

Many famous golfers learnt the game on these links, including the immortal J. H. Taylor—the greatest of them all—who won the Open Championship five times.

During the war the course, like numbers of others, was requisitioned and used as a bombing range. But the ravages caused by its war service have now been removed leaving few traces of those troublesome days.

One unfortunate aspect of this fine course is that it is no longer the venue of any major championships. Everyone accepts that as a course it is the equal of any in Great Britain, but there are two vital factors missing.

Thousands come

The first is that because it is on what is practically public ground it is virtually impossible to collect any gate money—a necessity if one is going to run a major championship with prizes running into thousands of pounds.

The other is that competitions nowadays attract so many entries that two courses are needed. Saunton—seven miles away as the crow flies—immediately springs to mind, but by road it is a difficult journey, especially in the summer when mile-long traffic jams are the rule rather than the exception.

So it appears that the Royal North Devon Golf Club will never again attain the great heights it once knew as the Mecca of British golf, but one can rest assured that no one is shedding any tears, for it still attracts thousands of golfers each year.

Not perhaps the man who plays off scratch, but the one who plays for the fun of it and for the happy family atmosphere which is always predominant in this club, the oldest in England still playing on its original area.

With grateful acknowledgments to the "Western Morning News", Plymouth.

S.G.G.A. NEWS

Senior Greenkeepers' Golfing Society

A DEPARTURE FROM THE USUAL outing took place on the 10th November, when fifteen greenkeepers with an aggregate of 615 years' service, met together as the Senior Greenkeepers' Golfing Society

This new found Society, whose hope it is to have one meeting in the Autumn of each year, has only one purpose—this is that the "elder brethren" can meet socially and if they wish, enjoy a little, not too serious, golf!

There can be few societies who have had such an auspicious start. Lanark Golf Club were the kindest of hosts and the arrangements by Mr. and Mrs. Gibson of that club were the major part in what proved to be a memorable day.

The weather too was at its most genial behaviour, for although Glasgow was in the grip of one of the worst fogs for years, at Lanark the sun was blazing down from a cloudless sky. After lunch the challenge of this really testing course could not be resisted and seven of the company went out, with the others as spectators. There was a good deal of gamesmanship of the best natured kind and afterwards to tea and a final dram for the road home. We hope to meet again next year, but it will be difficult to match our wonderful day at Lanark.

WM. BRADFORD.

The 19th

A new £40,000 club house is to be built on the Mid-Kent Golf Course, at Singlewell, near Gravesend.

100-Room Hotel on Golf Course

A proposal to build a 100-bedroom hotel on Morecambe golf course has been approved in principle by Morecambe Corporation Parks and Publicity Committee. Designed mainly for the accommodation of conferences, it would include a lecture hall, cinema, banqueting hall, tennis court and swimming pool.

It would first require the consent of the golf club whose lease with the Corporation has still four years to go.

"Caterer & Hotel Keeper".

CORRECTION

We apologise to Mr. Rees, Sales Director of Messrs. Atco, whose name was inadvertently spelt Reece in the Midland Notes in our November issue.