

December 1979

No.415



GOLF GREENKEEPING AND COURSE MAINTENANCE

The Official Journal of the British Golf Greenkeepers Association



3rd International Golf Greenkeepers & Superintendents Tournament

TEAM	SCORES PER ROUND			TEAM	SCORES PER ROUND		
	EV	ROUND	TOTAL		EV	ROUND	TOTAL
BELGIUM	40	44	84	REPUBLIC OF IRELAND	40	41	81
CANADA	40	39	79	SCOTLAND	37	40	77
ENGLAND	39	43	82	U.S.A.	44	40	84
EUROPE	39	44	83	WALES	40	42	82
NORTHERN IRELAND	40	36	76				



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TORO TOPICS

**A VERY HAPPY
CHRISTMAS**
from the authors of
TORO TOPICS

The truth of the matter is that the chaps who usually contribute their expertise to these notes have decided to let lesser mortals have the type-writer for this issue! Before they climbed aboard their aircraft — bound for golf courses in sunnier climates, they cheerfully cried: "You write it!".

Which brings me neatly back to Christmas — instead of trying to flannel my way through paragraphs of technical stuff about irrigation and how wonderful it is for golf courses I would simply, on behalf of all those at Toro, their Dealers — Installers and perhaps the many golfers who benefit from all your labours, wish you, gentlemen, a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

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BGGGA SYMPOSIUM AND GOLF INTERNATIONAL

It does not seem three years since we held our last Symposium and Golf International but alas it is. The 1979 event took place at the Penns Hall Hotel, Sutton Coldfield for the Symposium and Walsall Golf Club for the Golf Greenkeepers International and Superintendents Tournament on the 9th and 10th October 1979. This was without doubt the most successful and enjoyable double event to date and I would like to express my sincere thanks to the chairmen, speakers, Ransome Sims and Jefferies, lady helpers, Vic Smith, Colin Geddes, and all trade members who contributed to the success of the occasion.

I would also like to thank the delegates for their support. However, I feel I must express my disappointment that more BGGGA members did not support the event. I regularly hear the comment "What do the Executive Committee arrange for us? etc." and sometimes wonder if members realise that an event like this takes approx two years planning, with the Executive Committee travelling from all over the country and forming a working committee who spend a lot of their free time sorting out all the details. As anyone should know these events do not run themselves.

I also come across the strange comment that the BGGGA are not responsible for the Symposium, and I feel that if more members took an active part in the affairs of the Association perhaps they would realise that their Executive Committee work extremely hard to ensure an educational, enjoyable and financial success and are in full control of the Association's affairs.

It was brought to my notice shortly before the Symposium that at least three sections had major tournaments in the same week which prevented members attending. As previously mentioned all sections had at least two years' notice that the Symposium would take place on 9 October 1979, and I would request that in future section committees do not arrange conflicting events.

It is at members' request that this event is held in a different area each time to enable all members to have a fair share in being within easy reach and to date they have taken place in the South, North and Midlands. The Committee do their best for members and deserve, and would appreciate, a little more support from the membership.

The date of the next symposium and International Greenkeepers and Superintendents Golf Tournament is 1982. (Please make a note in your diaries.)

WALTER HEELES
Hon Secretary, BGGGA

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Continued overleaf

The Third International Greenkeepers and Superintendents Golf Tournament took place at the Walsall Golf Club on Wednesday, 10 October 1979. Nine teams took part representing Belgium, Canada, England, Europe, N Ireland, Republic of Ireland, Scotland, Wales and USA. This event was won by the Belgium team with the USA team second.

It was especially pleasing to see the interest taken by the members of Walsall Golf Club who acted as referees and caddies to each team, our thanks are also given to the club officials and staff who made us all welcome.

This Tournament is sponsored by Ransomes Sims and Jefferies who also invited the teams and guests to a banquet in the evening, and on behalf of the BGGGA I would like to thank them for their hospitality, generosity and helpfulness which made this an occasion enjoyed and appreciated by all present.

Thanks are also given to Pringle of Scotland who very kindly donated sweaters to the England team.

The BGGGA were hosts for lunch at Walsall Golf Club for the teams, officials and guests.

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THIS MONTH'S FRONT COVER

This month's front cover shows a selection of photographs taken by Ransomes at the BGGGA Symposium and International Golf Tournament. Commencing top left reading left to right they depict: 1 Vic Smith; 2 English Team; 3 John Wilson of Ransomes presenting Tournament Flag to Walter Heeles; 4 Winning Belgium Team; 5 Team players, officials and wives; 6 Jim Arthur addressing the Symposium; 7 Mr and Mrs Walsh talking to Fred Hawtree; 8 Scoreboard; 9 Trophies; 10 Charles Tadge (USA) presenting Book to BGGGA members; 11 USA Team; 12 European Team.



Charles H. Tadge, President of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, making a presentation to our newly-elected President, Peter Allis. The gift consisted of a leather-bound copy of the first issue of the GCSA magazine, plus a special issue published to commemorate the 50th anniversary of their Association. Copies were also presented to Gill Woodward, Head Greenkeeper at Walsall Golf Club, and to our National Chairman, Richard Lewis. Each copy was hand inscribed with a suitable dedication.

Thanks must go to John Field, one of our Vice-Presidents, and to Harry Mills, Head Greenkeeper at Wentworth Golf Club, for making this presentation possible at very short notice.

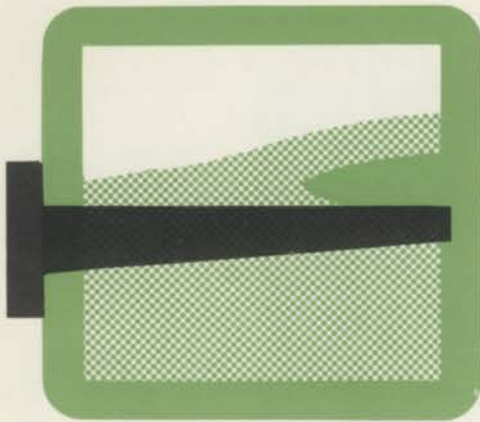
GREENKEEPER TRAINING

Referring to the article in our September 1979 issue on the Promotion of Discussions on Common Greenkeeping Problems to be held at East and West Cheshire Golf Clubs with the assistance of the Reaseheath College of Horticulture it has been decided that this will be reduced to sessions to be held at East Cheshire Golf Clubs, venues to be arranged, during the months of February and March 1980.

All interested have been informed but further details can be obtained from N. H. Rimmer, Cheshire Union of Golf Clubs Liaison Officer to the Greenkeeper Training Committee, 14 Dunham Lawn, Badgate Road, Altrincham, Cheshire WA14 5QJ. Telephone 061-941 1838.

We regret to report the death of Mr Ivor G. Nicholls, a Vice-president of the BGGGA.

Mr Nicholls was a Past President and Past Chairman of the Welsh Golfing Union and had been involved in the administration of golf for many years. We offer our sympathies to his family.



GOLF COURSE DESIGN

Some Personal Views on Modern Golf Course Architecture

by

J. Hamilton Stutt, BSc

Chairman, British Association of Golf Course Architects

PART 9

Everyone wants to be a Golf Course Architect!

Even though this short series has barely touched on the subject, I hope it will have at least given some idea of the complexities and fascinating range of knowledge and experience which is desirable if the best of golf architecture is to be achieved.

There will, I suppose, always exist those golfers (and they include experts and rabbits alike) who seem to play in blinkers and to be completely impervious to good or bad architecture so long as they are getting good lies! These poor souls miss a lot of the richness and variety which golf has to offer. Fortunately, I believe they are in the minority.

All golfers respond to beautiful surroundings, however, even if they do not always realise it themselves. Most *thinking* golfers, I find, also become very interested in golf architecture once it has been opened up to them.

As stated in my first article, I personally would greatly welcome an increased awareness amongst golfers of the differences between good golf architecture and the merely mediocre. Only if more people with positions of authority in golf are prepared to recognise the indifferent, and fight for the best, will we be able to make the 1980s another "Golden Age" (like the 20s and 30s) in golf architecture.

Golf greenkeepers can play a very important part in the realisation of this dream. In most clubs, only *you* can provide the continuity and depth of experience necessary to see that worthwhile improvements are carried out. These should ideally be in accordance with a long term plan, drawn up by a golf course architect, rather than the usual crop of "Captain's Follies", traces of which can be seen on almost every golf course.

I should like in this last article to sum up by repeating four of my own "Golden Rules". I hope that they may be of help to you both in influencing your Committee or Board and in seeing that any work carried out is as near as we can make it to "Golden Age" standards:—

1. **Avoid change for the sake of change.** (New greens, layouts and other major items should only be embarked upon if a very real benefit is likely to accrue.)
2. When choosing a golf architect, ask for a list of courses designed and **go and see at least two of the more recent.**
3. Apply these two simple tests to any feature about which you may be doubtful.
(a) **Does it look natural?** — if not, it is wrong!
(b) **Can it be easily mown by triplex mower, etc.?** — if not, it is usually wrong!
4. Lastly, if you should be tempted to

"have a go" at a little golf architecture yourself, Good Luck, Sir! May I only urge you to:—

(a) **Study the many subtleties and strategies of some of our great Championship Links**, and of course designed in the "Golden Age" by such past masters as Simpson, Colt, Fowler, Mackenzie Ross, Morrison, etc., etc. Look too at some recent designs — see where you think we could have done better, where we may have succeeded — perhaps in adapting to modern machinery and intensity of play, perhaps in creating an attractive course on an unpromising site.

Although Parkstone came into being long before my time, this makes a nice excuse for me to include a photo of my home course!



Members playing their second shots to the 1st Green at the lovely Parkstone Golf Course in Dorset. Poole Harbour and the Purbecks in the background. No bunkers here to trap the tee shot, though plenty of interest in the approach.



On a summer day at Mullion with the birds singing, the sea blue, and waves cracking on the rocks beneath, golf is still the greatest fun and never mind if the course is only some 5,600 yards long.

(b) **Be human — never set anyone a golfing problem you would not like to at least try yourself.**

As an example, none of my recent golf courses has any fairway bunkers to trap drives from the first tee. Whatever they may say in public, there cannot be many golfers who are not thankful just to get a reasonable drive away as the first shot of the day!

I believe this is no time for either architect or golfer to try to be clever.

What it is all about

I was once asked after a talk to say what gave me the greatest satisfaction in golf architecture. I think it is the feeling of creating something out of nothing, something of lasting beauty which, hopefully, will give pleasure to thousands. Perhaps it can all be best summed up in the following two photographs, taken only 2½ years apart:—



Before



After

The 18th Green at St Mellion Golf and Country Club, nr. Plymouth, during the recent PGA Cup match. GB and Ireland in course of achieving a memorable victory over the USA.

The ironic thing is that if the golf architect has been really successful, his rôle will not be immediately obvious — the finished golf course should look as if it has always been there!

The nicest compliment I have ever had was from a client in Scotland who said, "You seem to make friends with the landscape, whereas others attack it".

It is remarks like that which help to make my job one of the best in the world!

Not long ago I was down in Mullion, on the Lizard Peninsular, Cornwall, trying to persuade them to keep their course as a natural seaside links and not mess about with it.

Sometimes there is a danger in these days of commercialisation and over emphasis on prize money, Standard Scratch Scores, Medal returns, 4½ hour rounds and similar modern pressures to forget that *golf should be fun*.

I would like to end by quoting the immortal words of the late Sir Alan Herbert in his "Song of Mullion".

"Now I will take my newest ball
and build a mighty tee,
And waggle once, or not at all
and bang it out to sea,
And hire a boat and bring it back
and give it one terrific whack
And hole it out in three,
or nine — or ten — or twenty-five

It matters not, to be alive
At Mullion in the summer time,
At Mullion in the silly time,
Is good enough for me."

Perhaps this is the very spirit of golf with which our ancestors first started knocking a ball about on the short seaside turf of Scotland well over 500 years ago.

I like to think so!



Bugs in the charging system— THE DYNAMO

Words: VIC MOORE

Illustrations: RICK CURTHOYS

WHEN looking for faults in the dynamo, disconnect both leads and join the two terminals with a short jump-lead to isolate the dynamo from the rest of the charging circuit. Short the armature output to the field so that the dynamo produces maximum voltage at the output terminal—the large one known as the D-terminal.

Connect a 12-volt bulb between the two linked terminals and earth, start the engine and slowly increase its speed. The bulb should glow very brightly at about 800 to 900rpm.

The voltmeter (see figure 1) will give a better indication of the cause of dynamo failure. Start the engine and slowly increase speed. The voltmeter reading should gradually increase and read about 13volts at the speed the generator should cut in. Do not increase engine speed so that the reading exceeds 20volts. A faulty armature, worn or sticking brushes or failed insulation around the output terminals could be responsible for the voltmeter failing to register a charge.

A reading of 2 to 3volts indicates a field circuit failure. The 2 to 3volts are generated by the slight permanent magnetism of the field.

When the dynamo appears to be producing a substantial voltage, repeat the test at the control box. Remove the leads to the D and F terminals, join them and the bulb or voltmeter between the joined leads and earth. When no voltage is registered at this end of the leads, there is a faulty connection or a break in the leads between the control box and the dynamo. When the same voltage is registered at the control box end of the leads and the dynamo end, the control box is faulty. Confirm this by substituting one which is known to work.

When replacing the leads on the control box, do not interchange the D and F leads, or the contact points in the control box will be damaged and the wiring loom and generator windings will overheat or burn out.

Where the dynamo is the trouble,

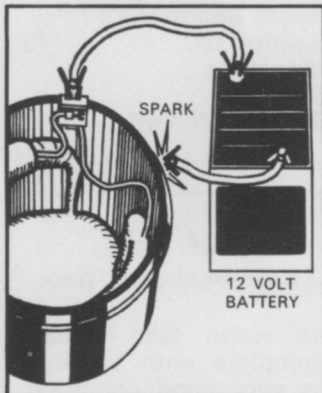


Figure 2: Checking for the continuity of the field circuit windings.

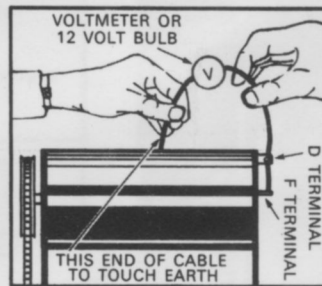


Figure 1: Testing for faults in the dynamo.

remove it for stripping down. Remove the end plate retaining-screws so that the armature assembly can be withdrawn from the dynamo shell. Most common dynamo fault is worn brushes. Often, thoroughly cleaning the end plate and commutator and fitting a new set of brushes is all that is required. Inspect the commutator for wear; if it is badly grooved or marked, fit an exchange unit. This also applies to the armature bearings. The drive end-bearing can be tested by wiggling the end plate and the commutator end-bearing by inserting the armature, noting any play.

Although these bearings are not expensive, they can be troublesome to fit. It is rarely worth spending time replacing them except on a fairly new dynamo.

When the armature is usable, clean it thoroughly with sandpaper and ensure that the mica insulation is undercut to a maximum depth of a 1/32in. A tool for this task can be made from an old hacksaw blade sharpened and ground down to fit between the commutator segments.

When the brush gear does not appear to be the cause of the trouble, check the continuity of the field circuit windings by using a battery and jump leads (Figure 2). Connect the battery to the dynamo. Where the tractor has a negative earth electrical system, connect the negative side of the battery to the body of the dynamo to avoid changing the polarity of the dynamo.

A useful tip when refitting the commutator end-plate is to set the springs on the side of the brushes as shown in figure 4.

After fitting the end plate, set the springs in their correct places. Dynamos fitted with sealed end plates can also be assembled in this manner, but the springs must be released when the end plate is about 1/4in from the dynamo body. Lubricate the commutator end bush with a little light engine oil (SAE 30).

Care must be taken when removing the drive pulley and fan from the old unit. The pulley must not be distorted. When the retaining nut sticks, do not hold the pulley in a vice or place a screwdriver in the blades of the fan. Try wrapping an old fan belt around the pulley and

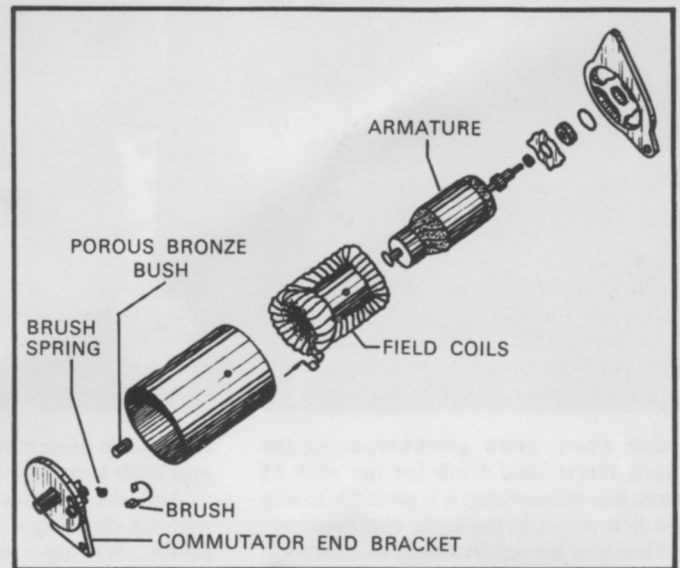


Figure 3: The dynamo. A common fault is worn brushes but these can be easily replaced.

grip this in the vice. A ring-spanner or socket-wrench on the nut can be hit with a hammer.

A new dynamo must be polarised so that it charges and does not discharge the battery. Take a length of insulated wire from the battery live terminal and "flash" it two or three times against the F terminal on the dynamo. This magnetises the field coils slightly with the correct polarity for the tractor. A dynamo from a negative-earth tractor may be fitted to a positive-earth tractor, provided that it is polarised before the engine is started for the first time.

Check the charging rate after fitting a new dynamo. The cause of failure could be the control box which allowed the old dynamo to become overloaded. This is a job for the dealer.

When fitted, the ammeter will give a rough indication of the charging rate. When the battery is in good condition and well charged, the reading should be no more than a few amperes.

A much higher reading means the system must be checked before expensive damage is done.

To test the charging system, fit

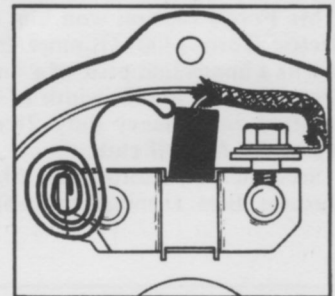


Figure 4: Setting the springs on the sides of the brushes.

an ammeter in the battery circuit. Then start the engine and while it is ticking over, remove the earth battery terminal and place the ammeter between this terminal and the battery post.

Do not disconnect the battery terminal when the engine is running fast, as this may damage the charging system.

The ammeter will indicate quite a high rate of charge for a short period after starting a tractor.

COMMON FAULTS

Symptom

1. No charge at all, warning light stays on, ammeter shows no charge and indicates a discharge when the lights are on.
2. Intermittent charge.

Possible cause

- Broken or very loose fan belt
- Faulty connection—check all connections, including the earth connection on the control box
- Faulty dynamo—hopefully brush trouble
- Faulty regulator—control box
- Loose fan belt
- Loose connection
- Commutator greasy or burnt
- Brushes sticking
- Broken brush spring
- Wire broken off the earth brush
- Faulty regulator—control box

YOU ONLY WIN TWICE



Frank Ford, head greenkeeper at the South Herts Golf Club for the past 15 years, has proved that it is possible to win two first prizes in the same competition.

That was his achievement in a cartoon caption-writing competition organised by Autoturfcare Ltd, UK distributors of Toro turf maintenance equipment.

Mr Ford's caption won him a mains electric Toro 1100 Trimmer/Edger as well as a bonus first prize of a Toro 2100 Trimmer with a 14in width of cut and powered by a heavy duty 21cc petrol engine for his golf club.

Seen here, Autoturfcare Managing Director Bert Jennings (centre) makes

the double presentation to Mr Ford (left) and club secretary Mr M. E. Dorey.

And the prize-winning caption to a cartoon showing a Toro trimmer-owner golfer waving to his fellow-golfer neighbour on hands and knees using traditional hand shears on his lawn edges who is saying: "If it's that good, why don't you take it with you — you know you're in the rough all the time!"

Runners-up, who each won a Toro 900 trimmer for themselves, were W. S. Fowles, of Kedleston Park Golf Club, and C. Moseby, of the New Blyth Golf Club.

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After several unofficial meetings to sound out local interest, the Mid Anglia Section of the BGGa has now been formed.

To avoid confusion as to our position geographically, we have made Bedfordshire our base county, and our aim is to cater for all of Bedfordshire, and parts of the adjoining counties, namely, North Hertfordshire, North Buckinghamshire, South Northamptonshire and West Cambridgeshire.

One of the principal reasons for forming this section was because of our isolation from other established Sections, and with fuel costs ever increasing, it was felt that a section in this area, which has some 40 or more courses in the locality, was long overdue.

A few weeks ago Aspley Guise and Woburn Sands Golf Club kindly put their facilities at our disposal, and some 20 of us had a most enjoyable afternoon's golf.

Our thanks to all concerned at Aspley Guise for having us.

On Monday, 29 October we were made welcome at Woburn Golf and Country Club. About 25 of us ventured out for nine holes on the new Dutchess Course, and thankfully all eventually returned. I think the majority of us, should we play at Woburn again, will deliberately leave at home all our woods and irons, and just use a pitching wedge and a putter. We may then only lose half a bag full of balls. No fault of the course, I hasten to add, it's just that a few of us need a yard or two more rough before the heather, bracken and pine.

However a few points were scored in our 9-Hole Stableford competition and the results were as follows.

1st with 15 points, Cyril Stevens

2nd with 14 points, Steve Hartley

Our thanks to Derek Green of Woburn and Gordon Hyams of Cannock Fertilisers for pro-

viding the prizes.

While at Woburn we took the opportunity to elect a Chairman and a committee for our section, and because many of us had previously not been members of the BGGa the following have completed their membership forms and paid their subscriptions.

E. P. Allen of Redbourn, Herts.
I. R. Bevan, Luton, Beds.
K. Bunting, Berkhamsted, Herts.
P. Bunting, Berkhamsted, Herts.
M. Campbell, Kimbolton, Cambs.
P. Clarke, Northampton County.
L. E. Cooper, Leighton Buzzard, Beds.
T. Cox, Sandy, Beds.
D. A. Croxton, Cold Ashby, Northants.
B. J. Dicker, Northants County.
D. Green, Woburn, Beds.
S. P. Hartley, Milton Keynes, Bucks.
D. John, Woburn Sands, Beds.
K. R. Jordan, Farthingstone, Northants.
A. M. Kennett, Tring, Herts.
M. J. Lake, Kingsthorpe, Northants.
M. A. Lay, Little Paxton, Cambs.
A. W. Moreton, Little Brickhill, Beds.
R. S. Morris, St Neots, Cambs.
D. H. Poots, Aspley Guise, Beds.
P. C. Quarmby, Hemel Hempstead, Herts.
M. Smith, Berkhamsted, Herts.
C. Stevens, Milton Keynes, Buckd.
H. J. Stroud, Berkhamsted, Herts.
S. G. Thomas, Milton Keynes, Bucks.
I. Turnbull, St Neots, Cambs.
M. Walls, Shefford, Beds.
N. G. Whitaker, Shefford, Beds.

BEDS. BERKS. & OXON.



As Chairman I would like to thank the members for their support during the first year of the Section. We have had our ups and downs but I hope these are all in the past. I would like to thank H. MacGillivray for the work he did to get the Section off the ground and also for the arrangements he has made for the future. At the AGM held at Maidenhead GC on 16 October P. Taylor was appointed Secretary and I am sure he will do a good job. The winter lectures are arranged and will be held at Calcot Park GC on the following dates when I hope to meet a large number of members. I am sure you will find something of interest at these meetings. The dates 27 November, 15 January, 19 February, the time 6 pm.

The golf outing at Frilford Heath, I am pleased to say, was a very good day when 58 members and guests played 36 holes and the prizewinners are as below. It was not only the prizewinners who enjoyed the day, I think everyone did. My thanks to all who helped in any way.

Your committee have arranged a Dinner-Dance to be held at Maidenhead Golf Club on 16 February 1980. I hope we will enjoy this night. At the time of writing I do not know the cost but will let you know as soon as we know. We will

have a limit of 70 so please book early with P. Taylor.

I hope this will be a start of regular newsletters and also hope some of you, the members, will find your way to writing something for the mag. It is you, the members who make the Section and not the committee.

I have been approached by Sisis if we would like a trip to their works during 1980. If you are interested please contact me, as this would have to be a two-day trip you would be asked to pay a small amount towards cost. Numbers would be about 20.

I am very pleased to say when we started the BBO Section we had 25 members during the first year, we now have over 80 members. I hope this will continue.

Once again I thank you for your support and look forward for the same during the next year.

R. B. Moffat
Chairman

Prizewinners at Frilford Heath

Morning (Stableford)
1st 39 S. Farrington and C. S. G. Philips (Frilford Heath)
2nd 36 S. Bryant and C. Perry (Gerrards Cross)

Afternoon (Greensome)
1st 37 G. Piggot and D. Wood (Henley)
2nd 36 M. Claydon and G. Toope (Flackwell Heath)

All Day (Total)
1st 70 R. Moffat and T. Shepherd (Calcot Park)
2nd 69 C. W. Mitchell and T. Spratly (Maidenhead)

58 entries from 20 clubs.
Prizes donated by 10 firms.

MIDLANDS

Chairman:
V. W. SMITH

Hon. Secretary:
A. KITE
17 Squires Croft
Walmley
Sutton Coldfield
W. Midlands



The autumn tournament was played on Monday, 8 October over the Coventry Hearsall Golf Club course. Once again we clicked for a beautiful sunny day which as we all know makes us feel as if we should be playing well even if we are not! I would like to thank the Captain and members of Coventry Hearsall Golf Club for the use of their course and club house facilities, also the Stewardess Mrs Webb for providing the meals, and Pete Marnock the Head Greenkeeper and his staff for preparing the course to such a good standard for the tournament, and finally thanks to the trade members who spent the day helping me out with the score cards, etc.

Scores and prizewinners — played over 27 holes

Best Gross, M. Hughes (115), Toro Cup, pen and pencil set, sweep.
1st net, A. Cutler (106), Clayton Cup, travel clock, sweep.
2nd net, P. Loffman (106), lighter, sweep.
3rd net, A. Grazier (107), bottle whisky.
4th net, D. Haynes (107), golf jumper.
5th net, H. Lewis (108), Wedgwood vase.

6th net, D. Salisbury (108½), bottle sherry.
 7th net, J. Hughes (108½), six golf balls.
 8th net, A. Phipps-Jones (110½), secateurs.
 9th net, P. Grice (110½), six golf balls.
 10th net, R. Pullen (111), bottle sherry.
 11th net, M. Horbury (111), golf glove.
 12th net, B. Woods (111), bottle sherry.
 13th net, E. Evans (112), wallet.
 14th net, A. Kite (112), golf glove.
 15th net, D. Shortly (113), three golf balls.
 1st Prize (Visitors Competition): T. Jones, 75 net.

Our sincere thanks to the following prize donors: Ashfield Mower Services Ltd, E. T. Breakwell Ltd, British Seed Houses Ltd, Cannock Fertilisers Ltd, Huxleys Grass Machinery, May & Baker Ltd, Mommersteeg International Ltd, Pattinson Ltd, Penfold Golf Ltd, Sisis Machinery Ltd, Sutton Seeds Ltd, Synchemicals Ltd.

Also thanks and apologies to any prize donors we may have omitted to mention.

The autumn tournament scores also decided the winner of the Jacobsen Trophy for 1979. This trophy is played for over the spring, summer and autumn tournaments, the winner being the player with the best net aggregate score over the 72 holes played. The 1979 winner is M. Hughes with a score of 284. His prize was a golf umbrella which was donated by Marshall Concessionaires Ltd, who were the instigators of the trophy.

I am sure all members of the Midland section will join me in wishing Ray Smith a speedy recovery from his recent illness.

NORTH WEST

Chairman:
 JIM ROBINSON
 "Bickley"
 Allithwaite
 Grange-over-Sands

**Hon. Secretary/
 Treasurer:**
 D. F. GOLDING
 38 The Grove, Flixton
 Manchester M31 3JH
 (Tel:
 061-748 8592)



Autumn tournament

Warrington Golf Club, Cheshire was the venue on Monday, 8 October for our annual Autumn Tournament. Over 40 greenkeepers played the course which, thanks to Reg Vickers and his staff, was in fine condition. The main prize was the Ransomes Cup and watch which was won in great style by Lawrence Pithie from Sandiway. Lawrence also shared the Superturf Aggregate Trophy with Robert Janovskis of Worsley. I think it is sometime since there was a tie for this cup and they both deserve credit for their scores. I hope Syd Arrowsmith has noted their scores and adjusted their handicaps accordingly. Bob, a recent addition to the over 55s, also won the Hargreaves Cup for the best nett score from an over "55". This led to an evening of discontent with our National Chairman questioning Bob's birth certificate and threatening to go to Poland for proof of its authenticity. Still, Dick, it was only half a shot, better luck next time!

It is difficult to know where to start in thanking people for helping make the day such a successful one, but Ransomes Northern representative, David Royle, certainly dealt with the

score cards, monies, etc most competently. The Steward and Stewardess for the most enjoyable meals and for keeping members topped up with liquid refreshment throughout the day. The Captain of Warrington Golf Club for presenting the prizes and also the club secretary for his help. As always the prize table was most impressive and it was thanks to the following donors: Ransomes, Sisis, Atco, Supaturf, Lloyds, Chipmans, Rigby-Taylor's, Fisons, Burrows, Theo's, May & Baker, Stewarts, Ockleshaws, Cannock, Metcalfs, Pattinsons, Warrington Golf Club and the Ladies Section of the Warrington Golf Club.

Prize list

Best net, Ransomes Cup and watch, L. Pithie (103).

Over 55s, Hargreaves Cup, R. Janovskis (109½).
 Best Gross, balls (golf), E. Walsh (111).

Supaturf Aggregate Trophy, R. Janovskis and L. Pithie (222).

2nd net, J. Taylor (107).

3rd net, E. Walsh (108).

4th net, S. Bridge (109).

5th net, R. Janovskis (109½).

6th net, R. Lewis (110).

7th net, M. Owen (111).

8th net, J. Robinson (112).

9th net, J. Bennett (114).

10th net, M. Sheehan (115½ cpo).

11th net, R. Vickers (115½).

12th net, A. Darby (116).

13th net, S. Arrowsmith (117 cpo).

14th net, T. Moon (117).

15th net, H. McAddey (118½ cpo).

16th net, D. Golding (118½).

17th net, D. Stokes (118½).

Visitors Prize (18 holes), D. Wilkinson (70 net).

70th wedding anniversary

Whilst at Warrington an old member of our section, Mr Harry Hughes, formerly of Davyhulme Park Golf Club and Cuddington GC, Surrey, told me of some news that I'm sure members will agree is a remarkable achievement. Some of our Life Members will remember Len Haken who was Head Greenkeeper at Sale Golf Club for many years. Well, he and his dear wife have recently celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary. I am sure members nationwide will join me in congratulating Len and his wife and wishing them good health and many more happy years together. Well done, Mr and Mrs Haken from us all. Harry told me that Len looks forward to reading his journal every month so this should be quite a surprise for him.

Ransomes trip

It was with some embarrassment and disappointment that I had to write to Mr Trevor Knight of Ransomes cancelling our intended visit to their works. Both myself and Trevor had made a lot of arrangements such as the coach, hotel, etc. Only SIX members showed any interest and I think members will agree that it was not as well supported as say the Autumn Tournament! Still, you learn by your mistakes.

Forthcoming lectures

December 17: Mr R. Young, Chipman Chemicals. January 21: Mr F. Reid, Lloyds and Co, Letchworth.

Venue: Swinton Park Golf Club, East Lancashire Road, Swinton. Start 8 pm.

New members

I would like to welcome the following new members to our section and hope their association with us will be a happy one.

Mr R. Grant, Lymm GC

Mr D. Whitby, Lymm GC

Mr K. M. Greenwood, Ormskirk GC Mr R. M.

Swindlehurst, Ormskirk GC Mr A. Davies,

Grange Park GC Mr R. J. Littler, Bromborough

GC Mr C. H. Park and Mr J. J. French, Lawn-mower Specialists.

May I take this opportunity to wish all our members, their wives and families, a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

SOUTH COAST

President:
 J. H. FRY
Chairman:
 E. R. JAMES

Hon. Secretary:
 Mrs J. STIMSON
 Caretakers Cottage
 Breamore House
 Breamore
 Fordingbridge
 Hampshire SP6 2DE
 (Tel: Breamore 277)



As I drove across the New Forest to Brokenhurst Manor Golf Club early on 4 October, it looked as though we were in for a "blow-rainy" day for our 1979 Autumn Invitation Meeting. However, I am happy to say the cloud lifted about 10 o'clock and the rest of the day was warm and sunny, and the meeting was a huge success. Seventy-eight members and guests played an 18-hole greensome in the morning, and an 18-hole foursome in the afternoon on a course which was in superb condition and surrounded by the beauty of the New Forest. Judging by a few of the cards which were handed in, it would appear that some players went on a nature ramble!

In his speech at the prizegiving, Eric James conveyed our most grateful thanks to the Captain and Committee of Brokenhurst Manor Golf Club for granting us the courtesy of their delightful course and clubhouse facilities. Eric drew attention to the fact that it was the first time in our history that a course had been virtually closed to its members the whole of the day and that this gesture had been much appreciated by the South Coast golfers. The indoor staff had provided attentive service and Mrs Bootle and her ladies had served delicious meals, and Eric expressed our thanks to them. Mr Marshall presented Mrs Bootle with a lovely bouquet on our behalf. Eric complimented Bob Paterson and his staff on the marvellous condition of the course and thanked them for their efforts. Eddie Fox and Allan Jeffery were also thanked for the tremendous amount of work they had done in organising the tournament and the success of the day is reflected in their keen attention to every detail. In fact, Eddie was suffering from the effects of a 'flu virus and it was only his indomitable spirit which kept him going all day. He was confined to bed the next day. Finally, Eric expressed our most grateful thanks to those members of the trade who had contributed so generously to our prize table, and had made the effort to call in and see us, if they had been unable to play themselves. Mr Marshall, the Captain, said a few kind words and then presented the prizes, and a lovely bouquet to yours truly, for which I would like to say thank you very much.

Prizewinners: Best all day (77 pts) M. Gould and T. Garland — Toro Cup, trophy, watch and decanter; 2nd best all day (73 pts) T. Pipe and W. Rowland — bird ornaments; 3rd best all day (72 pts) J. Hobbs and K. Pitman — pens; 4th best all day (71 pts) E. West and B. Brady — etchings; best morning (42 pts) C. Slater and M. Warner

— whisky; 2nd best morning (41 pts) T. Neighbour and T. Leggot — china; best afternoon (36 pts) I. Rickman and J. Newman — whisky; 2nd best afternoon (34 pts) R. Gray and N. Draper — lighters; and best try all day J. Daniels and M. Wheeler-Osman, golf balls.

It would seem that this would be an appropriate moment to mention those guests who play in our Invitation tournaments with such regularity that even I am beginning to put the right names and faces together! Their support is a great compliment to the Section. It has been said that some of these "regulars" are so keen to share the enjoyment of such occasions with us that their partners are not permitted to leave the 19th unless their "booking" for the next meeting has been accepted!

We are pleased to welcome Mr L. Dennis of Lyme Regis GC as a member, and we hope his association with us will be a long and happy one. Paul Drodge has been appointed Head Greenkeeper with Higcliffe Castle GC following the resignation of Roy Vincent who has decided to work in Poole Docks. We wish them both well in their new jobs.

It is time once again to send all good wishes to you for a merry Christmas and a very happy New Year. I very much hope that 1980 will prove to be a very successful year for our most attractive member — Miss Jane Miles. Jane has received sufficient sponsorship to enable her to turn pro, and I hope recent successes in France and Canada will be followed by many more in the coming New Year.

Finally, a reminder that, in view of the low attendances in previous years, a lecture evening has NOT been arranged for January 1980.

After

The great day has now been and gone and we are left with doubts as to the success of the affair. Both sides were short in numbers, nine secretaries, 11 greenkeepers, five tradespeople, not a very inspiring number to encourage the Golfing Union to pay for our meal. We had an excellent meal, a really good meal, for this we must thank the ladies of P & K. We must try and keep this meeting going, for both our sakes. It is my opinion we don't talk together enough, we are so full of our own troubles that we forget the other fellow has them. Club secretaries also have people on their backs and like us they get lots of frivolous complaints. The club secretary is our liaison with the members via the Greens Committee, if he is kept well informed of our work from day to day he can answer any questions thrown at him from the members. At the same time, he should be open with his greenkeepers and always back them up when they are doing the job as they plan it should be done. What a nice feeling for any club secretary, to go on holiday knowing he has a staff who will run the course as if he were still there.

We thank the President for his kind remarks and his free drink. We also thank the Secretary, Mr Leonard, for all the work he has done in the Greenkeeper/Secretary field.

We will, however, as Major Vic Norris says, bang the drum and make sure we have good support next time we meet. Thank you, Paul and your staff, for giving us a very good course to play on. I've heard so many varied remarks about automatic watering, but P & K is a good example of the good results one can get from it, also the labour saving is considerable.

It is with regret that we hear of the death of one of our longest serving Vice-Presidents, Mr I. V. Nicholls.

7 February, Kohler Clinic (J. H. Hancox Ltd).

6 March, Open Forum.

3 April, visit to Johnsons Seeds of Boston, Lincs.

We again hope to hold a Social/Disco early in the New Year, anyone interested please let me know.

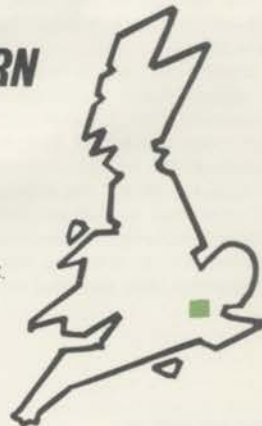
I would like to wish all members and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

B. V. Lax

SOUTHERN

Chairman:
R. TEMPEST

Secretary:
D. GOULD
Langley Park G.C.
Beckenham
Kent.



Match v Secretaries

Our annual match against the Secretaries was played at Sandy Lodge GC on Wednesday, 3 October, and after a close and keenly fought contest resulted in a narrow win for the Greenkeepers by one match — the result being 9-8. Due to a couple of late withdrawals, the Secretaries had to recruit a couple of Greenkeepers "on loan" for the day in the form of Brian Newcombe and Archie Creese. These two proved to be a valuable asset to the Secs because in the morning foursomes they won against very stiff opposition, namely Joe Newman and Gordon Payne. Archie also won his afternoon singles match. We would like to thank everyone at Sandy Lodge and the Secretaries for a splendid day, even the weather was kind to us and we look forward to next year's match which I believe is at St George's Hill GC.

Winter lecture

About 50 members managed to find their way to our new permanent meeting place (ie The Sesame Club, 49 Grosvenor Road, W1, directions in last month's journal) and it was nice to see so many on the first night and hope this number will be kept up and even improved on. Due to a change of date on our part and of which the firm giving the lecture were not aware of until a few days before, they, at short notice, arranged a very informative lecture. Ben Turner Tractors arranged for a training instructor from the Massey-Ferguson Training Establishment at Coventry to talk to us and with the aid of slides kept everyone's interest with the types of tractors produced and the engine and hydraulic workings. Also shown was a film on tractor safety and I'm sure most of us could relate to some of the situations shown and will think twice next time when operating our own tractors and trailers. The meeting closed with our Chairman thanking Ben Turner Tractors and the training instructor.

Next lecture dates:

5 Dec Johnsons Seeds

Derek Gould has some back issues of the journal, so anyone who has not received a journal can get one from Derek at any of the lectures.

WALES

Chairman:
ARTHUR PRICE
Carmarthen

Hon. Secretary:
W. JONES
Golf Bungalow
Ogmore-by-Sea
Bridgend
Mid Glamorgan
CF35 5BY



Golf match v S West England

The match at St Pierre between Wales and S West of England ended in a draw, teams all flat and a good result. We in Wales still hold the trophy for another year and I'm sure we will do our best to retain it then. I was unable to attend the match, I was unwell and felt very upset about missing this day at St Pierre, we are always assured of a good time there, good food, good service and a good course. We must thank everyone concerned at St Pierre, especially the Managing Director, Mr Genasi, for his kindness in giving us the courtesy of the course.

Golf match v Secretaries S Wales

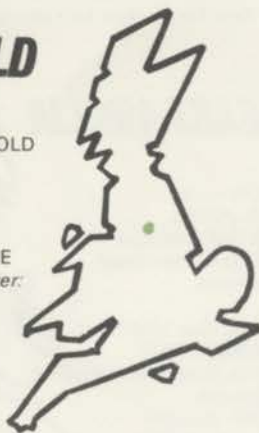
Before

At the time of writing we are making our final plans for the meeting with the club secretaries at Pyle and Kenfig Golf Club. Everyone has been notified in some way and club secretaries will no doubt inform their greens staff. We have been working towards this meeting for a number of years so I hope everyone who can, will attend.

SHEFFIELD

President:
S. KENNETH ARNOLD
Chairman:
G. HERRINGTON

Comp. Secretary:
P. QUARTERMAINE
Hon. Sec./Treasurer:
B. V. LAX
15 Sheaf Place
Worksop
Notts S81 7LE



Those who played tried hard, but unfortunately we lost. I am talking of course about our annual match played against the Northern Section for the Slater Trophy. We played the match at Wetherby Golf Club on 17 October, the result was two matches to the Northern Section, one match to the Sheffield Section and three matches halved. This result means we lost the Slater Trophy which we have held for the last four years, still there's always next year, lads. We also played the nine-hole Coach Cup on the same day, the result being:

1st H. Herrington, 23 pts.

2nd S. Platts, 17 pts.

3rd B. V. Lax, 17 pts.

Many thanks to all who played at Wetherby from both Sections.

Below is the full list of our winter meetings.

6 December, STRI, Mr B. C. Clayton.

3 January, W. N. S. Bisset (Training Committee).

Southern Summer Golf League

On Thursday, 18 October the semi-final and final rounds of this competition were staged at Purley Downs Golf Club. During the morning the semi-finals were played between Bert Watson and Ian Huggett of Tyrrells Wood and Tom McDonald and Stewart McMillan of Bushey Hall and also Eric Green and Brian Newcombe of Woodcote Park and David MacIndoe and John Merrieman of West Herts.

This resulted in wins by the Tyrrells Wood and West Herts teams who played an exciting final round through the afternoon. Bert Watson and Ian emerged as the winners by a very close one hole margin.

Bushey Hall and Woodcote Park played off for the third and fourth places with a win for Woodcote Park by two and one. The prize-giving was carried out by John Field who congratulated the winners and commiserated with the runners-up. He also expressed the thanks of all concerned to the committee and staff of Purley Downs Golf Club for their courtesy and co-operation in allowing these matches to be played over their excellent course.

SUSSEX

Hon. Secretary:
RON JOBSON
10 Blenheim Road
Horsham
West Sussex
RH12 4AG



Our Winter Lectures got off to a great start. A new landlord at The Ugly Duckling. The layout of our meeting room was more like a board-room.

Derek Hopkins, the Editor of our journal, came along and gave a talk on the journal from its conception. Derek gave out a number of points relating to Greenkeepers not responding in volume to his suggestion of telling other Greenkeepers about their own courses. A number of members took his point and said they would respond and send back his forms so with any luck we should have a picture or two of these good looking fellows from Sussex, plus of course how good their courses are, and how they maintain them.

We also had an excellent talk from Bill Hawthorn of Watermation with slides showing how to make grass grow in the desert and how if used correctly to improve our course in this country with the aid of irrigation systems. It turned out a lively meeting with questions from the floor and excellent answers from our speaker. Bill also gave the correct procedure for draining off irrigation systems for the coming winter. OK, some of you may know but how about the fellow who has changed clubs where he previously had no irrigation and he could have been sitting at the back too shy to ask questions? Like Bill says no question is silly. It could be a matter of fact for some but a mountain to the chap sitting next to you.

I have been asked if the Sussex Section would like a trip to Ipswich and look round Ransomes factory. If we could get say 20 people to make up a party it could be arranged. Let me know at the next meeting and I will put the wheels in motion.

SOUTH WEST

President:
J. WILCOX

Hon. Secretary:
I. F. SCOONES
Failand Lawn
Failand
Near Bristol



On Wednesday, 3 October we held our annual match against the Welsh Section at St Pierre Golf and Country Club.

As usual it was a grand day out and we all enjoyed ourselves very much.

We thought we had a very strong team and were almost certain we would regain the Veals Bird Cup. But as we know funny things can happen on a golf course and the match was halved. After the match there were accusations of "Bandits" but I don't believe that although I must say the chap who played against me could have got a part in the "Vagabond King"! Anyway, congratulations you Welsh lads, it's always a joy to play against you and look forward to our meeting next year.

May I on behalf of our Section thank Mr Geseni the President Manager of St Pierre and all his staff for their hospitality. They have a very busy course but they always make room for us to play this fixture and we are all very grateful.

I would also like to thank those members of the trade who supported this event and thank them for all their help throughout the year.

EAST ANGLIA

Chairman:
D. JONES
2 Golf Cottages
Bucklesham Road
Ipswich

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer:
STEVE NOYE
71A Dales Hall Lane
Ipswich
(Tel: Ipswich
216196)



Glory be, winter's suddenly here and on go the overcoats and anoraks and off come those short-sleeved sale bargains picked up from the pro's shop. It's funny how this time of the year my wardrobe gets an annual turn round; to the back go my lighter things and to the fore come all the heavy sweaters and pullovers. I can't say that I look forward to the long winter months, dark when you leave home in the morning and dark again when you return at night, but it does give one the chance to do some repair work on the course. We're now into doing something about our air conditioning in our mess hut, it broke down in the heat of the summer, well not so much broke down as went. Someone opened the window and out flew the bat. I suppose if there is something to be said for winter it is that it does give one the chance to catch up on some reading when you get home of an evening. You can't get on the garden so you have your tea then into the living room, open up a good book, read the first

two pages then nod off for an hour. Remember those hazy, crazy, balmy days of summer when you longed for a bit of rain? Well you're certainly getting it now. I remember when for no apparent reason I would just have a look around at all the trees and the peace and the quiet and tranquility that surrounds one on our course. I remember suggesting to our secretary on one of those particular days that we really ought to pay to be here and I also remember how warmly the rest of the crew looked into my eyes and shook me by the trachea.

We have two new members to say hi to, Mr M. J. Peters, Stowmarket, Suffolk and Mr J. Wells of Digswell, Welwyn Garden City, Herts. Welcome, chaps. I hope you like the Section and trust you will enjoy our get-togethers.

That's it, folks. Next month we'll have a report on our day at Bury St Edmunds so it just remains to wish you all on behalf of the committee of East Anglia Section a Merry Christmas.

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CHAIRMAN'S
SEASONAL
GREETINGS

A Very Merry Christmas
and a Prosperous New
Year
to all Members
and their families.

R. LEWIS,
Chairman, BGGGA



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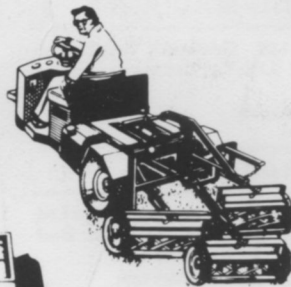
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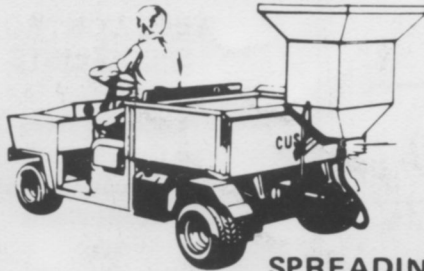


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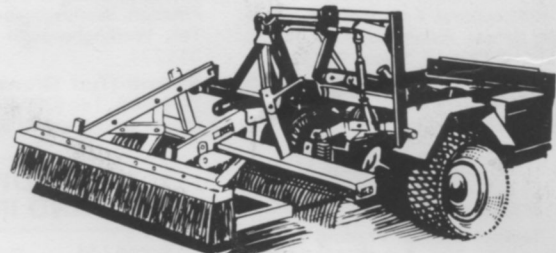
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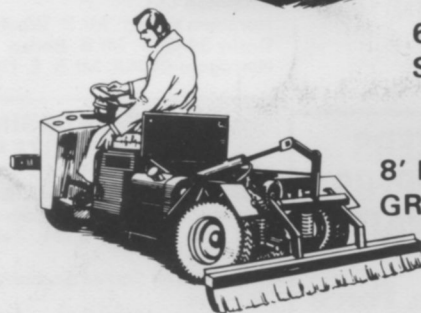


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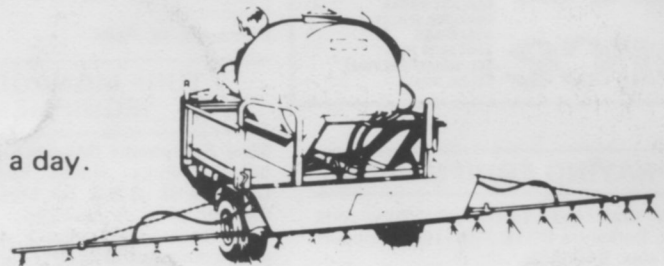


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