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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.

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OCTOBER 1964

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ABE BERKOWITZ.

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TEE SHOTS



by the Editor

Tom Mason Retires

It is 55 years since Tom Mason was foreman in charge of constructing greens and tees on the last six holes at the Hendon Golf Club. A year later he became Assistant and in 1913, Head Greenkeeper. Now he has decided to retire.

Although wounded during his three years' service in the First World War, he was soon back on the job and in 1922 won the Greenkeepers' Open Tournament. Nine years later he won it a second time.

Meanwhile he was making a name in the greenkeeping world, inventing a new method for draining bunkers on heavy soils and laying down trial plots on his own course and elsewhere with different grass species treated on different lines. The knowledge gained led to his paper "The Acidity Treatment of Golf Greens" in 1931 and he was an obvious choice to represent the Southern Section on the Research Station's Practical Advisory Committee when it was set up in 1934. Other papers he wrote will be found in Nos. 11 and 27 of the Research Station's Journal.

Readers will also remember his contributions in these pages over the years and join us in wishing him many years of happy retirement. Fifty-five years at the same golf club and 51 years a member of this Association are themselves a measure of his contribution to his chosen craft.

* * *

Our President has received a letter from Mr. R. B. Dawson, O.B.E., M.Sc., F.L.S., and readers will like to see the following extract :—

Dear Mr. Bretherton,

I want to thank you most sincerely for the presents received from the B.G.G.A. No doubt you will pass on my thanks to the Executive when next they meet. The gifts took three forms—a Wood-Met trolley which we needed for the house; an electric shaver; and two ash-trays. These are all most useful and will be long cherished.

Yours sincerely,

R. B. Dawson.

**"You've
got to
keep them
happy!"**

by

John Stobbs

One of the more entertaining things about American golf magazines is the way in which they sometimes give us a glimpse of what things are likely to become over here—if we give them a chance.

A lot of the characteristics of American golf though could well be adopted over here, one of them being the apparent dedication and accepted status in the club of the Course Superintendent or Head Greenkeeper.

Surprisingly, this shows mainly in the continual harping on the theme that it is up to him to improve his status and authority even further. He is already expected to be able to take time off to make speeches to local groups of people

on more or less any aspect of his job. He also seems to have the right to post his own notices and bulletins on the club notice board, and to play a vital part in planning his course's upkeep for several years ahead, as well as working out the financial budget to cover it.

For many Head Greenkeepers over here, this involves more time than they can reasonably spare from their practical duties, but the American is being continually badgered from all sides to become ambitious altogether: to take courses in salesmanship, for instance, so that he can "sell" himself and his ideas to the professional, the members, and, not least, to the new Chairman of the Greens Committee, who has made a fortune out of manufacturing garbage cans and now addresses himself with a dangerous self-confidence to the task of interfering with the course and making a darned nuisance of himself—if he's not quickly made an ally.

Freedom to Work

Again and again in American Golf literature—and not least in the magazine of the American Association of Greenkeepers—the Greenkeeper is reminded that his freedom to get on with his job and do what only he knows needs doing, without infuriating interference and batteries of unreasonable complaints, depends entirely upon how he handles the golfers themselves and their elected representatives.

Often it sounds as if he's being advised sympathetically on the psychology of coping with a shower of unruly, spoilt and altogether difficult children.

It could be that not a few Head Greenkeepers over here have much the same feeling about their own members! It could be too—and perhaps the more so in their case—that the rules of tactics continually put forward in America might apply here too.

Allowing for the usual American self-consciousness about this sort of thing, and the peculiar ethic they seem to have of over-dissimulated good fellowship (which somehow appears to grow more genuine with continual usage) here is what the usual "Advice to the Greenkeeper on the proper handling of members" seems to amount to:

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1. It's not enough to know your job and the quirks and oddities of your own turf and soil. You must also make sure that everyone knows how well you know it. Always be ready to talk clearly about it, and explain things to members. For instance, you are bound to have a darned good reason for doing something to the course which some members don't like—even if it is only instinct of long experience. If you're always ready to explain it (or, as they'd put it over there, "sell" it), you can damp down a lot of complaints at source.

2. Show how satisfied you are with the life itself, and proud of your course, and inspire your staff with that feeling. That sounds all too American-earnest doesn't it? But it's certainly true as far as your standing with the members goes. You can get away with even the most outrageous personal dictatorship about the course if the members, somehow, feel proud of you for it. So they seem to think over there, anyway!

3. Use two weapons, psychology and curiosity, against the man who wants to interfere—whether its the new Chairman of the Greens Committee, or just one of the club's back markers beefing about the greens as usual.

New Chairman!

With the new Chairman of the Greens Committee, rule 1, say the Americans, is—Get in first! Make your own plans for exactly what you want to do during his first year of office, then go and explain them to him in vast detail and ask him if he's got any suggestions. Don't wait for him to get after you with his own ideas. How this might work over here, I'm not qualified to say! But

it's certainly true that most new Chairmen of Greens Committees have no real idea of the sheer amount and complexity of work you're already doing every year.

The other rule for coping with him, and with the low handicap man on the rampage, is to *pick his brains*. Neither of them would be where they are, either in the club or in the game, if they hadn't got some kind of ability of character and intelligence. Just as you sometimes get a good original suggestion from a member of your staff, so you may even be able to dig one out of the pate of the Chairman of the Greens Committee! And if one of the back markers is beefing, you can sort out the trouble more quickly, and with the least fuss, by trying to see things from his point of view. Often, in fact, you can make him happy easily enough by merely suggesting how you could do something about it and when might be the best time.

Looking Ahead

This will normally be several months ahead, at the earliest! If it proves to be something unessential, he'll forget about it just about as soon as you will. If there is something in what he's on about, though, you'll have it under control long before there's any danger of the Greens Committee trying to foist on you some remedy you don't like.

Simpler to preserve a splendid isolation and a traditional secretiveness about your own intentions, say, "perhaps" to everything—and then do just what you intended to anyway!

Maybe now. But, judging from America, it doesn't look as if that's the way the wind's blowing.

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A

Course

Record

Played by David Hulley

Described by J. J. Dearlove

Hillsborough Golf Club on Thursday, 6th August, 1964. The course record has been held by home professional Jack Shanks with 67 since 1947.

Weather conditions were excellent and the course was slowly drying out and playing shorter than usual. The greens were rather slow, having been left uncut since the previous Monday for technical reasons.

On to the first tee strode the hefty Sheffield and Yorkshire player, David Hulley, looking every bit the powerful golfer he is in a powder blue attire, carrying his drainpipe bag with a mere 8 clubs which looked too small alongside his burly 14 stone frame.

A Good Beginning

The first hole, 430 yards uphill, with a very narrow fairway and a gloating out of bounds adjoining the left of the fairway—a hole feared by most—only required a drive, 4 wood and a single putt to David.

No. 2 hole, a short 136 yards, was no problem with an 8 iron and 2 putts.

No. 3, the most difficult on the course, proved its reputation and needed 3 shots to find the green, a single putt here kept the card tidy with a 4.

Holes 4 and 5, of similar length of 380 yards, needed 7 shots each, including 3 putts.

Poor Chip Shot

Missing the next green, a short 193 yards, with a 6 iron and a poor chip shot—by David's standard—to within 4 yards of the pin, the putt lipping the hole costing a 4.

The dog-leg to the left 8th was simple enough with a careful 5 iron from the tee, followed by a 9 iron and single putt.

The controversial 9th proved a little difficult, missing the green with his second shot as most players do, David had to chip back and a single putt again saved the situation.

The 10th, a downhill hole of 190 yards, proved too short for David's 8 iron and he was required to chip back and hole the putt for a bogey 3.

Expensive 11th

The 11th proved disastrous and the only 5 on the card was for this 470 yards uphill hole.

The 348 yards 12th proved very easy with a drive and 2 putts, one being from the apron.

Planting an 8 iron 3 feet from the pin at the 141 yards 13th and a single putt resulted in the only 2 on the card.

The 14th and 15th were uneventful enough with 4's on both.

The 16th caused a little trouble, but a long putt again helped out.

Trying to hit the green at the 296 yards 17th with a 3 iron, David came a bit unstuck and needed a wedge and a raking putt to chalk up another 3.

Only 2 Shots

The longest and last hole on the course of 500 yards, believe it or not, was reduced to a drive of a 9 iron and a single putt.

A very jubilant David left the last green with a 63 and shattered the course record by 4 shots.

Only 25 putts were required on this very fine round, one that may not be beaten for many years to come.

Another member playing in the same medal competition off 10 handicap returned a net 62 to win first prize, including David's halfcrown!

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HEAD GREENKEEPER—HENDON GOLF Club will shortly require a Head Greenkeeper to fill the vacancy arising on the 31st December, 1964, when Tom Mason retires after 55 years' service with the Club. This is a very well paid position, and applicants will be expected to be men who are highly experienced in their profession. Free accommodation is provided in a new 5-room cottage on the site. Applicants (preferably under 45) are expected to have special knowledge of greenkeeping problems which arise on a clay sub-soil. Applications (which will be treated in strict confidence) should be made in writing giving details of experience to

reach the Secretary, Hendon Golf Club, Holders Hill Road, Hendon, London, N.W.4, not later than the 19th October.

HEAD GREENKEEPER REQUIRED FOR Whitby Golf Club. No accommodation available. Experienced men please apply to Secretary, Whitby Golf Club, Low Straggleton, Whitby, Yorks.

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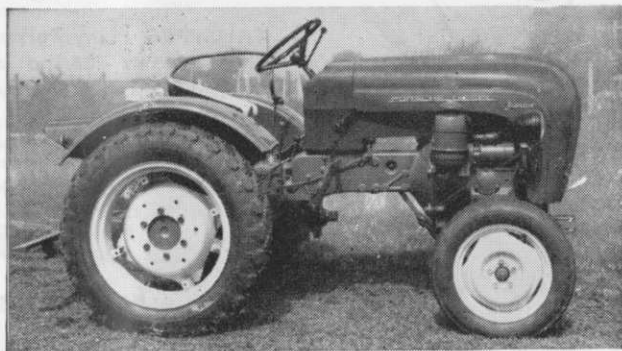
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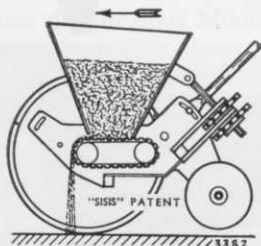
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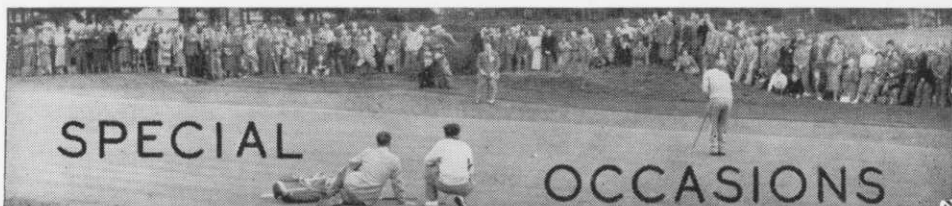
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OCTOBER.

- 1st S.G.G.A. East Section Competition and A.G.M., Baberton Golf Club.
- 20th Midland Section Quiz, Hope & Anchor.
- 20th East Midland Section A.G.M., Railway Hotel, Campbell Street, Leicester, 7-0 p.m.
- 21st East Midland Section Demonstration of Machinery, Birstall Golf Club.
- 22nd Northern Section Autumn Tournament, Halifax Golf Club.
- 28th S.G.G.A. North and Midland A.G.M., Nicoll & Smiberts Restaurant—7-0 p.m.
- 29th Sheffield Section—Debate, Brunswick Hotel, 7-15 p.m.
- 30th Midland Section, Annual Dinner, King's Head Hotel, Bearwood.

NOVEMBER.

- 9th North West Section Lecture, Garrick Hotel, Fountain St., 7-30 p.m.
- 10th East Midland Section, Films, Railway Hotel, Campbell St., 7-30 p.m.

DECEMBER.

- 7th North West Section, Lecture.

JANUARY.

- 11th North West Section, Lecture.

FEBRUARY.

- 15th North West Section, Lecture.

MARCH.

- 6th North West Section, Lecture.

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News



from the Sections

SHEFFIELD

By J. J. Dearlove,

Chairman:
G. HERRINGTON
(Lindrick)

Hon. Secretary:
63 Langsett Avenue,
Sheffield, 6.

IT IS MY PLEASURE TO REPORT that I have been able to acquire the use of the room in the Brunswick Hotel once again for our winter meetings. It is hoped to arrange the first lecture in the form of a debate on Golf Courses in Winter. This should prove very interesting because an official of each club in the union will be invited in order to find out just what is required of a greenkeeper in the winter months.

There seems to be a difference of opinion as to when play should be allowed or not, and when the use of trolleys should be curtailed, etc.

This meeting will take place on Thursday, 29th October, at 7-15 p.m.

Draw Tickets

I would like to thank those who sold draw tickets for the "News of the World" Tournament; it was a very fine effort and a big improvement on last year.

NORTH-EAST

By D. Earsman

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

Hon. Secretary:
Arcot Hall Cottage,
Dudley,
Newcastle-on-Tyne 3.

Sweep Tickets

I WISH TO CONGRATULATE ALL members for a grand effort in the sale of sweep tickets, we reached the grand total of £50.

I thank T. Oliver for dealing with the sweep, he was also the top seller with 74 books to his credit, well done Tom.

New Members

We welcome to our section the following new members: A. Gunn and R. A. Ramsay.

MIDLAND

By F. Cashmore

Chairman:
G. HART
(Gay Hill)

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

Annual Dinner

Will be held as usual at the King's Head Hotel, Bearwood, on Friday, 30th October, and we hope will be as successful as it was last year. The tickets will be to hand shortly at 15/- each. Will any member wanting same please let me know in order that I may reserve their requirements.

Lectures

We have not had any lectures for a number of years because of poor attendance. People cannot be asked to lecture to only eight or nine people. Your committee has had a meeting with the committee of the National Association of Groundsmen and we are holding four meetings in conjunction with them. Two to be held before Christmas and two after, on Tuesday nights at the Hope and Anchor, if available.

The first meeting on 20th October, will be more of a social evening to enable us to get to know one another and will be more in the nature of a Quiz. Anyone in the room will be able to give the answer, if he knows it, and it will score to whichever Association he belongs. I hope that members will support their committee in their efforts to get more interest in the Section by attending this and the other meetings, which will be more directly concerned with our job and should be both interesting and instructive.

Subscriptions

There are still quite a number of subscriptions outstanding. I should be pleased if members would let me have them as soon as possible or notify me if they no longer wish to belong.

"News of the World" Draw

As promised the following is a list of monies received from members:—E. Benbow, £1; G. Brooks, £1; B. Baxter, £1; Mr. and Mrs. Bretherton, 30/-; A. Boraston, £1; D. Brazier, £1; F. Cashmore, £1; J. Danks, 6/-; H. Gibbs, 12/6; L. Greenow, £1; J. Grealy, £1; D. Haynes, 10/-; C. E. Jones, £1; A. C. Jones, £1; T. Jones, £1; B. Lowe, 17/6; T. Low, £1; W. Mason, 17/6; J. Munro, £1; R. Mulowney, £1; A. Oakley, £1; B. Orton, 11/-; R. Pugh, £1; T. Rawbone, £1; V. Smith, £1; F. Sismey, £1; H. Siddons, 7/6; A. Stephens, £1; G. Tye, £1; C. Sudge, £1; C. Woodhouse, £1; F. Webb, £1; G. Woodward, £1; J. Willis, £1; Messrs. Parker & Ballinger, £1.

Handicaps

The handicap of V. Smith has been adjusted from 11—8 and H. Drewitt, 15—13; E. Benbow was pulled one at Weston 7—6.

SOUTHERN

By W. Mason

Chairman:
J. K. GLASS
(Thorpe Hall)

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

Lectures

ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE once again to hold our monthly lectures at the Talbot Restaurant, 64 London Wall, E.C.2.

The first will be held on Wednesday, 14th October, at 6-30 p.m., this will be a quiz whereby any member wishing to bring up any subject he would like discussed by the rest of the meeting may do so.

Mr. J. K. Glass has kindly consented to act as quiz master, we have found in the past that this has proved to be a most interesting evening and look forward to a full house with plenty of questions to discuss.

Will you please make a note that all lectures will be held on the second Wednesday of each month continuing from November to March, 1965. Details of future lectures will be given in the monthly journals.

New Members

We welcome to the section P. M. Hinsworth and J. H. Sarjent, also W. Machin, who has transferred to us from the Midland Section.

NORTH-WEST

By V. Crabtree

Chairman:
D. PATE
(Royal Birkdale G.C.)

Hon. Secretary:
223 Market Street
Whitworth, Nr. Rochdale

Autumn Tournament

OUR AUTUMN TOURNAMENT held at the Ashton & Lea Golf Club, Preston, was a great success. We are indebted, and do most sincerely thank the Captain and Council for their generosity in offering us their very fine course and Club facilities; to Mr. and Mrs. Walsh and their staff for two really excellent meals; to Mr. M. Ormerod and his staff for the excellent condition of the course and playing conditions, also to Mr. Edwin Walsh, the Professional, for the free use of the caddy cars.

Our prize list was, once again, of such proportion that 14 participants went home with something to show for their day out. For such generosity we owe our grateful thanks to the Captain, the Lady Captain, the Chairman of the Greens Committee, Mr. Watkinson, Mr. E. Walsh, the Professional and a visitor, Mr. Howarth, Messrs. Sowerbutts & Co. Ltd., Messrs. May & Baker Ltd.;

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The prizes were as follows and won by:—The Hunter Cup and Tankard (tankard presented by the Section)—E. Macavoy, 113 gross; The Ransomes Cup and Electric Shaver for the best net score—T. Brennan, 104; The Coming of Age Cup (over 50's) and Set Table Mats—T. Brennan, 104; 2nd prize, Putter—F. Cooper, 104; 3rd, Ronson Lighter—H. Smith, 105; 4th, Stainless Steel meat carving plate—F. Hanstead, 105; 5th, Holdall—J. Catlow, 107½; 6th, Clock—E. Macavoy, 108½; 7th, Bottle Whisky—O. P. Jones, 109; 8th, Tankard—R. Crabtree, 109½; 9th, Fruit Spoons—G. V. Davey, 109½; 10th, Sherry—A. Warhurst, 111½; 11th, Ronson Lighter—R. Janoviskis, 113½; 12th, Silver Pencil—W. Bridges, 113½. The above was played over 27 holes.

The Visitors' prizes played over 18 holes in the afternoon, were won by Mr. H. Benton, a pair of nylon overtrousers, with a net 68, and second was Mr. F. Keating, a bottle of whisky, with a net 70.

A special prize was offered to the greenkeeper with the best 8 holes in the morning, and for the best 16 holes in the afternoon. These prizes of 6 golf balls went to Mr. T. Brennan and Mr. F. Cooper respectively.

The prizes were presented by the Captain of Ashton & Lea Golf Club, who was presented to our members by our Chairman, Mr. D. Pate, who expressed his thanks and appreciation to the Club, its staff, the donors of the prizes and to Mr. Wilcock and Mr. Barlow, of Wilcock & Sons, Ltd., and Mr. Earnshaw, who had helped run the competition. He also gave a welcome to Mr. Parker, who had played as a visitor and is President of the Bolton Association of Golf Clubs. Apologies were extended on behalf of our President, Mr. W. Kinsey, Mr. W. Payne and his co-competition organiser, and Mr. W. Greaves, of Messrs. W. Burrows Ltd.

The Captain welcomed the Greenkeepers of the North-West Section and expressed the hope that should we require it, the course was available again at any time.

A really enjoyable day was had by everyone, and having on this occasion more or less tried to fill Mr. Payne's shoes, do now appreciate the work he so willingly puts into the organisation of our competitions.

Winter Lectures

The first of our Winter Lectures will be held at the Garrick Hotel, Fountain Street, Manchester, and will be given by Mr. H. J. Lidgate, B.Sc., of Sports Turf Research Institute, on Monday, 9th November, 1964, at 7-30 p.m.

The second, by Mr. J. Preston, of Messrs. Fisons Ltd., and a very old friend of the North-West Section, on Monday, 7th December, 1964.

The third, by Mr. Wm. Finch, N.D.H., of I.T.P., who came to us the first time last year; if you heard him then, you will want to make a date for 11th January, 1965.

The fourth, by Mr. Shepherd, of Messrs. H. Pattison & Co. Ltd.; our night for talking golf course machinery, on 15th February, 1965.

The fifth, by Mr. W. H. Bartle, of Sports Turf Research Institute, on 8th March, 1965.

These lectures are arranged for our mutual benefit; some of these gentlemen come great distances just to help us to be better Greenkeepers. Come and use the benefits of your own organisation, for your own benefit. All the meetings will be on Monday evenings, at the Garrick Hotel, Fountain Street, Manchester, at 7-30 p.m. (Fountain Street runs at the back of Lewis's Store, Piccadilly, Manchester).

New Members

Mr. Malcolm Vizard—Assistant at Haydock Park Golf Club Ltd.

Mr. Norman Sefton—Head Greenkeeper, Longridge Golf Club.

Mr. Edmond Egerton—First Assistant, North Manchester Golf Club.

Hoping you use and enjoy your membership; always remember you are part of it. Watch your Journals for coming events and lectures.

Also: Mr. Ernest W. Taylor, Heaton Moor Golf Club—Assistant, Class C.

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NORTHERN

By J. Parker

Chairman:
S. BAILES

Hon. Secretary:
8 GOIT STOCK TERR., HARDEN,
BINGLEY, YORKS.

Autumn Tournament

MEMBERS ARE REMINDED THAT the closing date for entries for the Autumn Tournament, to be played over the course of the Halifax Golf Club, Ogden, on Thursday, 22nd October, is Wednesday, 14th October. This is necessary in order that the Stewardess can make her satisfactory catering arrangements. As we shall also be making the Section's retirement presentation to Mr. R. B. Dawson, it is hoped that non-golfing members will attend. The presentation will be made after tea. Contributions to the fund are still acceptable.

Lectures

As in previous years I am trying to arrange a series of lectures during the winter months and hope they will be as well supported as last year. With the increasing use of trees on golf courses I am hoping to arrange one on this subject.

New Member

We welcome to the section the following new member: F. Rankin, 56 Bangorhill St., Thornlie Bank, Glasgow (Cathcart Castle G.C.).

WELSH

By S. A. Tucker

Chairman:
M. GEDDES
(Royal Porthcawl)

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

Bereavements

AUGUST HAS BEEN A VERY SAD month for our Section. On my return from the Annual General Meeting at Weston, I learned of the death of one of our Vice-Presidents—Mr. D. H. Rees, as reported in the September issue; then, within only a few days, the passing of our very good friend, John O'Gorman. I was very pleased to see so many Greenkeepers at his funeral, and whilst there myself I learned of the death of Glyn Sharret—he had passed away a week or so before John. On behalf of all members, I send our sincere sympathy to all relatives and friends in their time of trouble.

I hope that we shall not have to pass on to our members such sad news for some time to come.

EAST MIDLAND

By S. T. McNeice

Chairman:
F. FROST
(Derby G.C.)

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

Annual General Meeting

THE A.G.M. OF THE SECTION WILL be held on Tuesday, 20th October, at the Railway Hotel, Campbell Street, Leicester, at 7-0 p.m.

November Lecture

By kind permission of Messrs. Ransomes, Sims & Jefferies Ltd., Mr. G. V. Lee, of Leicester Horticultural Engineering Co., has kindly arranged to show a selection of Messrs. Ransomes' films.

This should be very interesting, and we hope to see a large gathering attending. If members would like to invite members of their Club Committee, they will be most welcome.

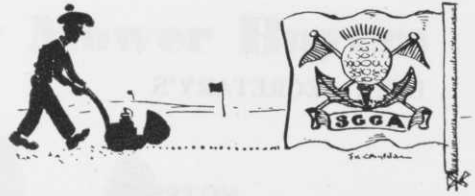
The date is Tuesday, -10th November; time, 7-30 p.m.; place, The Railway Hotel, Campbell Street, Leicester.

Campbell Street is situated at the rear of the London Road Station.

This is the first time the section has held a meeting in Leicester. It is hoped that by making it more central we shall have a larger attendance. If this proves to be so we shall restart the Winter Lectures.

Hardgate Golf Course for Housing

Clydebank Town Council are seeking the authority of the Secretary of State for Scotland for a large housing development on the 80 acre Hardgate course of the Clydebank and District Golf Club.



THE SCOTTISH GOLF GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

Chairman:

D. L. MACDIARMID,
Royal Burgess Golfing Society,
Barnton, Edinburgh 4.

General Secretary:

R. B. MOFFATT,
71 Kelton Street, Glasgow, E.2

EAST

In Memoriam

IT IS WITH REGRET THAT WE have to inform members that James Orr, Gullane, known to members as Hamish, passed away on Sunday, 23rd August.

NORTHERN & MIDLAND

A.G.M.

OUR A.G.M. WILL BE HELD IN Nicoll & Smibert Restaurant, Dundee, on Wednesday, 28th October, at 7-0 p.m.



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NOTES

Amendment

Section Treasurers

Will Section Treasurers please note correction to Class B Section dues, 7/6 as printed in April Journal should be 7/-.

1964 Draw Account

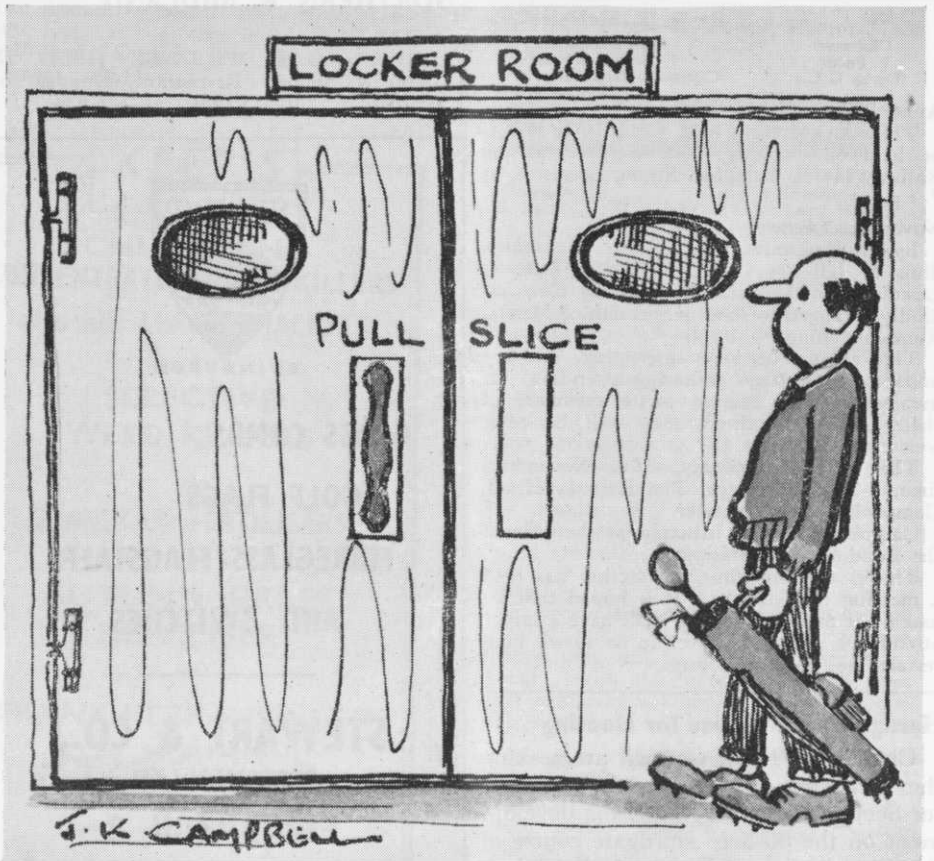
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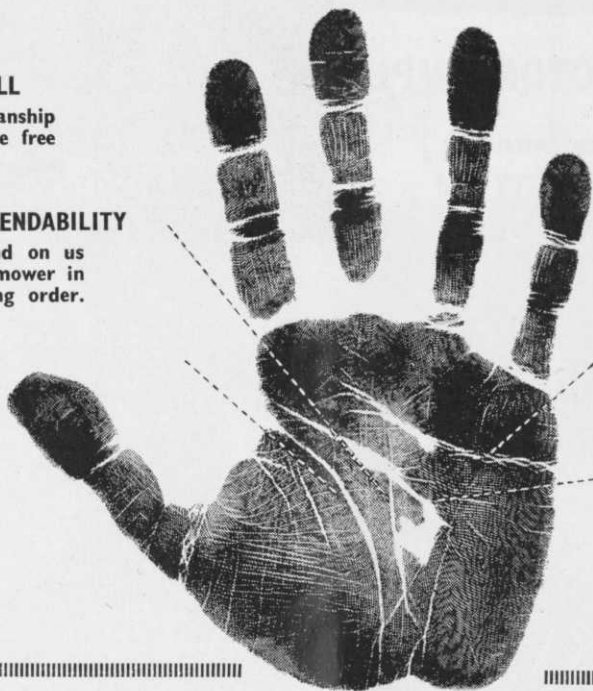
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