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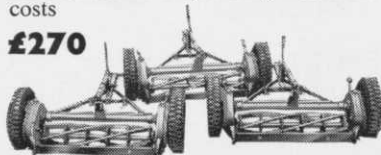


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THE BRITISH GOLF

GREENKEEPER

HON. EDITOR: F. W. HAWTREE.



FOUNDED 1912.

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DECEMBER 1962

*He that has seen both sides of
fifty has lived to little purpose if he
has not other views of the world
than he had when he was much
younger.*

WILLIAM COWPER.

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Fifty Years

I wish to salute with much respect and no small affection the greenkeepers who came together to make this Association and those who persevere today.

This family group has kept a pride and purpose in its work during fifty years which have obscured more old values than revealed new ones. It has won respect from all who understand what greenkeeping means.

The job is not easy. To be a paid official amongst honorary ones is unenviable. Captains, chairmen, and committees come and go. The greenkeeper remains loyal to the golf course itself. He is ambitious only to meet its challenge and make it finer. He is patient because he works with Nature. He is tolerant because he knows golfers and their foibles.

This anniversary is a measure of those virtues. They have united a scattered membership with small resources in two unselfish aims—mutual help and the advancement of the craft. These alone will ensure that the achievement of the past will safeguard and benefit the future.

F.W.H.

The British Golf Greenkeepers' Association

1912



1962



Admiralty House
Whitehall, S.W.1

As a golfer, I was interested to learn that this year is the British Golf Greenkeepers' Association's Fiftieth Anniversary. I send my congratulations and best wishes on this occasion.



20, BERKELEY SQUARE, W.1

I would like to send a word of congratulation to the British Golf Greenkeepers' Association on reaching their 50th year. In the time, they have worked wonders, and completely remade the condition of our courses in this country.

Everyone who plays owes them a deep sense of gratitude. May they go on from strength to strength.



TODAY'S news headlines approximate to yesterday's science fiction—manned satellites, Telstar and trips to the moon. The whole nation is science-conscious and ordinary people tend to think that there is a modern scientific answer for all things. Nowhere is this more true than in sports turf management whether of cricket wickets, football pitches, golf greens or what have you. A product with a good dash of scientific jargon in its publicity matter is sure to gain adherents who will flatter themselves on their acumen and will swear by the product—whatever the results produced.

Written in sincere appreciation of the constant loyal support accorded by British Golf Greenkeepers to The Sports Turf Research Institute ever since its inception. We at Bingley have our part to play but all our efforts to raise the standard of playing conditions must fail without the enthusiasm and skill of the men on the job.

IT'S SO SIMPLE . . .

says J. R. ESCRITT, M.Sc.,

Assistant Director, The Sports Turf Research Institute

In the last few years we have been asked about new ideas in:—

Grasses which don't grow.

Chemicals which make mowing unnecessary.

Nitrogenous fertilizers which do not make the grass grow.

Soil treatments which make drainage unnecessary.

Soil aerators which are superior because they don't penetrate.

Needless to say, all these ideas need a little qualification!

In all the enthusiasm for making the most of new discoveries (obviously a good thing in itself) there is sometimes a tendency to forget the object of the exercise which is to produce the best possible conditions for the game—good teeing grounds, good fairways and good greens. When considering how to do just that, it is worth remembering that although these areas are in a way artificial they owe a lot to nature. There are many natural processes which are not yet capable of being replaced by scientific

marvels. Most of us prefer the old methods of procreating the human race!

Turf management is not without science. The Sports Turf Research Institute at Bingley—born in 1929, still going strong and growing stronger—carries out as much research as finance will allow. There are still plenty of real problems for us to solve but in the direct interests of associate members we have to keep checking up on ideas which some have been persuaded are epoch-making. Unfortunately, few epoch-making ideas come forward and despite all further researches the basic principles remain surprisingly constant. Most troubles met with results from departures from these basic principles—in other words most troubles with turf (and possibly elsewhere!) are man-made. Some people will never appreciate that weed, worm, disease or mud trouble has arisen from some possibly unnecessary treatment they have been persuaded to apply for another purpose.



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BGG-3

Mowing

There is a lot of science involved in mowing and its effects but one doesn't need a B.Sc. to appreciate the need for a good mower in good condition and used efficiently, preferably in dry conditions and frequently enough. A superficial knowledge of pH is no substitute for full appreciation and implementation of those rules.

Feeding

It is a long time since it was established that for good turf almost the cheapest standard fertilizers are also the best. For fine turf this means that the basis of all good fertilizer treatments is sulphate of ammonia, superphosphate and sulphate of potash. A little organic nitrogen and phosphate is commonly added but the farther one departs from the basic formula the poorer the results usually. Fertilizers of this kind used properly in the growing season encourage tough, hard wearing grasses and at the same time discourage disease, worms, weeds and mud. The chief improvement in the field of fertilizer treatment in recent years has been the advent of granular fertilizers (commonly based on sulphate of ammonia, superphosphate and muriate of potash). These are very convenient to use on extensive areas of sports turf though not very suitable for fine turf.

It is worth remembering that the aim is not to produce high fertility but to produce good turf.

Watering

Time has brought an increasing awareness of the value of watering to maintain growth and good playing conditions in dry weather. More people now possess watering systems but these are not all used to the best advantage. All too frequently we hear the cry, "Too little and too late". During the summer the potential loss of moisture by transpiration is the equivalent of about 1/10 in. per day. One might say that three weeks without rain result in a deficiency of 2 in. i.e. 200 tons per acre (9-10 gallons per sq. yd.). Some deficiency is not a bad thing, of course, but too much means poor colour, poor growth, poor playing conditions and even loss of good turf.

Top Dressing

On the intensively managed areas of golf greens, the object is to produce surface conditions suitable for the game. An important contribution to this is top dressing with sandy compost. It does not sound excitingly scientific—but it is remarkably effective. The passing years, instead of producing scientific replacements of the process have instead increasingly accentuated its value. People who are persuaded to neglect composting or to use other materials because of supposed special virtues generally come back to compost.

Aeration

When growing agricultural and horticultural crops soil cultivations ensure a good tilth with adequate aeration. With turf we have consolidation by users as well as by equipment and we are restricted in our cultivations. It makes good, practical sense, however, to do what we can in this direction. There is an element of science behind all this—but people have cultivated the land for a very long time!

Scarification

Long before 1962, farmers found that vigorous harrowing of old established pastures and meadows produced more vigorous growth, since the old "fag" strangled new growth. One of the biggest advances in turf management techniques in recent years has been the introduction of excellent scarification machinery. Remember, however, that like other machines, these need skilled and intelligent use!

Where's all this leading?

These six headings are the basic principles of turf management—and there is remarkably little atomic science! They are simple and apply with little modification to most sports turf whether for golf, bowls, or hockey. Follow them and it is surprising how few are the difficulties that arise and how little there is need for up-to-date information on the latest cure-all. And even that needs putting on properly to give the best results!

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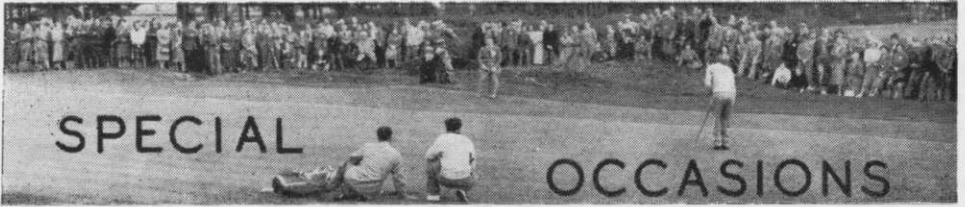
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DECEMBER

11th

Northern Section, Social Evening, Old Queen's Head, Main Street, Bingley.

14th

Midland Section, Annual Dinner, King's Head, Bearwood.

25th



1963

JANUARY

21st

North West Section, visit to Messrs. Ellis Rees.

ITS NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND!

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NOW IS THE TIME—when mowing has ended for the winter months—to send equipment to be overhauled.

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Looking



(Key on page 12)

Back

FIFTY YEARS OF GREENKEEPING

by TOM MASON

One of our earliest members looks back on some of the highlights in the Association's long history and his own career

THE British Golf Greenkeepers' Association has reached its fiftieth year. Its formation was mainly due to our tactful and far-seeing friend the late F. G. Hawtree, known to us older ones as Freddy. As a member for forty-nine years and a very close friend of his, I know I am speaking for all who knew him, when I say that we owe him the deepest appreciation and gratitude for the untiring and splendid work he did for the Association. Not only do we miss him personally but also as an Association, particularly for his genius in smoothing out our tricky problems whenever they arose.

His gift of speech did much to improve the status of the Association; one often wonders whether it would have got so far today without him and those loyal and constructive early members—to name a few—Messrs. MacNiece, Baker, Prickett, Lacey, Smithers, Scott, Kirby, Steward, Dunn with whom I was proud to serve on the Executive Committee for many years just before and after the first World War before the Association broke up into sections. They were busy times.

Best Endeavours

The objects of the Association are now well-known. We, its members during these fifty years have done our best to improve our technique and better the conditions of golf courses. How often do our employers realise the work done for their benefit by the Association, and the loyalty and knowledge of their greenkeepers?

In 1912 a greenkeeper was assessed by the hours and the hard work he put in on the course, and, so it was said, by the number of sheep droppings he could balance on a shovel.

When I look back at those hard days, my thoughts drift to what the present day golf course worker would say if told to carry out what had to be done then. I quote: "Summer hours—Commence work six a.m. finish six p.m. One-and-half hours off for meals". Wet or fine one was expected to keep going, walking behind a 30 in. or 36 in. horse-mower, or pushing one of the old silent Messers on the greens with the box on. No tea and cake in the morning nor in the afternoon, only after lunching, with your bread and dripping and cold tea out in the fields in order to get the work done. Why bread and dripping? What was wrong with the steak and chips that one might smell when passing the clubhouse, and a nice warm shed to eat it in?

Rewards

Those were the good old days but this is why there was no steak and chips:—

	£	s.	d.
Head Greenkeeper ...	1	10	0
Skilled Groundsman ...	1	2	0
Horse driver, etc. ...		14	0

and this often included working three hours on Sundays, sweeping and rolling greens and on Bank holidays until work was finished.

There were times when one could put in an hour or two overtime, at sixpence per hour. Some will say: "But look what you could buy for your money in those days.

The old ones know all about that, and the most sensible will say, as I do, that the Greenkeeper and his staff are far better off now in all ways, than they were in the early days.

But thank goodness for those early days of 1912 and for the British Golf Greenkeepers' Association with its lec-

tures, essays and meetings where knowledge was pooled and often debated for two hours or more. The 1914-1918 war temporarily checked the good work but in 1919, with the rehabilitation of the Association (here again thanks mainly to our friend, F. G. Hawtree) things really began to liven up with more visits to places of interest and education,—Carters, Suttons, Ryders, Ransomes Sims and Jefferies, Shanks, Greens and, in addition, our splendid companion, The British Golf Greenkeepers' Journal, so popular that within five years it more than doubled its size. Its contents with the exception of half-a-dozen or so advertisements, consisted of essays and the practical findings of some of the best greenkeepers of that time, all in plain language to be understood by all. But eventually, due to pressure on the Editor and cost, the present-day journal was produced by the late Mr. Philpot, and is now carried on by the son of the famous F. G. Hawtree.

First Triple

Around 1919, when the old horse roller machine was the only means of cutting fairways, we the Executive Committee of the B.G.G.A. introduced to Mr. Sandy Cuthbert, Mr. Reed and other officials of Messrs. Shanks and Sons, at the Hendon Golf Course, an idea that we felt would reduce labour, time and horses. The idea was three skeleton machines placed in triple formation, with a seat fixed over the top and a pair of shafts to be drawn by one horse. It would do the work with one man riding, and one horse pulling, three times quicker than the old roller machine method, three men, three horses plus continuously cleaning the rollers of worm casts. However Shanks and Sons turned it down. We then approached Ransomes, Sims & Jefferies again without success.

Our next thought was, "What about pooling our cash and getting a trial one made up and patented?" But we felt that if we did it ourselves, we would upset the traders. And so it was forgotten until 1923 when many of us were invited to Rangers Park Golf Course to see a machine for cutting fairways sent over

from America by a firm known as the Shornie manufacturers. With the exception of a few minor details, it was the same as ours.

You may guess the rest of the story.

The Shornie people did very well out of them and our manufacturers had to buy the patent rights.

The machine was so impressive that my own club and many others purchased, or gave orders on the same day. What a blessing and comfort it was to sit on a seat and cut the fairways in a third of the time! What a mistake not to have made it ourselves!

Early Trials

Next, as a result of the writer's findings on his own trial plots at Hendon, laid down in 1927, it was agreed by the Executive Committee to carry out similar experiments on other soils namely:—Seaside Sand, Inland Sand, Chalk, in addition to my own clay. The courses selected:—

Seaside Sand—Royal West Norwich.

Inland Sand—Friford Heath.

Chalk—Coulston.

Clay—Sudbury.

As pioneer the writer was elected as chairman with two valuable assistants, Messrs. S. Morton and W. Kirby. Our duty was to attend the above courses and instruct the laying out of a number of plots three yards by one yard and boarded all round the allocated areas were dug up, neutralised as near as possible, and sown with different grass species. Then each plot was divided into three and treated with acid reacting neutral or control, and alkaline reacting fertilisers. The results would take up too much time, but our members learnt a lot from the scheme. This, together with write-ups from other members gave birth to much interest in the use and value of Sulphate of Ammonia, Sulphate of Iron and compost.

This scheme started a year or two before the Bingley Research Station was established, so it could be claimed that the British Golf Greenkeepers' Association should be credited with much that was later substantiated by the St. Ives Research Station, now the Sports Turf Research Institute.

As a staunch advocate of S/A and S/I plus plenty of compost, I am very pleased that our findings of that time as to their value are still valid.

Supporter

In the early days of the Research Station we were proud to have supporting us the Hon. Secretary of the Board of Management of the Station, Mr. Norman Hackett. Mr. Hackett's untiring efforts to prove the value of acid reacting fertilisers for encouraging the finest grasses and discouraging the more succulent species weeds and worms, were very pleasing, particularly to me because all he preached coincided with my own past findings. Unfortunately some took too much for granted and through wrong usage of S/A and S/I many greens were damaged for such long periods that it was considered by some too dangerous to use. However, any person interested would do well to read the book written by the late Mr. Norman Hackett in the early days of 1930 or to visit the plots at Bingley to confirm its claim.

Practical Link

As mentioned earlier, the Research Station at Bingley started in 1929. For quite a time many greenkeepers were reluctant to fall in with its aims but a year or two later the British Golf Greenkeepers' Association, affiliated itself to the Station and formed the Practical Advisory Committee. This fortunately helped to (and, I believe, eventually did)

eliminate the fears of greenkeepers about what the Research Station might do to them.

Demise

The Practical Advisory Committee met at Bingley in Spring and Autumn to survey the plots and hold a conference. We would discuss our findings on the plots, make recommendations thought to be beneficial to the Greenkeeper and voice any complaints from members. Our first meeting took place on the 9th October, 1934 and this continued twice yearly until the death of our beloved Chairman, the late Mr. F. G. Hawtree. I much regret that in spite of their great value, no further meetings have taken place since. Strange as it may seem, the same persons who were appointed at the start continued to the end and reported their findings in our own Journal.

The Future

It is a pity that new blood cannot be found to renew this most important contact with the Research Station and make the B.G.G.A. still more interesting and educative. It gives one more incentive to look forward to our Journal, when there are reports from our own Greenkeepers of their findings at the Station or on their own courses, Essay Competitions and accounts of lectures.

But now it will soon be 1963. Good luck to all those who have done so much for the B.G.G.A. in the past, and to all those who carry on the good work in the next fifty years.

GREENKEEPERS 1914-18 *(See page 9)*

1. S. Fletcher, D.C.M., M.M., Moseley Golf Club. Cpl., King's Royal Rifles. Twice wounded in France; awarded the Military Medal for holding up an enemy advance at Ypres, and the Distinguished Conduct Medal in 1918 for conspicuous gallantry in the Field.
2. C. Berridge. Late Woodside Golf Club.
3. J. Seager, Biddenham Golf Club. Pte., Buffs. 4 years' service.
4. T. Mason, Hendon Golf Club. Cpl., Royal Garrison Artillery. Served in France; wounded.
5. A. Scott, Cowdenbeath Golf Club. Driver, R.A.S.C. Served in France. (Invalided).
6. J. Henderson. Pte., Northumberland Fusiliers.

DESIGNING & CONSTRUCTING GOLF COURSES

by **FREDERIC G. HAWTREE**

Sundridge Park Golf Club

*The notes of a lecture delivered by our founder
to the Golf Greenkeepers' Association in 1920*

I MAKE no apology for choosing the subject of Designing and Constructing Golf Courses for our brief consideration this evening for it is one, to my mind, equally as important to the Greenkeeper as the study of grasses and soils, for it has been said, and in my opinion rightly said, that no man can be an efficient Greenkeeper unless he possesses a knowledge of the principles of golf course designing and construction.

I remember stating in this very room eight years ago, on the occasion of the inaugural meeting of this Association, that the more knowledge a man had of greenkeeping the more economically could he run his course, and tonight I am prepared to submit the same argument with regard to the important branch of greenkeeping which we are now considering and which has sprung up and made such gigantic strides during the past ten years or so.

Fashions in golf courses, like fashions in dress, change very quickly, and it is safe to say that two-thirds of the existing golf courses in the United Kingdom at the present time are hopelessly out of date, as far as the positions and designs of the greens and bunkers are concerned, and it is my opinion that the number of golf courses will increase, and competition will become so keen between the clubs, that committees will be forced to bring their courses up-to-date in order to retain the allegiance of their members.

Temperament

Now the art of designing and constructing greens and bunkers on up-to-date lines is not one that can be picked up in a few weeks by an unintelligent and unskilled workman.

A man, to do it satisfactorily, must have an artistic temperament, an eye for country, an imagination, and a good

knowledge of the game; by that I do not mean that it is absolutely essential that he must be a good player, for on the one hand we all know some of the finest exponents of the game have not the slightest idea of designing a green or bunker, whilst on the other hand—do we not know of quite moderate players who have turned out some very excellent work in this direction.

Now I make bold to assert that the gift of construction is not given to every Greenkeeper, and in some cases it is far better to get in outside advice than ruin his reputation by wasting money in attempting something for which nature has not endowed him with the necessary gifts.

Evolution of Golf Course Construction

The evolution of golf course construction to those who have closely followed it for the last twenty years or so, has been of a particularly interesting character.

In the early days of golf, nature did most of the greenkeeping, and a good deal of the bunker construction, for many of the links in those days were laid out on sandy soil, and when a bunker was made, all that was necessary was to remove the turf and the wind would do the rest, in fact, I have heard it said, that if a divot was not replaced in three months the scar became a bunker.

But with the growing popularity of the game, there sprang up golf courses as distinct from golf links and many were laid out on heavy soil far removed from the sand dunes and sea breezes, where natural hazards were conspicuous by their absence, and where it was necessary to make by artificial means every bunker and green on the course.

You do not need me to remind you what hideous and artificial creations these bunkers were, consisting as they did of a built up rampart stretching

from one side of the fairway to the other for the carry from the tee, and a similar creation just short of the green, or, in the case of a long hole, there were three banks each stretching right across the course, all of the same height and each looking as formal and as artificial as it was possible to make them.

After a while it was thought that this style could be improved upon and the cross bunker took its place.

Having found that this fashion allowed the half-topped ball to go unpunished, the pot bunker made its appearance, and for a time greenkeepers and groundmen were busy digging pots here, pots there, pots almost everywhere, many of them completely hidden from the view of the player.

Well, this fashion had its day, and a short one at that, and was followed by the fashion in vogue at the present time, namely Hummock and Hollow, and there is no doubt about it that this fashion, where carried out on bold lines, has been the means of making many a dull course interesting and a flat course appear undulating.

I am afraid however, that on certain courses it has been a little overdone.

It has certain drawbacks insofar that it is a somewhat expensive form of hazard, both with regard to making and upkeep.

I have seen large sums of money frittered away in an attempt to alpinize certain courses through lack of knowledge and imagination on the part of those in authority.

Planning, Designing and Constructing Hazards

Mr. John L. Low once said that no hazard is unfair wherever placed. Well, in one sense this may be true, for it is obviously the wrong thing to do to play a ball into it wherever it may be placed, on the other hand, it is obviously the wrong thing to do to place a hazard on the direct and proper line to the hole at such a distance from the tee that would trap a well-hit ball, and in my opinion, one of the reasons why so many of our present day courses provide such uninteresting golf is because of the hazard placing and arrangements of the bunkers.

I do not blame the Greenkeeper for this, for I know in all too many instances the undesirable system is still in vogue at many clubs of the green committee going out on the course on a Saturday afternoon, or a Sunday morning, and saying after a great deal of argument, we will have a bunker here and a bunker there.

Each bunker must be part of a system of bunkering for the particular needs of the hole, and the system is not necessarily determined by the length of the hole, but very largely by the lie of the land.

No Rules

If the ground is of an undulating character then the system of bunkering and the positions will be influenced thereby, and as the undulations and slopes vary at different holes, so the arrangement of hazards should vary accordingly, therefore you will see how impossible it is to lay down any hard and fast rules as to the positions of hazards.

You may take two holes of exactly the same length, running parallel with each other if you like, but very largely owing to the difference in the lie of the land, or the rolling nature of it, the arrangement of the hazards is entirely different one from the other.

Therefore I warn you that if you should ever be tempted to reproduce the bunkering of a certain hole on a noted course, at a hole of a similar length on your own course, make certain before doing so, that the lie of the land is similar in every respect.

In order to make the game as interesting as possible to every class of player, place your hazards in such positions that they can be avoided by he who is able to gauge his ability at the game correctly.

Variety

Far too many courses today lack variety.

There is a sameness about the holes, the type of hazard, etc., which makes the course monotonous.

I am of the opinion that you cannot have too much variety on a course.

There should, as far as possible, be some distinctive feature about each hole, some distinctive character which will maintain the interest of the player for the whole eighteen holes.

I know how extremely difficult it is to do this on certain courses, which are as flat as a pancake, and absolutely devoid of natural features, but the art of golf course construction has made such vast strides of late years, that even with such unpromising material as this, I have seen most interesting courses made by a man with a little imagination and not a lot of money at his disposal.

Two "Don'ts"

In your efforts to do this however, do not fritter your Club's money away by making the hideous, unsightly and artificial looking creations such as one sees dotted about on all too many courses, when travelling up and down the country.

Don't waste time and money, in making hummocks which, when finished, resemble mole-hills grassed over.

Don't waste your Club's limited means by wasteful expenditure in trying to make a sand dune on land which nature intended for a brickfield, neither make any bank, hummock, or hollow, which looks from any point artificial.

You have seen and I have seen a beautiful landscape spoiled by some artificial creation designed in all probability by a retiring chairman of a green committee anxious to leave something behind by which his term of office will be remembered.

Such a creation is usually known as Brown's or Smith's folly.

See to it that you are not responsible for anything that may be designated the Greenkeeper's folly.

Making Mounds

In making mounds, as much variety should be introduced as possible, if the work is to be successful.

All too many Greenkeepers introduce into their work far too much tidiness and symmetry; no two hummocks in a range should be exactly alike, there should be some distinctive change in each, the contour of each hummock



Our founder as he was when the Association was formed in 1912.

should be different; the secret of success in this part of course construction is to be found in natural looking irregularity.

If you wish to see the real natural hummocks as only nature can make them, go to the Lake District, make a study of the contours there, and then reproduce those lines on a smaller scale in your hummock building and you will surprise yourself.

I have seen hummocks made as if the Greenkeeper were a drill sergeant trying to drill nature into perfect orderliness; chains of so-called hummocks like squads of soldiers whose dressing by the right was as perfect as the most exacting drill sergeant could desire. Well, if you wish to make your course duller than what it is already, do work of this kind, for orderliness in construction work means dullness.

Another mistake usually made in hummock construction is making them on too small a scale.

Hummocks to look natural, must be of bold design.

I fully realise that they are expensive things to construct on bold lines, but it is far better not to attempt to build hummocks unless you have sufficient labour at your disposal to make them large enough to be natural looking.

There is one important point in the designing of hummocks that should never be forgotten, namely, to so design them, that the more off the line the player is, the greater the punishment.

Design of Hazards

In designing a hazard there are many things to be taken into consideration, the first is the kind of shot it is to catch, secondly the lie of the surrounding land, thirdly, the question of drainage, fourthly, the design of existing bunkers in the immediate vicinity.

With regard to the first consideration, namely the kind of shot which the bunker is expected to catch, it is hardly necessary for me to point out that a bunker placed to catch a hard hit wooden club shot must of necessity be built on larger and bolder lines than one built to catch a badly hit iron approach shot.

The next point then is the lie of the surrounding land.

If the bunker is constructed on a down slope, then the sand area will be wider and possibly the bank higher than if on a flat surface or an up slope.

Drainage Vital

Then the question of drainage must not be lost sight of when designing the hazard.

It is a waste of time and money to dig a deep bunker, unless you are certain that it is possible to drain it.

There is nothing more annoying to the player, nothing to my mind more objectionable on a golf course than so-called sand bunkers lying throughout the winter months full of stagnant water, and not withstanding the great advance there has been in the science of land draining during the past few years, it is no uncommon sight to see this kind of thing on our so-called modern courses.

If the question of drainage prevents deep excavation then mounds should be built with the sand packets above the surrounding ground level.

The soil for the mounds can be obtained by stripping a wide area surrounding the site for the hazard and digging a few inches deep, thus making a shallow excavation.

The fourth point to be remembered is the design of the surrounding bunkers.

I have already pointed out the desirability of avoiding similarity in designs and the necessity of introducing as much variety as possible.

Therefore it will be well before deciding upon your design to cast your eye around the neighbouring bunkers and see if it is not possible to introduce some feature into your new bunker which the existing ones do not possess.

Before I leave the question of designs there are a few general principles which might be laid down.

The first is, do not make the sand area too narrow, this should in no case be less than four times as wide as it is deep.

On the other hand, do not have the sand area too wide, especially if it is a shallow excavation, or it will be too easy to recover from.

Practical Tips

Avoid sharp angles, and straight lines everywhere, and see that the contour of the bank is natural looking.

Ensure a good slope from the fairway to the centre of the sand area, otherwise a ball just trickling into the bunker cannot be extricated unless the player chooses to play back.

See that the bottom of the banks are sloped and the sand pushed well up to the slope in order to assist the ball to come to rest in the centre of the sand area.

Build the back bank sufficiently high to preclude the possibility of a ball jumping it.

Make sure there are no nooks and corners from which it is impossible for a player to have the full use of his niblick.

Avoid sleeper faced bunkers as being positively dangerous and flukey with the rubber cored ball.

Reprinted from the Journal of the Golf Greenkeepers' Association, Vol. II, No. 1, 1920.

News



from the Sections Greetings

From the President:

On the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the B.G.G.A. I would like to refer to the wisdom and foresight of the late Mr. F. G. Hawtree in founding the Association. As his immediate successor to the position of President, I am deeply conscious of his great work for Greenkeepers and Greenkeeping.

The messages received from the Prime Minister and Lord Brabazon do indeed emphasise the status and work of our Association.

CARL BRETHERTON.

From the Chairman:

To the President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary, and all members of the Association, I send my best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

D. G. LORD.

From the Hon. Secretary:

To all members of the British Golf Greenkeepers' Association and readers of the Journal, I send my best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

C. H. DIX.

EAST MIDLAND

By S. T. McNeice

Chairman:
D. G. WHITEHEAD
(Wollaton Park)

Hon. Secretary:
40 Edward Road,
Clarendon Park, Leicester

ON BEHALF OF THE EAST MIDLAND Section I send to all officers and members of the Association, very best wishes for Christmas and may you all have a prosperous New Year.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Section was held at the Central Tavern, Huntingdon Street, Nottingham, on Wednesday, 17th October, 1962.

The Meeting which was very poorly attended had Mr. Stan. Talbot in the Chair. The Chairman asked members to stand and pay tribute to Mr. A. Mould who died during the past year.

The minutes of the last A.G.M. were read, confirmed and signed. The Annual Report was read by the Hon. Secretary and its adoption was proposed by Mr. D. G. Whitehead, seconded by Mr. A. Thornton and carried.

The Financial Statement reported by Mr. S. C. Long showed a satisfactory year, the position of the Section remaining sound. The adoption of the accounts was proposed by Mr. D. G. Whitehead and seconded by Mr. D. Bull and carried.

Officials for 1963

Election of Officers. President: Mr. R. C. Ainscow; Vice-Presidents: It was proposed by Mr. F. Oliver and seconded by Mr. D. G. Whitehead that the list of Vice-Presidents as read should be re-elected en bloc. Chairman: Mr. D. G. Whitehead; Vice-Chairman: Mr. F. Frost; Hon. Treasurer: Mr. A. Thornton; Hon. Secretary: Mr. S. T. McNeice; Committee: Messrs. D. Bull, F. Oliver and S. Talbot. Executive Representative: S. T. McNeice.

Mr. S. C. Long who, owing to other commitments has had to retire as Section Hon. Treasurer, was thanked by the Chairman for all his work during the past four years.

Several other matters were discussed which will be dealt with by the Committee.

Subscriptions

I am still pleading to a few members who have not yet paid their subscriptions which became due on the 1st May last. Our new Treasurer, Mr. A. Thornton, 15 Trent Road, Beeston, Notts., will be pleased to receive this cash.

New Member

We welcome to our Section Mr. B. F. Mott, 110 Overston Road, Sywell, Northampton. Mr. Mott is assistant greenkeeper at the Kingsthorpe Golf Club, Northampton.

MIDLAND

By F. Cashmore

Chairman:
G. HART
(Gay Hill)

Hon. Secretary:
76 Four Oaks Common Road
Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire.

OUR ANNUAL DINNER WILL BE held on the 14th December at the King's Head Hotel, Bearwood. A good concert party has been engaged to entertain us and we are looking forward to a very pleasant evening when we hope members will support us by bringing along their wives or girl friends. I shall be pleased to send tickets to members on request.

Christmas Greetings

We are nearing the end of another year so on behalf of the Midland Section, I should like to send Season's Greetings to our President and Mrs. Bretherton, and to all Members of our Association, wishing them a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

SOUTHERN

By W. Mason

Chairman:
J. K. GLASS
(Thorpe Hall)

Hon. Secretary:
18 Albert Road, Hendon, N.W.4.
Tel.: SUNnyhill 0245

ON BEHALF OF THE SOUTHERN Section, may I extend to all members of the Association, and to our many friends in the trade, our best wishes for a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

December Lecture

This will take place at the Talbot Restaurant, London Wall, E.C., on Wednesday, 5th December, at 6-30 p.m., when Mr. Booth, a representative from Messrs. T. Parker will show a film of the installation of alkathene tubing at the Portrush Golf Club.

Mr. John Kirkpatrick

Our congratulations to Mr. John Kirkpatrick, who is assistant to his father at Dulwich & Sydenham Golf Club, on being chosen to play for the Surrey County. We in the Southern Section feel that this is a great honour both to us and to the B.G.G.A.

October Quiz

It is regretted that the Quiz which was to have been held in October had to be postponed owing to alterations being carried out at the Stirling Castle which made our room unavailable at that time.

New Members

We welcome to the Section the following new members: M. R. Cooke, West Lodge, West Road, St. George's Hill, Weybridge, Surrey and M. Mandeville, 47 Getersham Avenue, Byfleet, Weybridge, Surrey.

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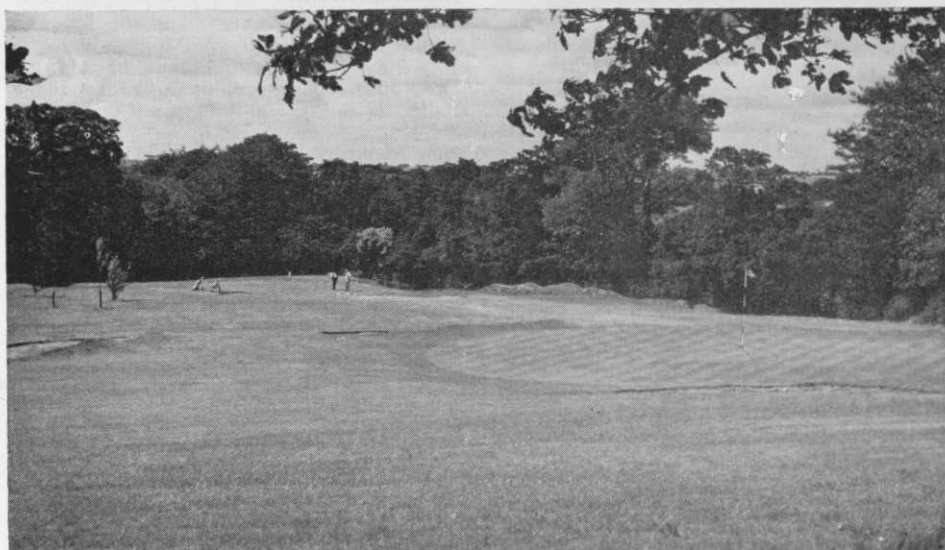
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NORTHERN

Chairman:
G. W. MASON
(Halifax West End)

By J. Parker
Hon. Secretary:
8 Goit Stock Terr., Harden,
Bingley, Yorks.

I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS opportunity of wishing all members of the Association a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Autumn Tournament

The Annual Tournament of the Section was played over the course of the Headingley Golf Club on Thursday, 18th October (by kind permission of the Committee). Forty members took part in the Competition played under ideal golfing conditions. Fine weather but with a stiffish wind making good scores hard to come by. Results:—Scratch Prize, R. Barnes (Hazel Grove) 82. 1st Division, 1st, S. Smith (Alwoodley) 83—11=72; 2nd, J. Scott (Town Moor) 86—13=73; 3rd, D. Roberts (West Bowling) 88—14=74; 4th, E. Paley (Lightcliffe) 91—15=76; 5th, D. Copland (St. Ives) 83—6=77. 2nd Division, 1st, P. Williams (Northcliffe) 87—24=63; 2nd, D. Scott (Scarborough North Cliff) 94—24=70; 3rd, A. Robertshaw (Otley) 88—16=72; 4th, K. Chamberlain (Northcliffe) 93—21=72; 5th, M. Tucker (Headingley) 94—17=77. Pro-Greenkeeper, C. Collinson (South Bradford) 80—4=76. Veteran's Prize, C. Moore, 89—16=73. Vice-President's Section, 1st, W. Hanley, 84—17=67; 2nd, J. Sharp, 75—4=71.

Following tea, our President, Mr. W. Mountain introduced the Vice-Captain of Headingley Golf Club who presented the prizes. A vote of thanks to the Club and all concerned in making a successful day was proposed by the Chairman, Mr. G. Mason and seconded by Mr. J. Scott.

We were pleased to have Ted Calam over from Ganton to join us. We hope that by the time of the Spring Tournament he will be fit enough to take part.

Our thanks are due to the Golf Clubs who so kindly contributed to our Prize Fund.

Handicap Revision

The Committee have made the following revisions to handicaps: A. Money, 12 to 14; F. Kenny, 15 to 17; E. Munns, 13 to 15; F. Cox, 15 to 16; P. Williams, 24 to 18; S. Bailes, 22 to 20; and A. Cox, 20 to 22.

New Members

We are pleased to welcome to the Section the following new members: R. G. Amer, 12 Chapel Lane, Headingley, Leeds, 6 (Headingley Golf Club); C. Clements, 29 Vesper Road, Kirkstall, Leeds, 5 (Horsforth Golf Club); R. Nardi, Golf Club, Aix les Bains, Savoie, France.

Change of Address

Mr. F. G. Smith (Jun.), has now moved to 105 Holloway Road, Heybridge, Maldon, Essex. We wish him well in his new position.

WELSH

By S. A. Tucker

Chairman:
M. GEDDES
(Royal Porthcawl)

Hon. Secretary:
36 Clase Road,
Morriston,
Swansea, Glam.

CHRISTMAS, 1962 IS VERY NEAR SO may I take this opportunity on behalf of the Welsh Section to wish all members of the Association a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year. I hope that 1963 will be a year of great success to you all. To all the Welsh boys, "Good Luck" to you and I hope we shall meet at our next competition in April, 1963, venue and date of which will be published in the next issue of the Journal if possible.

EIRE (IRISH)

*By Laurence Kelly
and Victor Bruce*

Chairman:
FRANK MERRIMAN

Joint Hon. Secretaries

A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY and Prosperous New Year from our Section to all others.

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NORTH-EAST

By T. Oliver

Chairman:
J. SIMPSON
(Ponteland G.C.)

Hon. Secretary:
Heathery Cottage,
Heathery Lane, Gosforth,
Newcastle-on-Tyne 3.

THE SECTION'S ANNUAL TOURNAMENT was played at the Gosforth Golf Club on the 11th October, by kind permission of the Committee. As the season was getting on, we played 27 holes to enable all competitors to finish before the light failed. The weather was not too good during the first 18, with light rain and a heavy dew making the going heavy, however the afternoon 9 proved very much better, and it is pleasing to note that both the Scratch Prize and the Handicap Cup were won by new members.

The results were as follows:—M. Gunn of Beamish Park off Plus 1, won the Scratch Prize with a fine round of 67 and 35, total 102. D. Turpie, off 11, won the Handicap Cup, 83, 72 nett, 38, 5½, 32½, total 104½. 2nd, T. Green, Ravensworth, 106; 3rd, J. Hayes, Northumberland, 106½; 4th, D. Morgan, Alnmouth Village, 106½; 5th, T. Nutman, Tynemouth, 107; 6th, T. Kirkley, Brancepeth, 108½; 7th, T. Oliver, 109; 8th, D. Gray, Beamish, 110½; 9th, J. Smith, Morpeth, 110½; 10th, S. Pope, Tyneside, 113½; 11th, R. Derham, South Shields, 113½; 12th, H. Sommerville, Alnmouth, 114½; 13th, T. Murphy, City, 115½; 14th, J. Simpson, Ponteland, 116; 15th, R. Raine, Northumberland, 116; 16th, P. Crombie, Wearside, 118; 17th, N. Fraser, Chester-le-Street, 118½; 18th, R. Robb, Whitbarn, 118½; 19th, J. Hudson, Embleton, 120; 20th, D. McNeal, Chester, 120; 21st, C. Baxter, Newcastle United, 120½; 22nd, M. Moat, Ponteland, 122; 23rd, J. Snowden, Gosforth, 122; 24th, A. Scott, Arcot, 123.

Prize-giving

At the presentation afterwards, we were pleased to have with us, our President, Mr. L. A. Jones, who is also Vice-President of the English Golf Union. The Prizes were presented by the Captain, W. Denton, Esq., who made us all very welcome. Our Chairman, J. Simpson, then introduced Mr. L. A. Jones, who said how very pleased he was to note the increased membership of our Section, and went on to say that Clubs are now taking very much more interest in the training of Greenkeepers. Our Chairman in his vote of thanks mentioned that young members had a good opportunity now for greenkeeping but it was also up to themselves to take an interest in their jobs. The Secretary then thanked the firms and golf clubs for the many prizes and donations. Messrs. Ransomes, Sims & Jefferies; Stewarts of Edinburgh, Fisons, Hargreaves, A.T.C.O., Rickerby Mackenzie, Landscape Machinery Ltd., Taylor & Bain, Northern Agric., the Professionals, Jim Common for the use of caddy cars, Mr. Strong and Mr. Johnson of Chester-le-Street, Mr.

Johnson, Arcot, and Stan. Heatherington, Ponteland. The Chairman then thanked the Steward and Stewardess for the excellent meals provided.

During the day, the ladies of the Gosforth Golf Club raffled a cake given by Mrs. Carr. This realised the sum of £5 7s. 0d. which was donated to Section funds. We were also honoured during the afternoon by the Ladies acting as caddies, for which service our Chairman thanked them.

We were pleased to have with us Mr. I. Forbes and Mr. Pender, of Stewart's also Mr. J. A. Couldridge of Fison's who kindly donated a prize. Also present were A.T.C.O.'s representative, Mr. Mackenzie, and Mr. W. Nicholson of the Northern Agricultural Co.

Christmas Greetings

On behalf of the North-East Section may I wish all members of the Association a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

SHEFFIELD

By R. Whitehead

Chairman:
G. HERRINGTON
(Lindrick)

Hon. Secretary:
8 Clifton Lane,
Hansworth, Sheffield, 9.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS New Year to all members of the British Golf Greenkeepers' Association from the Sheffield Section.

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NORTH-WEST

By B. Ellis

Chairman
T. Brennan
(Wimslow G.C.)

Hon. Secretary
Romiley G.C.

ON MONDAY, 21st JANUARY, 1963, WE are invited to visit Messrs. Ellis Rees & Co., Grafton Works, Middlewood Street, Salford, 5. Regretfully, I must mention that we have been asked to limit the party to 25 members. The timetable is as follows:—2-45 p.m. Meet at Victoria Bridge. 3-0 p.m. Arrive Grafton Works, look round workshops and inspect new machines on show. 4-0 p.m. Afternoon tea. 4-45 p.m. Film show of Ransomes films. 6-15 p.m. Depart for Garrick Hotel where Mr. Clayton of the S.T.R.I. will talk on General Practical Maintenance at 7-0 p.m.

Christmas Greetings

May I take this opportunity of wishing all members of the Association a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



THE SCOTTISH GOLF GREENKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

NORTH AND MIDLAND SECTION

MEMBERS WILL LEARN WITH DEEP regret of the sudden death of Mr. George M. McDonald, of Alyth Golf Club. George died on the 9th November after only two weeks off work. He was our President this year and we shall miss his staunch support. Our deepest sympathy goes to his father and sister.

Christmas Greetings

On behalf of the North and Midland Section I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Guid New Year.

W. RITCHIE,
Secretary.

WEST SECTION

THE ANNUAL TOURNAMENT AND A.G.M. of the West Section was held at the Irvine Golf Club, Bogside, Irvine, on Tuesday, 11th September. The winners of the Tournament were:—Scratch: H. Diamond, 76. First-class, 1st, W. Armstrong, 80—7=

SOUTH-WEST

By A. Cockfield

Chairman:
G. GILBERT,
(Warminster G.C.)

Hon. Secretary:
(Shamcastle G.C.)

ON BEHALF OF THE SOUTH-WEST Section may I extend Seasonal Greetings to all officials and members of the Association, to our Editor and Staff of the Greenkeeper, also to our numerous friends in the trade with thanks for their continued support during the past year.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year to all.

MISCELLANEOUS

PROFESSIONALS AND GREENKEEPERS having stocks of used golf balls contact Sparkbrook Golf Ball Co., 295 Highgate Road, Stoney Lane, Birmingham, with a view to filling export orders.

73; 2nd, J. Ferguson, 76—2=74; 3rd, B. Moir, 80—3=77; Second-class, 1st, R. Moffat, 82—12=70; 2nd, G. Love, 82—10=72; 3rd, N. Ferguson, 89—14=75; 4th, R. Meldrum, 93—18=75. Veteran's: 1st, H. Morris, 82—5=77; 2nd, D. Paterson, 82—5=77.

After a good day's golfing, for which we are deeply grateful to Irvine Golf Club for granting us the courtesy of their course, we held our A.G.M., which was attended by 40 members. Mr. L. F. Millar, on retiring as Chairman, asked Mr. G. Alexander, Prestwick St. Nicholas, to take the Chair. Mr. Alexander on taking over said he was greatly honoured. The Secretary, Mr. C. N. George said that owing to pressure of work he would have to retire this year. Mr. B. Moir was unanimously elected Secretary. Mr. D. Paterson, Paisley Golf Club, was reelected to Committee and Mr. R. Moffat of Cathkin Braes was elected First Assistant Representative.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking everyone who gave me assistance during my term of Office as Secretary of the West Section. I am deeply indebted to all my friends in the Trade for the help they gave me during this period.

Will members please note that our new Secretary is Mr. B. Moir, 11 Helens Terrace, Kilwinning, Ayrshire, and any business regarding the West Section should be directed to him.

Christmas Greetings

On behalf of the West Section, may I wish all greenkeepers a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

C. N. GEORGE,
Secretary.

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INSTRUCTIONAL COURSES

The S.T.R.I. held two well attended Instruction Courses at Bingley this Autumn.

Each of them was attended by 27 students who enjoyed the lectures and practical demonstrations which pack the five days. Amongst those who attended from golf clubs were:—A. Black (Royal St. David's G.C.), H. A. Childs (Fulford (York) G.C.), P. Collinson (Torquay G.C.), J. B. Dalton (Dale and Dalton), H. A. D. Fry (Clyne G.C.), J. F. Greenwood (Muswell Hill G.C.), T. Harrison (Serlby Park G.C.), W. S. Hartley

(Hartsbourne Country Club), B. E. Heard (Folkestone G.C.), D. Herd (Longniddry G.C.), D. Horsman (Burnley G.C.), L. J. Hunt (Ilford G.C.), O. W. Jones (Royal St. David's G.C.), A. P. Marchant (Bush Hill Park G.C.), J. Martin (Pennard G.C.), G. Morley (Wheatley G.C.), J. Munro (Worcester Golf and Country Club), J. Ogilvy (Leven Links Joint Committee), E. A. Purdie (Maxtoke Park G.C.), F. Rankin (Cathcart Castle G.C.), D. Shade (Kingsknowe G.C.), A. T. Stephens (Moor Hall G.C.), D. Storey (West Bowling G.C.), M. Teare (Purley Downs G.C.), W. A. F. Thomson (Nairn G.C.), R. J. Trathen (West Cornwall G.C.), G. R. Willerton (Mickleover G.C.).

INDOOR GOLF RANGES

A converted public wash house at Heath Town, Wolverhampton, will soon be Staffordshire's first indoor golf centre.

Another golf school was opened on 21st November in the converted Odeon Cinema at Prestwich, near Manchester. Golfers drive at a 30 ft. x 50 ft. coloured screen depicting a golf fairway and balls are speedily returned by a miniature conveyor belt.

ANNUAL DRAW

With reference to my enquiry for the seller of the most tickets in the Annual Draw, I have now received a claim by a seller of 54 books. Can anyone improve on this?

C. H. Dix,

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer

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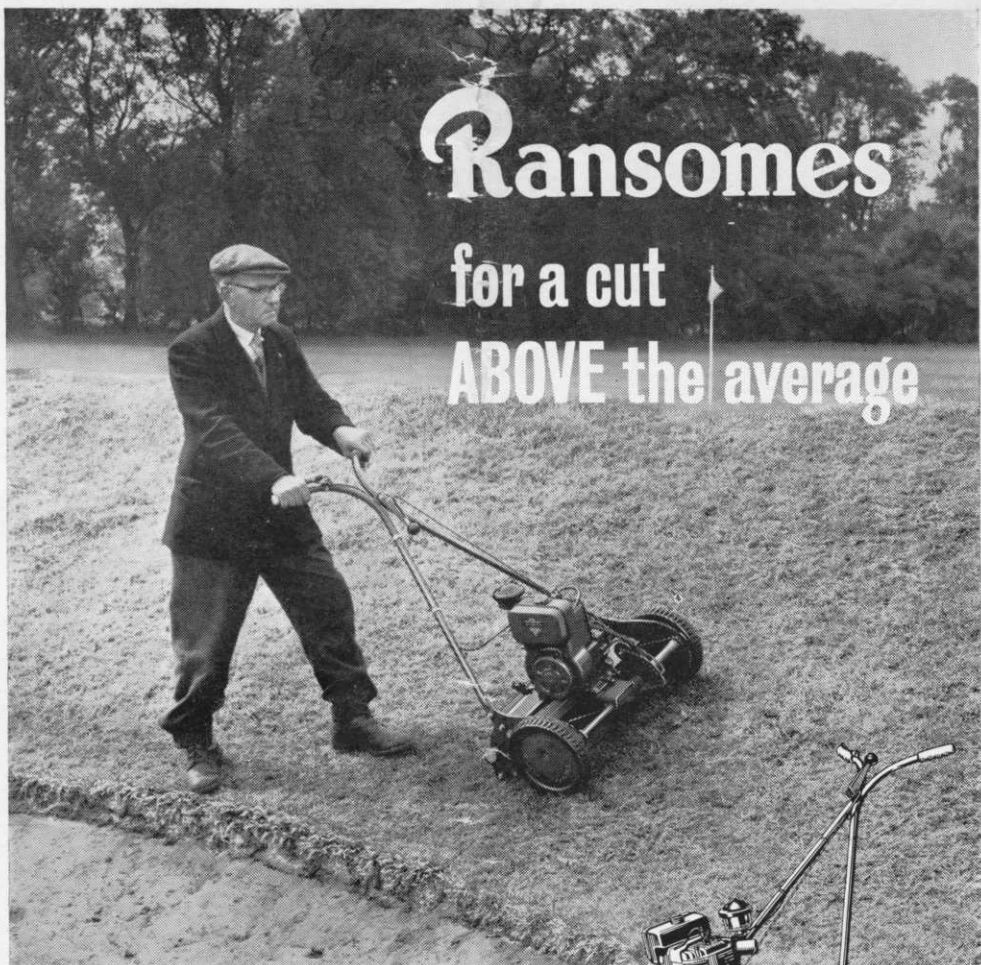
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