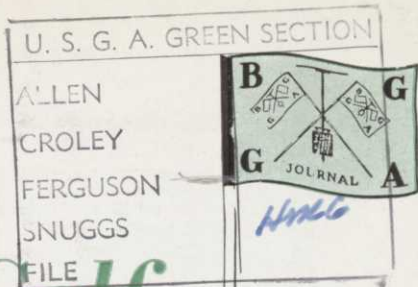


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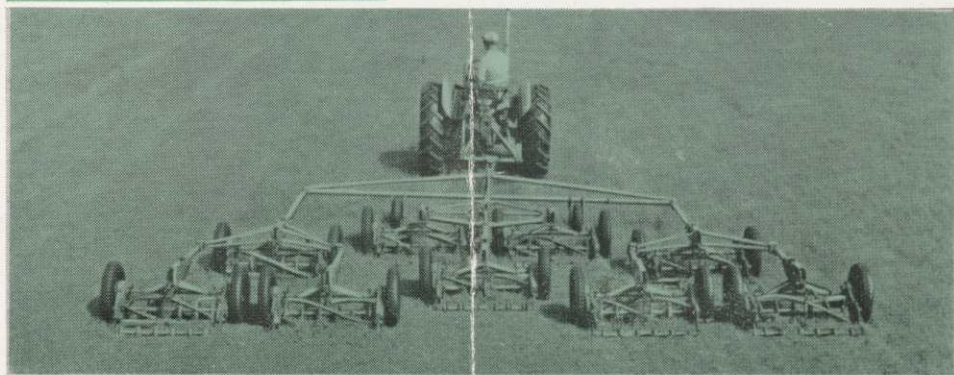
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THE BRITISH GOLF

GREENKEEPER

HON. EDITOR: F. W. HAWTREE.



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JULY 1962

*No bird soars too high, if
he soars with his own wings.*

WILLIAM BLAKE.

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TEE SHOTS



by the Editor

MORE bouquets were handed out to the greenkeeper by players, Press, and public during the Amateur Championship at Royal Liverpool Golf Club last month. Lou Lowcock had defeated a malicious spell of weather and neither first-round casualties nor seeds that failed to germinate could blame the greens.

For sheer golfing atmosphere, few links can match Hoylake in the soft evening light over the Dee when it broods on the surprises in store for the morrow. The evolution of the natural virtues of the site over so many years and the jealous retention of man-made obstacles of cop, road, and boundary have reached towards a ruthless and challenging simplicity which many golf clubs discuss but which few have the courage to achieve. Its relatively flat holes tend to be more controversial than those in the sand-hills because they are less firmly fixed by contour. Even so there are only seventy bunkers on the course and three holes with none at all.

Coupled with this economy, many isolated built-up tees have been combined on a lower level and a few spots subject to winter flooding adjusted. Greenkeeping can thus concentrate on the vital tasks though during a Championship the greenkeeper is never free from urgent appeals.

* * *

A crisis even arose a fortnight before when a Jack Russell bitch disappeared up a drain outlet on the shore. Lou traced the drain across the links towards the 10th green and indicated to firemen called by the owner where Sue would be holed up. The owner said after the rescue, "The firemen were wonderful. They only made a small hole in a patch of semi-rough and fortunately I think the course will be alright in time for the Amateur Championship".

It certainly was. Let us quote Mr. Henry Longhurst writing in the *Sunday Times*.

"For thirty-three years, the Royal Liverpool Club had a celebrated greenkeeper in Tom Bridges, who retired five years ago. He must have been a difficult man indeed to follow. As I walked round this morning, I found myself lifting my hat in spirit to his successor, Lowcock, who is a tremendous worker, out at all hours of the morning with the rest of his staff. If ever Hoylake could claim to have 'the best eighteen greens in the world', they could surely claim it now."

LENGTH, LINE, and CARRY

SINCE the last issue of the Greenkeeper went to press, the 1962 run of events has taken golf writers to a variety of different kinds of course. Moortown for the English, Ganton for England v. France, Sunningdale for the Gold Vase, the Berkshire for the Berkshire Trophy, Porters Park for the new Junior Gold Vase, Wentworth for the Daks and Hoylake for the Amateur. The professional watcher is left with an almost embarrassing wealth of impressions.

One that stands out, though, is the way an extra bit of length in a top player's game can make an astonishing difference to his scoring ability; and how this can be decisive or disastrous, depending on how straight he hits the ball. At the beginning of this sequence we had the new Michael Lunt at Moortown. "The new" is justified, since he has spent the winter shortening and quickening his backswing, and incidentally getting rid of the loop he used to have. The result is a magnificent-looking method, which has not only kept his old length, but actually added to it.

At the 1st, he was able to knock two straight calm woods to the heart of the green, when few others in the field could get near it. At the long 2nd he once got up with a drive and a 7, when others were ending short with two woods; and at the longish 3rd, he was in range of the green with an iron out of thickish rough, when others were battling all out.

Heroic Scramble

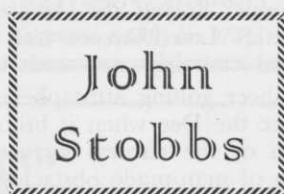
Against Shepperson in the semi-final, he drove straight, and won irresistibly. In the final against Bonallack, he lost his compass and, inevitably, went down, even after a day's heroic scrambling. His sort of length, worth about half a shot a hole when it is under control, can cost $1\frac{1}{2}$ shots a hole when it isn't; even for a man whose powers of recovery are so well-trained by past misdemeanours as Lunt's are.

But the effect also depends on the course. At Moortown many of the long

holes allow a drive straight up the middle and then a straight beat through an open entrance into the green. Other courses are not so kind; and indeed it is a nice point of golf argument whether they should be or not.

Lottery

Certainly it is not any of those long holes which stand out in the mind at Moortown, but a more modest one, the 9th. It is only a drive and a medium or short iron; but, to me at any rate, its construction is classical. The drive is on to a fairway sloping slightly to the right, away from an out-of-bounds wall running right to the green, and then angling behind it as well. On the right of the fairway is open moorland, where the lies are a lottery but mostly possible.



The only easy way into the green is to drive courageously up the middle left of the fairway, disdaining the threat of the wall. If you drive out to the right into the safe country, as Lunt usually did and many others with him, then you have to pitch high through the air straight on to the green, which is plateaued on its right, and guarded there by yawning bunkers, with the pin just on the top above them. Take the safe line for the tee out to the right, and you have to play a really closely calculated and bravely executed pitch, before you get a putt for a three; take the bold line from the tee up the middle, and you have an open shot straight along to the pin. You are offered your choice of courage and challenge; and this seems, to me, to make a good hole.

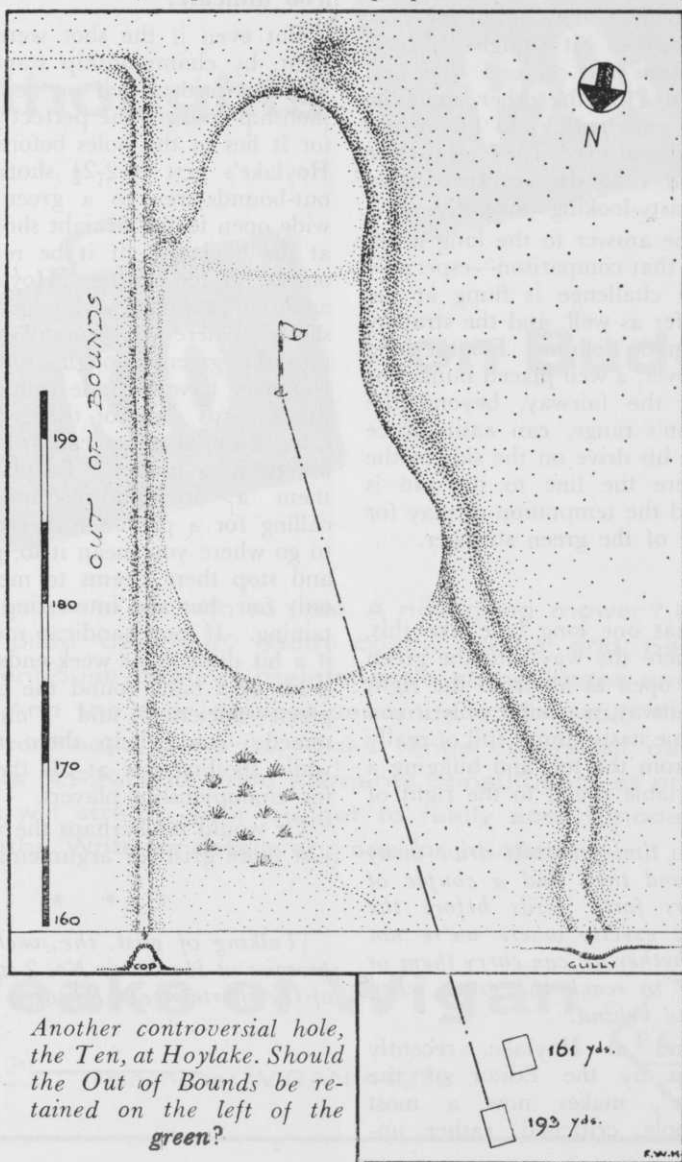
At Hoylake again we saw the long hitting of Joe Carr. It is noticeable, when you watch the construction of his

scores carefully, that even when he goes crooked, as he often still does, particularly with his second shots at long holes, he still wins himself quite a short little pitch or chip. The 15th has an open entrance to the middle of the green; and there, with the wind against, Carr was able to get the length every time; shorter players, after two perfect strokes, would still have anything up to a fifty yard pitch, while Carr, with two not very straight ones, would still have a 20-30 yard flip or chip from the edge of the green. In fact, to put him out,

Chapman had to play some of the mightiest golf ever seen in a championship, making up for his less length by iron shots ruled again and again at the flag, and perfectly judged for length.

He actually covered 12 holes from the third tee to the 15th green, in 9 under 4's; and it was Carr's power which mainly enabled him to hold on so well that he only went down by 2/1. Most other competitors would have collapsed by 5/4 at least.

What golf architects should do about people like Carr and Lunt, and, in the



professional field, Palmer, Weetman and Alliss—had they the opportunity to re-make championship hazards to deal with them—is arguable. Should the long hitter have the green at long holes open to him, so that he gets his reward for controlled strength automatically? Or should he rather have to play for one side of the green or the other, relying on a chip to get his 4?

His opponent might often prefer the latter; and indeed, a green guarded more firmly on one side than the other does in a way present a stronger challenge than one guarded on both sides. If it is guarded on both sides, the only choice is to try to hit straight. But if it is open and safe on one side and heavily guarded on the other, then the challenge at once springs to life in the player's mind and eye! 'Do I go for the pin or would I be wise to keep away from that nasty-looking bunker?'

Perhaps the answer to the long hitter lies really in that comparison—especially as the same challenge is flung at the ordinary golfer as well, and the strategy of the hole made definite. For the long hitter, moreover, a well placed bunker or dog leg up the fairway, beyond the ordinary man's range, can easily force him to place his drive on the side of the fairway where the line to the pin is narrower and the temptation of play for the safe side of the green stronger.

Tumps

Hoylake has one long hole like this, the 14th, where the way into the green is only wide open at all from the right side of the fairway, reachable only if you can carry some nasty tumps full of really thick grass from the tee, and hugging a cop with variable rough to the right of it.

Most of us timid mortals drive away safely left, and then find a couple of cross bunkers forty yards before the green almost exactly where we're not quite sure whether we can carry them or not in order to reach the green, even with the wind behind.

The second at Hoylake, recently tightened up by the Editor of the "Greenkeeper", makes now a most interesting hole, criticised, rather un-

necessarily I thought, by one or two as being too tight. Certainly the bunkers close well in to the front of the green, and there is a narrow path in only from exactly the right line from the tee, again a bold one over trouble. But there's plenty of room for a high bold shot from any direction to pitch on the green and hold; and there are no hazards round the back or right hand edge at all: so that it is merely a matter of pitching pin-high straight-right to be safely there for a putt, or at worst a chip.

Too difficult?

But even if the shot were unusually tight, by championship standards—and Hoylake prides itself on being a championship course—the perfect justification for it lies in the holes before and after. Hoylake's first is 2-2½ shots round an out-bounds-area to a green absolutely wide open to the straight shot, and open at the back too, if it be reached with one a bit too strong. Hoylake's third, again, is a fairly wide open long two shotter, where any straight shot will run into the green, though from the right you may have to fade round a bunker thirty yards short of the green on that side. Both of these can be reached by low-running pushes. To place between them a drive-and-medium-iron hole calling for a precise high-struck second to go where you mean it to, pitch there, and stop there, seems to me to be not only fair, but also interesting and entertaining. If long handicap members find it a bit difficult at week-ends, well then a bit of a bank round the back of the green—ancient and unfashionable remedy—could help them to hold it, while spoiling not at all the challenge for championship players.

Or would it? Perhaps the very idea is just more grist for argument.

* * *

[Talking of grist, the week-end compromise at Hoylake's No. 2 is to use one of the shorter tees—Editor.]



Fertile

thoughts



on Budgets

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Which is the most dangerous tree in a thunderstorm? Where are storms most frequent? Here are the answers to these and many other questions.

FLASH

POINTS by DAVID BOWEN, F.R.Met.S.

OUR hottest areas have the greatest number of thunderstorms. Most of Lincolnshire experience just over twenty days of thunder every year, while Leicestershire, west Yorkshire, Essex and the mid-Thames Valley are next in line with between fifteen and twenty days. Western and north-western districts of Britain are the least thundery regions, particularly Scotland and south and east Ireland. In the Shetlands there are only about two days of thunder a year.

Between December and April thunderstorms are infrequent everywhere in Britain. Between May and August there are generally five thundery days in East Anglia, London, and Midlands and the Welsh Border counties for every one to two in the west and south-west. Then, by the autumn, there is a marked change as south-west England becomes more thundery than anywhere else. Dartmoor at this time is four times as vulnerable as any eastern area.

Thunderstorms can be a real menace on the farm, and, seeing that animals will insist on sheltering under lone trees or by isolated hedges or thickets, the comparatively small cost of insuring them against this risk is well worth while.

According to statistics recently made available, the oak suffers more from lightning than any other tree. Next in order came the elm and ash and, last of all, the beech. We should keep away from outbuildings, wire fences, single trees and all high ground during thunderstorms. Rivers and lakes should also be avoided.

Proximity

Some idea of the nearness of a storm can be obtained by counting the number of seconds between each lightning flash and the resulting thunder. A five-second interval shows that the storm is a mile away, ten seconds that it is two miles away, and so on in that proportion. A flash from a storm immediately overhead

comes simultaneously with the thunder, which, in the experience of most of us (at one time or another) resembles the smashing of several tons of plate glass.

The well-known climatologist, Dr. C. E. P. Brooks, discovered several years ago that the number of thunderstorms over the world as a whole increases during years of peak sunspot activity. Fortunately, the eleven-year sunspot cycle reached its peak two years ago. However, one must also remember that, at any one moment, there are as many as four thousand thunderstorms over the world as a whole, and between forty and fifty thousand of them occur every day. The average annual death rate from lightning is one per million in population in this country, but it is eight times as great in Australia and in the United States of America. In South Africa it is fifty-five times as great, and here the thunderstorm season, between October and February, is a time of terror for those who live in small, overcrowded wooden buildings.

Lightning Conductors

In recent years there has been some confusion about the value of lightning conductors. They are necessary on tall buildings, and even on small buildings which stand on relatively high ground. They are also desirable on large or small buildings which stand singly on level ground and are not protected by nearby tall trees. However, except on very slim, steeple-like buildings, one conductor is seldom adequate, as it will protect only a small zone of the building. Houses having several chimneys, or which have a broad expanse of roof, invariably need several conductors. To install them is no job for the amateur handyman, and the cost of a large installation could be quite considerable in view of the large amount of copper rod that is used.

Chimneys, of course, are particularly vulnerable, since the lining of carbon

inside the stack makes an excellent conductor for lightning in the immediate vicinity.

People sometimes wonder what to do if they are caught in a thunderstorm when driving. The answer here is not to rush out of the car, for a saloon car with metal roof will (according to laboratory tests) give complete protection to those inside. If the car is struck—and this, as it happens, is very rare—the lightning charge will be conducted through the car to the metal hubs and from here will jump to the ground.

Probably the most dangerous place of all in a thunderstorm is a golf course—the metal tip of a swinging golf club acts as a perfect conductor! Make for shelter as soon as possible, and, in this

blinded by forked lightning) is not very convincing. But its exact composition remains a mystery. Nor is it known how it is formed. According to photographs, it varies in size and occasionally reaches the proportion of a football. It appears to have the habit of drifting through open windows and then exploding.

A single thunderstorm can be roughly compared to an atomic bomb explosion in slow motion. It contains winds that are vicious enough to tear an aircraft apart. A large thunderstorm would have the energy of at least one hydrogen bomb and enough electricity, if harnessed, to light a moderate-sized town for at least a week.

Conditions favourable for the development are to some extent predictable.

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regard, I am bound to say that a wooden golf pavilion offers less protection against lightning than the underside of a cliff (should one be handy). The object is to get away from the highest ground in the vicinity, if possible.

Quite apart from casualties and damage to property, we suffer a loss of thousands of pounds worth of milk every year during thundery weather, due to the great number of temperature fluctuations (not always felt by human beings) that are associated with it. Winter thunderstorms, however, can be ignored in this respect, since temperature fluctuations have little effect when they are below about 60 degrees Fahrenheit.

Meteorologists have long argued about whether there is such a thing as "ball" lightning. Due to the numerous reports of it, and even of photographs, the old theory that it is simply an image in the eye of an observer (temporarily

The best guide is to go by the local indications. Turretting cloud tops through the distant haze, a slight fall in barometer level after a very hot spell, or a slight fall of the barometer accompanied by unusually oppressive atmospheric conditions: these are all signs that we should be on the alert.

Don't blame the forecaster too much if he gives the alert, and no storm materialises. For although thundery weather can be general over a wide area, it need not affect the whole of the area at the same time, the point being that slight shift of wind here or there can make all the difference to where the lightning will strike and the rain fall.

Can lightning strike twice in the same place? Most certainly it can—and will. The Empire State Building in New York was once struck a dozen times within fifteen minutes!

With grateful acknowledgments to the "Farmers' Weekly".



JULY

18th South West Section, Annual Tournament, Weston-Super-Mare Golf Club.

AUGUST

13th, 14th and 15th B.G.G.A., A.G.M. and Annual Tournament, Pyle and Kenfig Golf Club.

30th Southern Section, Autumn Tournament, Sunningdale Golf Club.

SEPTEMBER

25th East Midland Section, Autumn Tournament, Willesley Park Golf Club, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire.

26th Welsh Section, Cardiff Cup, Glamorganshire Golf Club.

NOVEMBER

28th Midland Section visit to Messrs. Massey Ferguson.

ROD DAVIES at HANDSWORTH

IT may cost £2,000 to train an apprentice greenkeeper, but unless clubs were prepared to co-operate, the standard of golf greenkeeping might slip back to the "bad old days."

This was the warning given by Mr. "Jock" Glass, the national chairman of the greenkeepers' organisation speaking after Carl Bretherton's annual match at Handsworth.

He was talking largely to the converted, for Mr. Bretherton's side largely consists of the chairmen of the Green Committees of many Midland clubs, plus those who are interested in good greenkeeping because they are good players.

Mr. Glass stirred up controversy some time ago when he forecast that unless the inflow of young men to greenkeeping increased, golfers would have to take their own mowing machines around with them before long.

"Greenkeeping must keep pace with industry as an attractive proposition to young men" was the point Mr. Glass so rightly made. That would mean that golf subscriptions would have to keep pace with rising wages in industry—and that is something golfers have been loath to see for some time.

Mr. Bretherton raised a fine side for his annual match but it was drawn $7\frac{1}{2}$ to $7\frac{1}{2}$ against the keen greenkeepers. Incidentally Charlie Stowe had to finish 3—2—2 to win his games.

As Charlie said at the subsequent supper: "Beware opponents who say either that they have not struck a ball for six months or are having twinges of rheumatism. When you hear that kind of thing, you know you're in for a tough fight".

With grateful acknowledgments to the "Birmingham Mail".

RAISING teams of 11 or 15 players is not as easy as it once was, most club secretaries will readily admit. But while interest in team games is declining, many sports played by individuals are enjoying as big a boom as they ever have had. And golf is among them. Not even in the halcyon days around the turn of the century, when many of today's existing golf courses were laid down, was the game as popular as now.

which in the case of the smaller clubs at least make up the bulk, and certainly the most regular source, of income. Subscriptions vary from about 5 guineas a year at the smaller courses to 25-40 guineas at the bigger and more exclusive clubs. The cost of golfing is lowest in Scotland where courses are less expensive to run, and more municipal courses operate.

In the past, fees have been kept within

PRESSURES on the GREEN

As a result, many clubs and courses, especially in the London area, have become exceedingly busy. At a public course, like the one in Richmond Park, players might have to arrive at 6-0 a.m. to be sure of a game on a fine week-end. Most recruits find it worthwhile to join a club, however. Britain's one million players support 1,500 clubs, and a number more are planned in the London area, in spite of the high costs of land and construction.

Rising Costs

The surge of popularity has not automatically brought prosperity to the private clubs, which make up the bulk of the total. Like many other institutions, they are constantly under pressure from rising costs of wages, rates, fuel and other overheads. Labour charges generally make up about 60 per cent of the total outgoings, and even this percentage may conceal a shortage of staff. A big club with an 18- and a 9- hole course to maintain will often have an outdoor staff of a dozen or so, and a professional, who also runs the shop and as often as not hires out trolleys in place of the pre-war caddies. The indoor staff may also number up to a dozen, including stewards, waitresses, cooks and kitchen hands, commanded by a secretary, who is usually a retired bank manager or service officer. The wage bill for a staff of this size can easily be £12,000-£15,000 a year.

As a result of increases in costs, which amount to about 20 per cent. in the past five years alone, nearly all clubs have been forced to raise their subscriptions,

reason by working on very small margins, or by increasing the number of members. But many clubs are approaching their optimum numbers (between 250 and 750 are the normal limits) and it seems likely that subscriptions rather than membership totals will have to be increased in the future. This is particularly the case in the London area, where many clubs have waiting lists, and some have re-imposed entrance fees in addition to a high and rising level of subscriptions.

One important alternative source of income, and an increasingly popular one, is to encourage visitors, either individuals or groups, especially at off-peak times. The bigger clubs recoup some of their added costs by staging tournaments, and even the smaller local courses stage championships for company sports clubs and golf societies.

In order to encourage the habit of visiting other courses, the Golf Society of Great Britain offers its members privileges at 15 national courses beyond a given distance from their homes. Golf courses near the sea, such as Ferndown, close to Bournemouth, and some of the well-known resort-courses such as the British Railways courses at Gleneagles, depend a lot on golfing holidays, and green fees there may be the largest single source of income.

Bar Profits

For all clubs, however, the clubhouse offers the best way of making an honest penny. Bar profits have long been the main standby, and recently one-armed

(Continued on page 16)

News



from the Sections

SOUTHERN

By W. Mason

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(Thorpe Hall)

Hon. Secretary:
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Tel.: SUNnyhill 0245

OUR SPRING TOURNAMENT WAS held at the Finchley Golf Club on the 16th May with an entry of 48. In spite of the weather the course was in very good condition. I would like to thank the Members of the Trade who so kindly supported our Prize Fund, also the Finchley Golf Club for their cheques, one for £5 5s. 0d., and one for £3 3s. 0d., the latter being from the Ladies' Section.

The results were as follows:—1st Morning, E. Foulds, 77—6=71. 1st Afternoon, P. Staines, 87—15=72. Scratch, G. Darby, 78—77 Gross. Over 60's, S. Morton, 160; W. E. Moore, 164. 1st Year Competitor: D. Major, 90—93, 183 Gross. Vice-Presidents, D. Craig. 36 Holes, 1st, P. Staines, 146; 2nd, G. West, 147; 3rd, E. Foulkes, 148; 4th, B. Pearce, 149; 5th, J. K. Glass, 150; 6th, G. Hitchcock, 152; 7th, M. Freeman, 153 (ties); 10th, R. Fordham, 154; 11th, L. Lucas, 155; 12th, J. Ness, 155; 13th, F. Corner, 156; 14th, P. Moore, 156.

Autumn Tournament

Our Autumn Tournament to be played at Sunningdale on Thursday, 30th August will be run on the same lines as in previous years, 4 Ball Stableford in the morning, and Green-some Stableford in the afternoon. When sending entries will members please state handicap and club, also partner's handicap. Partners may be either the Captain, or a member of the competitor's club. Closing date for entries is 20th August.

New Members

We are glad to welcome the following new members to our Section. W. A. Lipscombe, 23 Thurlst Avenue, Morden, Surrey, and G. Piggott, 1 Gillets Hill, Harpsden, Henley-on-Thames.

Subscriptions

I would thank all members who have sent in their subscriptions and remind those who have not, to do so now.

EAST MIDLAND

By S. T. McNeice

Chairman:
S. TALBOT
(Wollaton Park)

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

OUR ANNUAL SPRING TOURNAMENT was held at Sherwood Forest Golf Club on Wednesday, 9th May by kind permission of the Captain and Committee. Play was over 18 holes. The weather was kind to the early starters who only had a strong breeze to contend with, but the later ones had to finish against strong wind and torrential rain.

On this very fine course with a standard scratch score of 74, Stan Long of Leicester Municipal again retained the Section Cup with a magnificent gross score of 73, playing off a handicap of 3 to give him a nett score of 70. His score read as follows:—Out, 4, 3, 4, 3, 5, 5, 3, 4, 5—36. Home, 4, 4, 5, 5, 3, 4, 3, 4,—37,—73.

Prize winners were as follows:—1st Nett, S. C. Long, Western Park, 73—3=70; 2nd Nett, R. W. Willars, Leicestershire, 95—24=71; 3rd Nett, D. Bull, Bulwell Forest, 86—10=76; 4th Nett, S. T. McNeice, Leicestershire, 89—12=77; 5th Nett, E. A. Clarkson, Leicestershire, 88—10=78; 6th Nett, F. Oliver, Bulwell Hall, 91—13=78; 7th Nett, G. Dunkley, Northamptonshire, 91—12=79; 8th Nett, R. Bowler, Wollaton Park, 94—15=79. Ties decided on second 9 holes.

Vice-Presidents' Section: 1st, K. Milner, 77—scratch 77. 2nd, A. E. Smith, 86—9=77.

The meeting was very well attended with twenty members competing for the Section Cup. Mr. H. Herrington of Sherwood and Mr. George Herrington of Lindrick took part and we were very pleased to have George and his son join us. Seven Vice-Presidents also attended and we had six visitors.

The Section Chairman, Mr. Stan Talbot thanked the Sherwood Forest Golf Club for granting us the courtesy of the course, Mr. W. G. Smith, Captain for kindly presenting the prizes, the Steward and Stewardess for a delightful meal, and Mr. H. Herrington and his staff. Mr. Smith replied by extending a welcome to the Section on behalf of his Club.

I should like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Section to thank Mr. A. J. E. Cook for giving so much of his time in helping to make the Tournament so successful.

We are indebted to the following who so kindly contributed to our Prize Fund: Mr. R. C. Ainscow, President; Mr. A. E. Smith and Mr. G. V. Lee, Vice-President; Mr. A. G. Beck, Messrs. Ransomes, Sims & Jefferies Ltd.; Messrs. H. Pattison & Co.; Messrs. T. Green, Ltd.; and Messrs. ATCO Service Branch, Sheffield.

Mr. S. C. Long

Stan Long, head greenkeeper at the Western Park Municipal Golf Course, and our Section Treasurer since 1958, has been appointed professional in succession to Jack Loach, who retired in April.

Mr. Long, who will also remain head of the greenkeeping staff, was recommended by the Parks Committee for the profession's post and this has now been confirmed. A low handicap golfer who has played for the county second team, he joined the staff of Western Park as head greenkeeper four years ago and the course has made remarkable strides since then.

New Member

We are glad to welcome to our Section Mr. P. McCarron, 28 St. Peter's Road, Leicester, who is a member of the Leicestershire Golf Club staff.

MIDLAND

By F. Cashmore

Chairman:
G. HART
(Gay Hill)

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

THE WEATHER WAS VERY KIND to us this year for our President's Match. It must have been the warmest evening of the year and the greenkeepers had to work hard to keep their end up as the President's team included five or six internationals. We were very pleased to have the Association Chairman, Jock Glass with us for the evening. After a great struggle the greenkeepers were able to keep it all square $7\frac{1}{2}$ matches each, which was a very satisfying result. After the Match, our President again provided a wonderful meal for all present, including a number of notabilities who had not played in the match, chief of them, Sir Ernest Canning, a young man of over eighty.

The President introduced Jock Glass, Chairman of the B.G.G.A., who made some very true remarks about the past, present, and future of the greenkeeping profession, which I am sure had a great effect on the company present. Mr. L. C. Edwards, Captain of the Handsworth Golf Club said how very pleased they were to see such a great gathering. Our Section Chairman, George Hart thanked our President for his kindness in making it possible for us to play against some of the cream of Midland golfers. Our old friend Charlie Stowe had some very amusing things to say about his match and the opposition with which he had to contend. Our President thanked everyone for their

kind remarks, the Handsworth Club for their co-operation in making the evening such a success, and the Steward and his staff for the grand way in which they looked after us. So ended a night that everyone present will remember for many days to come.

The results were as follows:—

PRESIDENT'S TEAM

1. C. Stowe and J. M. Urry	3 & 1, 1
2. H. J. Roberts and J. T. Mitchley	— 0
3. A. W. Holmes and I. Wheeler	— 0
4. E. W. Fiddian and W. Johnston	— 0
5. A. W. Pullar and D. M. G. Sutherland	— 0
6. G. Stubbings and A. H. Clayton	— 0
7. T. R. Hodgetts and R. W. Bailey	— 0
8. E. Moggs-Wright and R. Baldwin	1 up, 1
9. W. H. R. Lloyds and D. J. Davies	8 & 6, 1
10. Dr. E. G. Wilkinson and H. G. Lunt	4 & 3, 1
11. S. A. Dark and J. P. Richards	— 1
12. A. J. Hurst and W. E. R. Cross	— $\frac{1}{2}$
13. C. Gold and T. A. Phillips	4 & 3, 1
14. J. Conlon and G. N. James	7 & 6, 1
15. R. D. Parker and E. Ballinger	3 & 2, 1

$7\frac{1}{2}$

MIDLAND GREENKEEPERS

1. G. Woodward and G. Hart	— 0
2. E. Benbow and H. Gibbs	2 & 1, 1
3. R. Pugh and T. Jones	1 up 1
4. J. Glass and W. Handy	1 up 1
5. V. Smith and W. Barton	3 & 2, 1
6. G. Wilson and S. Christie	3 & 1, 1
7. H. DREWITT and E. Adams	2 & 1, 1
8. A. Hastelow and J. Toy	— 0
9. E. Walford and W. Machin	— 0
10. G. Smith and B. Powell	— 0
11. A. Stephens and E. Mitton	2 & 1, 1
12. G. Barton and E. H. Lumby	— $\frac{1}{2}$
13. W. D. G. Handy and D. Wolton	— 0
14. A. Bevington and B. Baxter	— 0
15. G. Fox and D. Hoynes	— 0

$7\frac{1}{2}$

Handicap Revision

The Committee have made the following revisions to handicaps: A. C. Jones, 10 to 8; W. Machin, 6 to 10; and W. D. J. Handy, 14 to 20.

MR. S. R. GIBBS

We were grieved to learn of the death on Sunday, 3rd June, of Sydney Robertson Gibbs of Gwynne Cottage, Stanwell Road, Bedfont.

Mr. Gibbs was Director and Secretary of J. Gibbs Limited at Bedfont, Middlesex and Ripley, Surrey.

The Funeral Service was held at Bedfont Church on Friday, the 8th June, followed by cremation at the South West Middlesex Crematorium, Hanworth.

WELSH

By S. A. Tucker

Chairman:
M. GEDDES
(Royal Porthcawl)

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

OUR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING took place at the Royal Porthcawl Golf Club by kind permission of the Captain and Committee in conjunction with the Secretaries. All members observed a minute of silence in memory of the late Stan Phillips of the Southerndown Golf Club. May I express, on behalf of all members our deepest sympathy to the relatives. Stan was a very fine fellow, always willing to help the Section in any way he could, a very staunch Committee man who never missed a meeting. We shall all miss him very much.

I would like to express our thanks to John O'Gorman our retiring Secretary for all the work he put into the Section in spite of personal worries, and I sincerely hope that I shall be able to carry on the good work.

Our A.G.M., was a very pleasant one and all present were pleased with the position of the Section.

Competition.

We played an 18 Hole Competition Medal Round in very windy weather conditions but there were some very good scores. The John Duncan Cup was won by J. Williams with a score of 88—15=73; 2nd, J. Martin, 80—6=74, and 3rd, J. Rees, 89—9=80. The Birdie Cup was won by B. Jones with a score of 95—15=80; 2nd, H. Fry Snr., 103—22=81, and 3rd, D. Jones, 99—14=85.

D. G. Lord writes,

"It is with deep regret that I have to inform you of the death of Mr. Stan Phillips, Assistant Greenkeeper at the Southerndown Golf Club, who died on the 14th June, in Bridgend Hospital.

Stan commenced his greenkeeping career at the Southerndown Club in 1926 and spent all his working life there. He was an active member of the Welsh Section for the past 27 years, and his staunch support will be sadly missed.

The funeral service was held at St. Bride's Church, nr. Bridgend on the 18th June when Mr. M. Geddes, Chairman, Mr. A. Jury, and Mr. Cox represented the Section, and I attended on behalf of the Association."

NORTHERN

By J. Parker

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

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

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Section was held on the 7th June at the White Swan, Leeds. Twenty-five members, a disappointing number turned up, though it was pleasing to see several young members taking an interest in the Section's affair.

Before calling on the Secretary to read the minutes of the last A.G.M., the Chairman, Mr. G. Mason asked members to stand in silence and pay respect to the two members, Mr. C. Leafield, and Mr. C. Blades, who had passed away since the last meeting.

The Secretary and Treasurer in presenting his report was able to show another satisfactory year's working. Despite increased costs the financial position of the Section remains sound.

Before vacating the chair for the election of Officers, Mr. G. Mason thanked the Committee and all those who had helped to make the year's events successful, Golf Clubs and Members of the Trade for support of the Tournament Prize Funds, Mr. A. Nott for the free use of rooms, and Mr. W. Mountain, President, for his generous gifts of refreshments, etc. Mr. F. G. Smith then took the Chair for the election of Officers. The following were elected:—President: Mr. W. Mountain; Chairman: Mr. G. W. Mason; Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. Scott; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: Mr. J. Parker. Committee: Messrs. E. Munns, A. Robertshaw, E. Paley, S. Bailes, A. Routledge, B. Holian and A. Cox. Executive Representative: Mr. J. Parker; Hon. Auditors: Messrs. C. Moore and L. Harper. Mr. G. Geddes was elected as the Section's nomination for Vice-Chairman of the Association in the coming year.

Mr. G. Mason then took over the Chair again and thanked Frank for taking over during the election. He also thanked members for again electing him to the office, and hoped that he would be able to serve the Section to the best of his ability.

Several matters were discussed and it was decided to leave them in the hands of the Committee. The meeting closed with Mr. Mountain satisfying the needs of the inner man though NOT with what seemed to be the main topic of conversation on the arrival of the hot dry spell—WATER!

Change of Address

Mr. F. Kenny has now moved to the following address:— Betty's Lodge, St. Ives, Bingley.



THE SCOTTISH GOLF GREENKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

OUR ANNUAL TOURNAMENT WAS held over the Championship Course at Carnoustie on Thursday, 21st June. Although there had been little rain the greens were in excellent condition but high wind made scoring very difficult, however the very fine meals served in the Clubhouse and at the Caledonia Club were very much appreciated. The generosity of the Trade was very evident in the fine array of prizes. Mr. Paterson, Chairman for the day, introduced Mr. J. Forbes of Edinburgh who presented the prizes.

The results were as follows:—Scratch: 1st, J. Dickson (Kilspindie) 77; 2nd, R. Dugan (Killermont), 78. 1st Class: 1st, W. Fraser (Falkirk Tryst), 81—7=74; 2nd, W. Ritchie (Kirriemuir), 80—5=75; 3rd, J. Clark (Monktonhall), 81—6=75; 4th, H. Smith (Broomieknowe), 84—7=77; 5th, D. McNicol (Windyhill), 86—9=77; 6th, W. Elder (Monifieth), 86—8=78. 2nd Class: 1st, C. Adams (Powfoot), 90—16=74; 2nd, D. Shade, 91—16=75; 3rd, W. Hind (Cupar), 90—14=76; 4th, J. Campbell (St. Andrews), 87—10=77; 5th, R. Patterson (Paisley), 90—13=77; 6th, J. Baillie (Bruntsfield), 95—18=77. Veterans: 1st, R. Dishington (Cathkin), 86—7=79; 2nd, R. Burnside (Longniddry), 90—11=79; 3rd, A. Pringle (Killermont), 90—11=79; 4th, G. A. Morris (Milngavie), 83—3=80. New Members: 1st, J. Murray (Cruden Bay), 83; 2nd, A. Ferguson (Killermont), 89. Foursomes: W. Falconer (Pannure), and S. Donachie (Deeside). St. Mungo Cup: East Section, Nett Aggregate, 227.

IAN FRASER,
General Secretary.

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Messrs. Kinnis & Brown, Ltd., are exhibiting the Sudbury Soil Test Kit at the Royal Show at Newcastle in July.

Apart from demonstrations of the ease of operation of the kit, they are inviting keen growers to bring their own soil samples to the Sudbury Stand for testing. This service is offered free of charge during the Show with expert staff available to give advice on general fertilising problems.

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NORTH & MIDLAND SECTION

OUR ANNUAL COMPETITION WAS held at Montrose Golf Course on Thursday, 7th June, 1962. The weather was most favourable and conditions excellent for scoring. Our thanks are due to the Members of the Trade who have so handsomely donated to our Prize list. The results were as follows: 1st, J. Falconer, Pannure Golf Club; 2nd, I. Simpson, Blairgowrie Golf Club; 3rd, W. Elder, Monifieth Golf Club; 4th, W. Falconer, Pannure Golf Club.

Mr. G. M. McDonald, our Chairman thanked the Committee of the Montrose Golf Club for allowing us the courtesy of the course, the catering staff, Mr. and Mrs. Stuart, for excellent meals, and Mr. W. Ritchie and his staff for the excellent condition of the course.

W. RITCHIE,
Secretary.

West Section Secretary:

C. N. George, 39 Alexandra Avenue,
Lenzie, Kirkintilloch.

East Section Secretary:

A. Huish, 11 Hamilton Road, Gullane,
East Lothian.

HON. SECRETARY'S NOTES

PRESSURES ON THE GREEN—cont.



I AM VERY PLEASED TO INFORM members that the Welsh Section have expressed a wish to provide the prizes for the Wednesday Competition at Pyle & Kenfig. I am sure everyone will be most happy to accept this kind offer which is a very nice gesture on the part of the home team.

May I remind holders of trophies from last year's Tournament who are not taking part this year, to ensure that these are returned to Pyle and Kenfig Golf Club, Porthcawl, prior to this year's Meeting.

Annual Draw

Will members please note that all counterfoils and monies should be returned to their own Section Secretary and NOT to me.

C. H. Dix.

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.

bandits have made a useful haul in some clubs. But the most neglected opportunity has been in catering. Frequently at present turnover is too small to make the service particularly attractive, either to members, cooks or stewards. As a result standards are often low and reliable staff is short in supply. In some cases, the natural conservatism of members is to blame; the idea of attracting visitors and family parties by the clubhouse facilities is not favoured.

In spite of this, the future prospects seem to be best for clubs far-sighted enough to call in professional catering, install a manager, run the clubhouse on strictly business lines, and even go so far as to provide alternative facilities—tennis or squash courts (as at Wentworth), ultimately a swimming pool. This would enable subscriptions to be kept to a minimum, solve the problem of keeping the family amused and maintain golf's main attraction—a wide appeal to different age groups, and to women as well as men.

With grateful acknowledgments to "The Financial Times".

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ENQUIRY BUREAU.—The Editor desires to point out that he will be pleased to answer enquiries from our readers, and forward to them the name and address of the manufacturer or supplier of any particular proprietary article or product used in the construction, maintenance and upkeep of a golf course. Enquiries are coming in from greenkeepers asking for such information. They may, for example, know the trade name of the article or product they wish to purchase, but may not be conversant with the name and address of the actual manufacturer or supplier. The Enquiry Bureau will gladly supply this information, and thus enable the greenkeeper to contact the manufacturer or supplier direct.

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

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

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