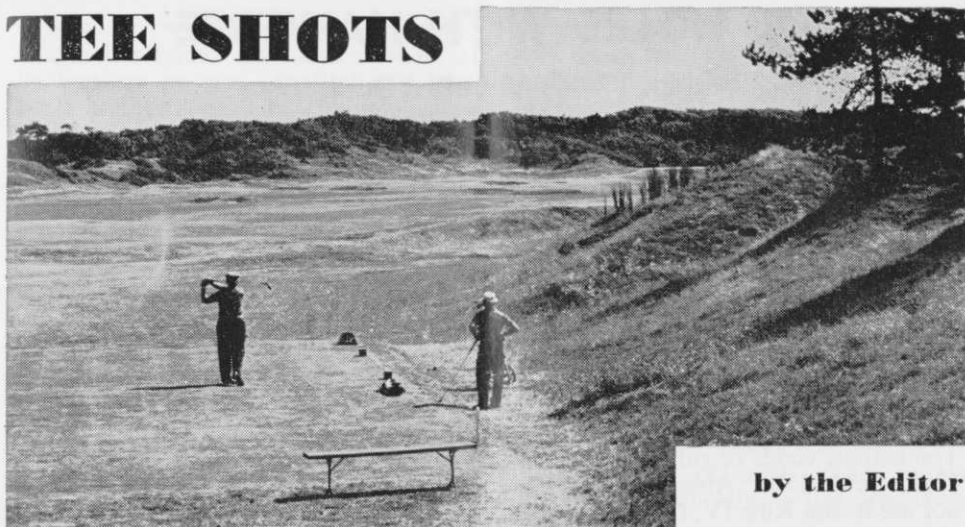


TEE SHOTS



by the Editor

The construction of new courses is still dominated by municipal effort. At this moment, probably a hundred local authorities are thinking about providing local inhabitants with more room for golf and if all these schemes are realised the present discomforts of municipal golf will be much reduced.

Schemes already under construction are these at Easthampstead (covering Wokingham and Bracknell as well), Newcastle-under-Lyme, Luton, Strood, Tonbridge, Grangemouth in Scotland, the London Borough of Havering, Scunthorpe, Portsmouth and Ellesmere Port.

Schemes actively in process of preparation include courses at Swindon, an extension from nine to 18 holes at Nelson, at Aberdeen, Richmond and in the Lea Valley.

Others are being investigated at Bromyard, Wirral, Rayleigh, an extension from nine to 18 at Berwick on Tweed, at Bristol, Caerleon and Cheshunt.

Where will all the greenkeepers come from to man these courses?

The only initiative ever taken to meet this problem has come from within the ranks of greenkeepers themselves. Clubs watch their staff diminish and hope that more mechanisation will do the work. But there is a limit to this line of action and some of the latest machines like the ride-on triple mowers produce their own problems.

Golf Unions seem primarily concerned with championships, the Golf Development Council with producing more golf courses, the Golf Foundation with producing more golfers.

It is time they all got their heads together to decide what must be done to ensure that all their efforts will not founder on the simple basic need for good maintenance.

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