical installation, all in the best interests of the golfer, the superintendent and fine playing turf.

**Architects/Engineers.** These are the specialists who bring experience and professional know-how to the job. More than any other group, the architects and engineers are encouraging the involvement of superintendents in irrigation planning projects. Every set of plans should rightfully begin with basic requirements stated by the local superintendent. Usually, he is the most well-informed person as to how much, where, and when water is needed on his golf course.

Architects and engineers offer the most skilled assistance in seeing that a club gets its money’s worth. They act as an intermediary between the club, superintendent, manufacturer and contractor. As a balance wheel, they act with maximum efficiency in interpreting the superintendent’s needs into a system design that fits all of the many local conditions.

Architects’ and engineers’ services normally include the preparation of all plans, drawings, specifications, bonds, insurance guarantees, proposals and contracts. They usually include general supervision and guidance as the installation progresses. Occasionally they act as arbitrators when there is a dispute over compliance with specifications. They are the authorities who represent a club’s interests and serve to backstop and check all the involved parties. The fees paid to architects and engineers are the most worthwhile and prudent investment a club makes to guarantee a successful irrigation system.

**Club Officials.** Generally speaking, club officials refrain from personal involvement in club affairs other than making decisions of policy and direction. This is as it should be because it leaves the mechanics of the respective departments to the golf professionals, club managers and superintendents who are trained to cope with them.

With a new irrigation system, however, club officials are vitally concerned with obtaining the best potential insurance or guarantee possible against any type of failure for which they would ultimately be held responsible. Additionally, club officials are thoroughly interested in the system’s total expense and the degree of interruption to play during installation. Experience dictates that club officials who place their confidence in the superintendent’s recommendations stand the best chance for a
successful new system. Conversely, in situations where club officials bypass the superintendents, he is left so alienated or uninformed that he loses interest in the entire project that is to be left for him to manage.

Usually the good business sense and knowledge of financial matters possessed by club officials provide the vital support and guidance needed for a successful venture in installing a new automated irrigation system.

A further word of caution to club officials: beware of the club member who offers to furnish materials or services needed in an irrigation project. Occasionally, a club can benefit in this manner, but more often, objectivity is lost and personalities are likely to get involved.

Superintendents. The challenge offered to superintendents is to become well informed about every phase of automatic irrigation. When it is time for a new system at his course, he will be prepared to accept and handle his rightful responsibility.

It is a fact, though, that superintendents need better management tools. They also need the opportunity to make executive decisions and express opinions. In this way, they can cement relationships with their committees, boards of directors and, inevitably, their entire memberships.

In more meaningful terms, the superintendent’s involvement can mean:

- Growth in status;
- Recognition of his executive and technical ability;
- Boost in remuneration; and
- Self-satisfaction from a job well done.

Summary

Automated irrigation has emerged as a sound and efficient new management tool for better golf turf.

Golf clubs should avail themselves of the finest independent and professional engineering services possible.

Golf clubs should reject so-called “free” engineering services.

Manufacturers are constantly improving their research and development efforts in refinement of all components.

Contractors have made significant progress in the improvement of their installation techniques.

System guarantees now cover service up to three years.

While superintendents generally have been rather slow in accepting automation concepts, their views are rapidly changing with the continuing success of new installation techniques.

With grateful acknowledgement to the “Golf Superintendent”.

*Co-author Williams was motivated to collaborate with Geannopulos on an automatic irrigation article because of his strong feelings about the need to alert golf clubs, superintendents and the irrigation industry of important facts on this vital subject. As a golf course superintendent who has researched, planned, developed, installed and successfully operated one of the most contemporary classic irrigation systems in the country, his thoughts on this topic are particularly significant.

---

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SEPT.  8th     8th     14th     14th     15th     16th
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          Welsh Section Autumn Tournament
          Midland Section Autumn Tournament
          International Sportsground Machinery and Equipment Exhibition —
          Motspur Park

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CRICKET SQUARES,
BOWLING GREENS
TENNIS COURTS,
GOLF COURSES etc.
the easy —
way
with the
PARKAMATIC
TRAVELLING
SPRINKLER
from
PARKER

This Sprinkler has been developed in conjunction with Mr. A. McTaggart, the Ground Superintendent of the famous Motspur Park Athletic Grounds.

Designed to provide the Professional user with a completely Automatic method of even watering. Cricket Squares, Bowling Greens, Tennis Courts, All Weather Surfaces and Running Tracks all come within the scope of this machine which represents a break through in high speed efficient and even watering.

No staking, wires or other elaborate preparations are necessary with the "PARKAMATIC" simply lay out hose pipe on a predetermined course and the "PARKAMATIC" will do the rest, straight travel and curved all come within its scope.

The machine travels 140 ft. per hour pulling ½" Alkathene Tubing at pressures of 40 lb. p.s.i.

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The Independent Firm with the Personal Service.
Worcester Park, Surrey Tel: 01-337 0861 01-337 7791 (10 lines)
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Our picture shows the specially designed flags which were presented by Ransomes to the British Golf Greenkeepers' Association for their annual tournament which this year is being held at Hollinwell, Nottingham.

Ransomes wide range of accessories are colourful and durable and can be personalised for individual club's motif. The prices are competitive and are manufactured by Ransomes in Scotland, the home of golf. Full details and illustrated coloured catalogue are available on request to Ransomes.

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Grounds like Trent Bridge, Murrayfield, Hampden Park. Plus some of the country’s finest golf courses, race courses and bowling greens.

These unbeatable fertilisers are scientifically formulated to give the growth that hard working turf needs to look fresher, play better, stay stronger longer. S.A.I. Turf Foods' acidifying action discourages worms so turf stays cleaner as well as greener, and their granular form means easy handling and spreading with no drift. So where you put them they stay.

All enquiries to the manufacturers or to our accredited supplier for England and Wales: CHIPMAN CHEMICAL CO. LTD., Horsham, Sussex. Tel. Horsham 60341/5.
The beneficial effects of grassland on soil structure have been known for many years. The improvement in structure is brought about by a number of processes:

1. Drying the soil

Clay contracts when dried and thus creates cracks in the soil which aid drainage and allow root penetration into the subsoil. As the soil dries, the bonds holding together the discrete particles which make up the crumbs and granules are strengthened.

2. Binding together of soil particles

The network of fine roots produced by the grass weave between and through the soil crumbs and promote their stability both by the direct physical effect of keeping the crumbs separated from each other and by the production of gums and mucilages which bind the soil particles together.

3. Adding organic matter

Leaves, stems and roots of all crops are sources of organic matter for the soil but grass adds most. The debris and residues from crops and grass can have a direct effect on soil structure before they break down by improving aeration and drainage, but they are more often thought of as sources of humus. Grass is superior to most other crops as a source of organic matter; a productive ley can add about 0.06 per cent organic matter to the top six inches of soil for each year of its life.

4. Protecting the soil surface

Tractors and other farm machinery, livestock and the impact of rain all apply pressure to the soil surface. The effect is much reduced when the surface is protected by leaves and stems. Grass is a particularly useful protective crop as it provides cover throughout the year.

5. Reducing soil disturbance

Cultivations can encourage the breakdown of organic matter and if ill timed can create clods and pans. The absence of cultivations in a ley allows soil structures to remain undisturbed thereby encouraging the development of stable structural units.

It does not follow that all grass will bring about a dramatic improvement in soil structure. A poor, neglected ley may contribute little either as a source of organic matter or crumb stability. Where a grass break is aimed primarily at structure improvement a vigorous, well managed ley should be grown with attention paid to the following points:

(i) Care should be taken to obtain good establishment by producing a good tilth and breaking any existing pans.

(ii) Adequate fertilizer should be given and any acidity corrected by liming.

(iii) Utilisation should be planned to promote maximum root growth.

(iv) Avoid poaching by stock or excessive use of farm machinery when the soil is wet.

(v) Any drainage defects should be rectified.

It must be remembered that on soils with inherently weak structure where low organic matter contents create problems much can be done to mitigate the problem during arable cropping; for example, take extra care with cultivations, avoid dilution of organic matter by over-deep ploughing, match crops grown to the soil properties.
6' HAYTERMOWER

The 6ft. Haytermower rotary grass cutter is a fully trailed machine with 6ft. cut. It follows closely the contours of undulating ground and for rough cutting on golf courses it cannot be bettered. It will cut grass of any length even in wet conditions. Rate of cut 3 acres per hour in good conditions.

* Easy positive cutting height adjustment from 1" to 5" in six positions.
* Cuts any length of grass — wet or dry.
* Operates from the tractor p.t.o.
* Robustly constructed.
* Cuts quickly and efficiently without choking.
A new use for an already proven herbicide — the control of aquatic weeds — was demonstrated in the United Kingdom at its first public showing in July.

The product is Casoron G which was introduced at a Demonstration of Aquatic Weed Control Methods organised by the Association of Drainage Authorities at Yaxley, near Peterborough, on July 7-8.

Granular in form and containing dichlobenil as the active ingredient, Casoron G is already approved by the Ministry of Agriculture for control of a range of aquatic weeds — following Ministry clearance in the UK, Casoron G is also registered for use in water in the USA, Australia, Holland and certain other European countries.

It is both widely used and carries Ministry approval for control of many land weed species. Casoron G has been developed for use in the UK by Duphar-Midox of Smarden, Kent — a subsidiary of the giant Dutch Philips Group, which manufactures Casoron G in Holland.

For the Demonstration in July, Duphar-Midox treated 200 yards of a drain about 2 ft. deep and 3 yds. wide — up stream was an untreated control.

Casoron G will control a wide range of submerged, rooted floating and some emergent species of water weeds in still or sluggishly flowing water bodies — ponds, lakes, ditches, drains and so on. Flowing water can be treated, providing flow is checked for seven days after application.

Application is by hand or air assisted knapsack applicator direct to the water surface or exposed bottom mud. Care must be taken to ensure even distribution of granules.

The application rate is dependent on surface area and depth:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Depth in feet</th>
<th>Rate lbs./acre</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These rates will result in a final water concentration of 1 ppm active dichlobenil, which is sufficient for good control of susceptible species — but well below any danger level for fish, fish fry, spawning and hatching. Aquatic fauna, phytoplankton and food chain organisms are likewise unaffected.

Application is in the late spring — usually in May as an early post-emergence treatment. This avoids de-oxygenation, which can result from gross weed collapse following post-emergence treatment. Later applications can however be made if needed. Following treatment, water should not be used for irrigation purposes for four weeks.

**SUSCEPTIBILITY OF AQUATIC WEEDS TO CASORON G**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBMERGED</th>
<th>EMERGENT</th>
<th>FLOATING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Callitriche stagnalis</td>
<td>Alisma plantago-aquatica</td>
<td>Hydrocharis morsus-ranae</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Starwort)</td>
<td>(Water plantain)</td>
<td>(Frog-bit)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ceratophyllum demersum</td>
<td>Equisetum fluviatile</td>
<td>Ranunculus aquatilis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Hornwort)</td>
<td>(Water horsetail)</td>
<td>(Water crowfoot)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chara spp (Stonewort)</td>
<td>Equisetum palustra</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elodea canadensis</td>
<td>(Marsh horsetail)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Canadian pondweed)</td>
<td>Rumex hydrolapathum</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hottonia palustris</td>
<td>(Great water dock)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Water violet)</td>
<td>Sagittaria sagittifolia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lemma trizula</td>
<td>(Arrow head)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Ivy dockweed)</td>
<td>Stratiotes aloides</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myriophyllum verticillatum</td>
<td>(Water soldier)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Curled water-milfoil)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Submerged continued**

- *Potamogeton crispus* (Curled pondweed)
- *Potamogeton pectinatus* (Fennel-leaved pondweed)
- *Zanichellia palustris* (Horned pondweed)

**MODERATELY SUSCEPTIBLE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Submerged</th>
<th>Emergent</th>
<th>Floating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Myriophyllum spicatum</em> (Spiked water-milfoil)</td>
<td><em>Nasturtium officinale</em> (Water cress)</td>
<td><em>Lemna gibba</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Utricularia vulgaris</em> (Greater bladderwort)</td>
<td><em>Oenanthe spp</em> (Water dropworts)</td>
<td><em>Potamogeton natans</em> (Broad-leaved pondweed)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ministry approval currently covers those species in italic.

**MODERATELY RESISTANT**

- *Glyceria fluitans* (Flote grass)
- *Iris pseudacorus* (Yellow flag)
- *Glyceria maxima* (Yellow flag)
- *Sparganium ranosum* (Flote grass)

**RESISTANT**

- *Butomus umbellatus* (Flowering rush)
- *Carex spp* (Sedges)
- *Juncus spp* (Rushes)
- *Phalaris arundinacea* (Reed grass)
- *Phragmites communis* (Reed)
- *Typha spp* (Reedmace)

**FLOATING**

- *Nuphar lutes* (Yellow water-lily)
- *Nymphaea alba* (White water-lily)
- *Polygonum amphibium* (Amphibious bistort)

Ministry approval currently covers those species in italic.

---

**TRADE NEWS**

### THE JACOBSEN TURF KING

King of the Professional Ride-On Mowers and the best of all for close work is the claim made by Rolfe’s Mini-tractors Limited for the Jacobsen Turf King they are now importing from America.

The easy-riding, well-balanced Turf King is said to be the finest machine of its type available today. Its versatility and smooth cutting ability are the result of years of research and testing under a variety of grass-cutting conditions to allow the operator to do much of the close work and trimming usually done with a walking mower.

The three power-driven mower units are fully articulated to follow uneven ground contours and will put a fine, smooth finish on up to 20 acres per eight-hour day, with the facility to be re-lapped that evening by a lapping device fitted as standard equipment.

The Turf King’s cutting widths are 76 or 84 inches with height adjustments by micrometer screws. The machine can take rugged use and has variable forward speeds plus reverse, flexible side units will overhang traps and flower beds without scalping, and the Turf King can move between jobs at up to 5½ miles per hour. Its fuel tank has a two gallon capacity to feed its 12 h.p. engine with optional electric start.

The Jacobsen Turf King is just one of the range of professional turf care machines from Jacobsen, probably world leaders in this field, all of which are immediately available for demonstration anywhere in the country from Rolfe’s Mini-tractors, Winchester Hill, Romsey, Hants.
LANSDOWN GOLF CLUB INSTALLS AN £8,500 AUTOMATIC IRRIGATION SYSTEM

Lansdown Golf Club, Bath, like so many clubs, have experienced irrigation problems. Keeping the greens in peak condition during dry weather has caused many difficulties for the groundsmen as well as being a time-consuming occupation.

The club's "projects" committee has successfully tackled this problem and really "gone to earth". An £8,500 automatic irrigation system — the first of its kind in the West Country — has been installed. It will produce a course on which the greens should always be in perfect condition. Golfers will be able to play their approach shots on to the greens with much greater control and should be able to putt much more accurately.

The system — designed by Wright Rain Ltd. of Ringwood, Hants., and installed by John Wallis Titt & Co., Ltd. of Warminster — will enable the club to apply, automatically to each green at night, exactly the right amount of water to keep it in tip-top condition. The system will also cut labour costs. No labour will be needed to water the greens, so groundsmen can spend more time on other essential jobs. Also, the danger of burning greens with fertilisers is eliminated as they will always be washed down into the soil.

The system consists of "pop-up" sprinklers let into the turf on the edge of each green. Each green has four or five sprinklers surrounding it. These sprinklers are only 4½ inches deep and 3 inches wide. When sunk into the ground with the tops at grass level they hardly show at all.

Under water pressure the tops pop up about half-an-inch and the water sweeps across the green in a fine spray.

The whole operation is controlled by an electronic automatic sequence controller which operates a small electric pump. This is installed near the clubhouse in a special building which also contains a 6,000-gallon water tank. All the greenkeeper has to do is to programme the controller so that the greens are watered one at a time in sequence for a certain length of time. Some greens may need more water than others and the programme can easily be arranged to allow for this. Each set of sprinklers are controlled by a solenoid valve let into the ground near the greens.

At Lansdown it has been decided that the automatic watering will take place in the early hours of the morning when the minimum of evaporation takes place. A 15-minute watering puts 500 gallons into each green, each night, and provides, over a week, the equivalent of three-quarters of an inch of rain.

On the majority of golf courses it is possible to lay all pipes and cables by mole plough and the complete installation takes two months. Due to the rock strata at Lansdown it was necessary to use an excavator and this increased the time for the installation; but even so, play was not interrupted at any time.

FOR FAST GREENS
FIT A GRASS COMB TO YOUR MOWER

STEWART & CO., FINE TURF SPECIALISTS EDINBURGH. EH2 2AY
DEAR Mr Dix,

I hardly know how to start this letter to you. I am a member of the B.G.G.A. and receiving the Journal way down under.

I was head greenkeeper to Formby Golf Club, Lancashire, for 20 years and then head greenkeeper to the Wentworth Golf Club. But in June 1970 I emigrated to Australia. I have worked at Victoria Golf Club, but six weeks ago I was engaged as course manager to Kings Wood Golf Club which is in Dandenong, about 20 miles from Melbourne. It is an 18-hole course, 6,800 yards long with 1,000 members. My new address is c/o Kings Wood Golf Club, Centre Dandenong Road, Dingley, Victoria 3172, Australia.

I will tell you something about greenkeeping in Aussieland. I have a good friend at Kingston Heath Golf Club from Blackburn Golf Club. His name is Bill Hunt.

The worst enemy here is fungus. With the temperature always about 70-75 degrees, there is always fusarium knocking about. May & Baker have a plant here which is a good thing. Grass grows here all the time, never stops growing. We never see snow or frost but plenty of rain and wind. We never need to use top-dressings, only sand, or light sand, as the more nitrate we use the more chances of fungus. So we have to be very careful what we use. Ransomes also have a plant here.

I hope you have a successful season in the U.K. I write to my pal, Harry Walsh, from the North-West Section where I send my subs, so I know what is going on. Please write back as a letter is always welcome.

May I wish you all good luck.

With kind regards from
Len Partridge.
It was reported in the Press some time ago, that someone had been writing THINGS on the wall. Not, in this instance, in some junior school, public convenience, or Ban the Bomb on any brick wall available, but in a golf club.

The underlying causes of this desire to scribble on walls will be attributed by "Trickcyclists", Freudians and other plausible explainers, to circumstances or environment in early days. Frustrations or inhibitions. Budding authors nipped in the bud. Frustration breeds revolutionaries, and rather than drive them underground it might be a good idea to give them rein and let them have one glorious binge of wall writing.

At the time I write spring is at hand. The clubhouse is to be redecorated, so why not let the malcontents loose with buckets of highly coloured paint to splosh their slogans on a wall. It would at least be less dreary than the Suggestion Book. The effect could be both startling and entertaining. Imagine passing through the portals of some distinguished club to observe: "Down with the Captain" splashed across the wallpaper. Abusive references to the Secretary such as: "The secretary is an orful ass." While possibly containing an element of truth (seldom), might cause vacancies unless he took the view that boys will be boys. "I sor the steward kissing the waitress" in purple lettering over the bar would make a good talking point; raising the status of the steward in the eyes of the more timid members, and a questionable speculation on the part of the lotharios.

It might, though, be embarrassing on taking a guest into the dining room to be faced with: "The nosh here is friteful." The temptation to pay off old scores would prove irresistible. Consider the relief, after years of a self-denying ordinance, of seizing a brush and in bold strokes writing: "I sor Bloggs kick his ball out of the ruff." And the member whose dance at the Club Ball was cut by the Lady Captain: "You musta been a beautiful baby. Gawd, just look at you now."

There is a hesitation in imputing practices of which one is ignorant, but if girls write on walls would we find jealousy raising its ugly head in the Ladies Room, with: "Gert loves Cuthy," and a rather shaky sketch of a heart pierced by a putter of improbable design?

This business of writing on the wall would also offer some advantages. On those Sunday mornings when you cannot get near the bar for the crush of members and a visiting society, an announcement in ringing tones that someone has written something rather murky in the changing room, and the bar is yours for sufficient time to order a drink, possibly two.

There is, alas, always somebody who goes and overdoes it, and we are left with the clot who scrawls in letters a foot high: "Henry Craw-Thomas can't play golf for toffee." on the very day that distinguished correspondent chooses to visit the club.

While writing this, the television has been playing a wartime dance tune; "These foolish things." In which we have been indulging in flippancy. It may be fitting to end with a true story. A member had arranged a match between the Old Fools and the Young Fools on a first of April. He also asked a member addicted to the ridiculous to think up a jape for the occasion. When members arrived they were disconcerted to find "Out of Order" posted on the door to the "Gents". The thick woodland surrounding the 1st tee became overcrowded. The matter eventually came to the secretary's ears. In some umbrage he enquired of the steward why he had not been informed. The steward "knew nuffink."

I shall not disclose the name of the perpetrator. At over 60 he should perhaps have eschewed an upsurge of youth. A moment I shall not forget for many years, if ever.
A NORTH LONDON GOLF CLUB requires a 1st Assistant Greenkeeper. Wages by negotiation. Preferably single. Application with details of experience and brief personal history to the Secretary, Muswell Hill Golf Club, Rhodes Avenue, Wood Green, London, N.W.2. Telephone 01-888 1764 or 2044.

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A.G.M.
The Annual General Meeting was held at the Stirling Castle Hotel on Wednesday, 26th May 1971, Mr J. Wallis-Arthur presiding. Following the reading of the minutes of the last A.G.M. and Secretary's report, the balance sheet was adopted. In proposing the balance sheet, J. K. Glass said the secretary was to be congratulated on its presentation. Seconded by J. Kirkpatrick.

Matters Arising
It was confirmed to the meeting that all future meetings would take place at The Ship Tavern, 27 Lime Street, London, E.C.2. More details in later magazine.

It was proposed by the secretary on behalf of absentee A. E. Creese, that first-year competitors should play together. Once again, this proposal was turned down. However, it was agreed that to make sure the newcomers know the fundamentals of golf, three cards signed by their club secretary must be submitted with their entry.

Election of Officers
The following were elected for the year:—

Retirement
Mr C. R. Cooke has written to say he is now retiring at last from the head man's job at St George's Hill. He says that the club have settled him into a nice little cottage not too far away and that the cottage garden will keep him busy for at least six months knocking it into shape. He sends his regards to all his friends and I know you will all wish him a long and happy retirement.

Greetings also from Harry Hughes in Devon.

New Members
A warm welcome is extended to our new members whose names are listed below. J. E. Atkins (Chesterfield).
S. Borg and M. Burns of South Herts.

Spring Tournament
Forty-two members took part in the Annual Spring Tournament played over the course of the Garforth Golf Club, Leeds, on Monday, 17th May, by courtesy of the club committee. This was the section's first ever visit to the course and a most generous welcome and kind assistance was given by all members of the club staff.

Following tea, the prizes were presented by Reg Lewis, the club professional.

Results—Scratch Prize: M. Barrett 79-84 = 163.
1st Division: 1st, P. Ford 73-73 = 146; 2nd, D. Roberts 78-74 = 152; 3rd, C. Geddes 77-75 = 152.
2nd Division: 1st, R. Lambert 73-66 = 139; 2nd, M. Rooks 76-65 = 141; 3rd, D. Sellers 76-66 = 142.
Veteran's Prize: S. Smith.

Our thanks are due to the following firms who kindly contributed to our prize fund:—
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NORTH-WEST

By H. M. Walsh

Hon. Secretary

Chairman:
T. Brennan
(Royal Birkdale)

New Treasurer
I would once again like to draw the attention of all members to the address of our new treasurer. Will you please forward subscriptions, which are now due, to R. Janovskis, Esq., 303 Moor Side Road, Swinton, Manchester.

Annual Draw
Will members please let me have all monies, counterfoils and unsold tickets by the date printed on counterfoils.

New Members
We welcome to the section the following new members and hope their association with us will be a happy one:—
Hon. Member — R. Daniels, Parks & Sportsground Machinery.
G. E. Lloyd, Hillside Golf Club, Southport.
C. Brown, Hillside Golf Club, Southport.
W. G. Watt, Hillside Golf Club, Southport.
F. Brocklehurst, Houldsworth Golf Club, Manchester.
G. Corcoran, Lee Park Golf Club.
B. S. Gregson, Hesketh Golf Club, Southport.

EAST MIDLAND

By S. Fretter

Hon. Secretary:

Chairman:
J. Carrick

Annual Spring Golf Tournament
The Annual Spring Golf Tournament was held at Kibworth Golf Club on Wednesday, 2nd June 1971, by kind permission of the captain and committee. The weather was very good, and also a good entry of greenkeepers, visitors and vice-presidents. Our thanks to the steward and his wife, to the inside and outside staff, and also to the professional for the use of the trolleys. Our thanks also to Mr A. Thornton, Mrs Mott, Mr K. Buckledee, Mr Vaughan for helping with the starting, raffle, etc. Our thanks also to Mr D. Whitehead for the buying of the prizes. Also thanks to the following for prizes: Messrs John Player and Sons; Messrs Ransomes, Sims & Jefferies Ltd; H. Pattison Ltd.; Leicester Horticultural Engineers; Rigby Taylor Ltd; Leicestershire

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The winners were as follows:

Greenkeepers
1st prize, R. O'Hara (Stanton on the Wolds), 63 net; 2nd, I. Toone (Kirby Muxloe), 71 net; 3rd, A. Shaw (Radcliffe on Trent), 73 net (last nine); 4th, W. Tuckwood (Charnwood Forest), 73 net; 5th, M. Lake (Northampton County), 73 net; 6th, G. Dunckley (Northampton County), 74 net; 7th, C. Fillis (Northampton County), 75 net; 8th, J. L. Bowley (Charnwood Forest), 78 net (last nine); 9th, C. Fillis (Northampton County), 75 net; 8th, J. L. Bowley (Charnwood Forest), 78 net (last nine); 9th, W. Woods (Stanton on the Wolds), 78 net; 10th, D. Warrington (Birstall), 78 net; 11th, J. Carrick (Northampton County), 78 net; 12th, F. Frost (Derby County), 79 net (last nine); 13th, D. Bagshaw (Stanton on the Wolds), 79 net.

First-Year Greenkeepers Prize
S. Ablett (Northampton County), 96 net.

Vice-Presidents
1st, R. E. Whitcombe (Chilwell Manor), 74 net; 2nd, R. Bailey (Kidworth), 76 net.

Visitors
S. James, 77 net.

New Members
I would like to welcome on behalf of the above greenkeepers the following new members to this section.
S. Ablett, Esq., 15 Cranford Road, Kings-thorpe, Northampton.
R. A. Barrass, 57 Griggs Road, Shelthorpe, Loughborough.
J. Roberts, 2 Lilac Close, Keyworth, Notts.
P. Malin, 39 Grantham Road, Radcliffe on Trent, Notts.
J. P. Frost, 24 Leverton Green, Clifton, Nottingham.

Vice-Presidents
H. L. Hedley, 96 Station Road, Cropston, Leicester.
A. Clarke, 21 Station Road, Birstall, Leicester. LE4 3RB
J. L. White, 8 Wavertree Drive, Leicester. LE4 7NU

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TO MANUFACTURERS.—In order that our information may be kept constantly up to date, manufacturers or suppliers are requested to forward their latest trade lists, catalogues, and any other confidential information regarding their products. By so doing the Bureau will be able to function to the mutual benefit of all concerned.

TRADE REVIEWS.—The Editor will be pleased to arrange to devote space in our editorial columns to a review of our advertisers' products, etc. Will advertisers please forward details for this purpose.
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