

FEBRUARY

1966 1/-

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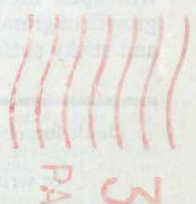
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THE BRITISH GOLF

GREENKEEPER

HON. EDITOR: F. W. HAWTREE



FOUNDED 1912

PUBLISHED MONTHLY FOR THE
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The Association is affiliated to the
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No. 251 New Series

FEBRUARY 1966

*If you think it's hard to meet
new people, pick up the wrong golf
ball.*

—ROQUA WASSAM

FEBRUARY CONTENTS

Page	3	TEE SHOTS
	4	BE PREPARED
	9	FUNGAL DISEASES OF TURF GRASSES
	10	HON. SEC.'S NOTES TRIBUTES TO LATE TOM BRIDGES
	11	SPECIAL OCCASIONS
	12	SITUATIONS VACANT
	13	SECTION NOTES
	15	S.G.G.A. NEWS
	16	MRS GREENKEEPER

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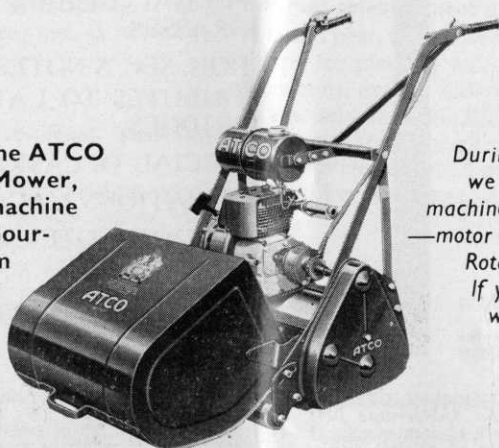


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Here we feature the ATCO 20" Heavy Duty Mower, a medium width machine for high mowing hour-age with minimum maintenance. This rugged machine costs £84 and a 24" version is available at £104.



During the next few months, we shall show all our large machines in our advertisements —motor mowers from 20" to 34", Rotaries and Gang Mowers. If you can't wait that long, we will gladly supply full details on request.

TEE SHOTS



by the Editor

Eight young men are in Macclesfield on 8th and 9th February for the first specially arranged course for apprentices at the "SISIS" Works. They come from as far apart as Crewe, Oxley Park, Olton, Eastbourne, Stanton on the Wolds, Addington and Bristol. The use and upkeep of the "SISIS" range of machines, illustrated talks, sessions in the works and practical demonstrations make up this short but intensive course.

The Joint Council for Golf Greenkeeper Apprenticeship have much appreciated the co-operation of Mr Hargreaves and Mr Taylor in arranging the course and their hospitality to the apprentices. It is hoped that other firms will follow suit.

* * *

Southport golf clubs are organising an inter-club information service for visitors. Those who arrive, say, at Royal Birkdale and cannot get a game because of a society meeting or competition will be forwarded to either Hillside, Hesketh or Southport & Ainsdale, wherever there is the least delay. Other clubs where overcrowding occurs ought to follow this example and spread the load as evenly as possible.

Golfers could, of course, help themselves by telephoning beforehand. The days when the casual visitor could arrive, take a green fee, and tee up are no more and week-end visiting will soon be only a happy memory.

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BE PREPARED

By W. H. Bartle

Advisory Officer The Sports Turf Research Institute

NEW ideas are essential to progress and in golf course maintenance there is no lack in this direction. It is, however, true to say that some of the old ideas continue to be basically good greenkeeping but tend to be forgotten in the rush of modern times. In this category comes "spare turf" to quote our grandfathers or as we prefer to say today the provision of a turf nursery

If first-class conditions are to be maintained particularly on greens and tees then a supply of good quality turf is essential for carrying out urgent repairs. Unfortunately the provision of a turf nursery is often discussed at all levels and in sincerity but no action is ever taken until turf is urgently needed when it is too late to do anything about it.

Accidents

Admittedly large scale annual renovation by turving is seldom necessary on the actual greens but there is often need for repairs to odd damaged areas. Such damage might result from accidental scorch by chemicals, an attack of disease, extreme climatic conditions or vandalism which is quite frequent these days in many areas. Concentrated wear by foot traffic and caddy carts on restricted surrounds may also create a need for new turf in order to remove an eyesore and/or maintain fair playing conditions in close proximity to the green.

If good turf is available the aforementioned problems can be quickly dealt with and it is also possible to remove such blemishes as Yorkshire fog patches which may spoil the appearance and uniformity of the putting surface. It also means that weeds which have great resistance to selective weed-killer such as the Speedwells can be completely removed before they spread and the surface immediately restored by patching.

With the current emphasis on additional length and in some cases loss of land due to other development including road works, many golf clubs are concerned in making alterations to existing layouts. These often involve the construction of a new green or greens as quickly as possible whilst maintaining the existing course in full play. In such situations a supply of good turf is an obvious requirement. The need for prepared turf does therefore really always exist and the golf course is incomplete without a prepared turf nursery.

Prime Need

For routine needs a nursery in the region of 400 to 600 sq yds. is generally adequate but a larger area should be the aim where some major reconstruction scheme is envisaged. Suitable turf can in some instances be obtained by working down an area of fairway away from the main line of play where the sward is predominantly bent, fescue or a mixture of these grasses. General maintenance on the same lines as practised on the greens for a couple of seasons or so would in these circumstances produce a satisfactory material for most renovation work. Although turf suitable for renovation on tees if not greens can be cultivated on most of our courses it is true to say that for use on greens the turf nursery is generally best produced from seed.

Close at Hand

For the production of such a nursery choose a site where it will be possible to provide adequate attention. In the past many turf nurseries have been started in remote corners and because of this they have been neglected or completely forgotten. Ideally, the site should also be near a water point so that moisture can be readily provided as and when necessary

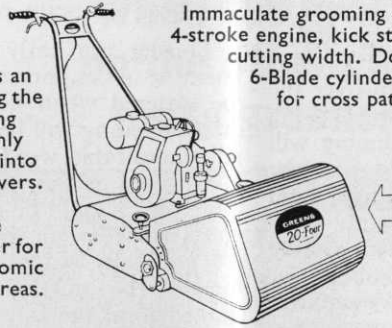
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A depth of 6 in. of top soil is desirable on the nursery and it should preferably be a light or medium loam and must be thoroughly cultivated. The texture of heavier soils can be improved by adding sand and peat, etc. Materials of this nature should be evenly spread over the surface and well worked into the existing soil. If the soil is over-acid, liming will be necessary and this should also be worked into the surface soil during final cultivations while invariably a pre-seeding fertilizer will be needed. Actual soil requirements should, however, be determined by tests on representative soil samples from the areas concerned—a service available at the Institute to all greenkeepers of affiliated golf clubs.

Getting Ready

Initial preparation could start now with further frequent surface cultivations being carried out throughout the growing season with the object of removing undesirable grasses and weeds as they appear. Later on in the summer a fine, evenly firmed and smooth seed bed should be prepared for the late summer sowing. Preparation of this nature is best done by alternate heeling and raking. Any recommended fertilizer should be applied and raked into the prepared seed bed some 7-10 days before sowing takes place using a seeds mixture comprising

- 8 parts American Chewings' fescue (Grade 1)
- 2 parts American browntop bent (Grade 1)

A sowing rate of 1 oz. per sq. yd. should produce a turf of good texture for golf greens providing the seed bed has been properly prepared.

During the early days of establishment it is important that the nursery be watered when necessary and careful hand weeding will be required to remove all undesirable weed grasses and perennial weeds as they appear. Initially topping only should be done but as the new grass thickens up the height of cut can be gradually reduced to $\frac{1}{2}$ in. at which height the nursery should be maintained until the following season. From then onwards further gradual reductions can be made to something like $\frac{1}{4}$ in. at which level frequent cutting should then be practised.

Thereafter, the nursery should be maintained on similar lines to the greens in play at all times, i.e. regular cutting, occasional scarification, adequate application of fertilizer along with weed, pest and disease control as necessary. Continuity of turf supply should be safeguarded by re-preparation of bare ground and re-sowing as the turf is used. When renovation is necessary it should be remembered that turf gives an immediate grass cover. Be prepared for any eventuality and start work on preparing a turf nursery now.

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.

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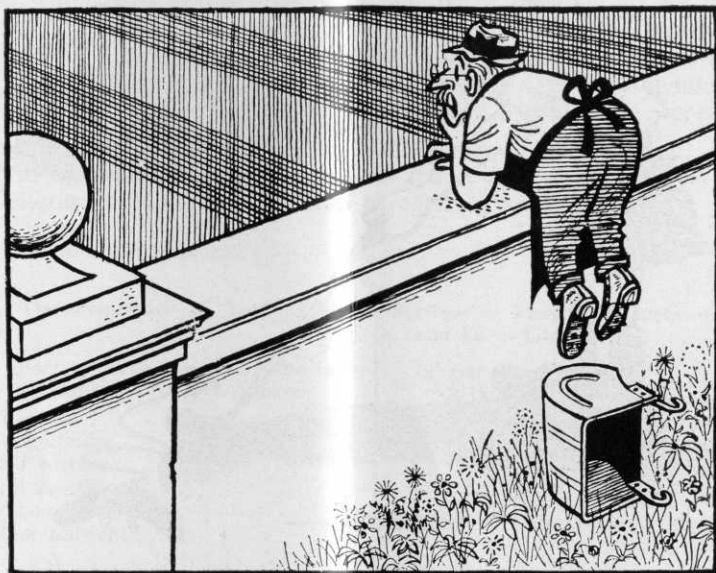
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It assists root action all winter long but doesn't encourage vigorous top growth until spring. (If you're a greenkeeper who hasn't the time or labour to apply turf dressing during the playing season, you'll find Sportsturf Velvetone extremely useful.)

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VELVETONE



NEW SURFACE UNDAMAGED BY SHOES

Damage from spiked shoes in club houses and surrounding areas is a perennial problem to be faced by those responsible for golf club maintenance. A new product from the 3M Company, "Tartan" surfacing, has been successfully used in the U.S. for a number of years, it is a tough polymer with a slightly indented surface, some $\frac{1}{2}$ in. thick. It is widely used for locker rooms, walk-up areas to the tees, paths and similar areas. The surface is practically indestructible as well as showing no damage from studs. In addition it offers a non-slip surface which reduces the slipping hazard usual on wooden or other conventional floors. Unlike conventional surfaces, it requires no maintenance except for an occasional brush-over or hose-down.

Originally, this surface was invented for horse race tracks to allow racing in all weather conditions. It has been found to be unaffected by any weather or the pounding of horses' hooves, or by the spikes on athletes' shoes. To prove its toughness, a 40-ton army truck has been run over it without causing any damage. As well as the non-playing areas, many golf courses have installed "Tartan" surfacing for driving ranges.

It may be laid on any firm surface such as concrete, asphalt or boards. It costs 30s. per square foot.

FUNGAL DISEASES OF TURF GRASSES

The Sports Turf Research Institute has recently published the 2nd edition of the above-mentioned book of which the author is Mr Drew Smith, M.Sc., Plant Pathologist at the Research Institute from 1951 to 1958. This 2nd edition of a well-known book has been completely revised by the author and by Dr N Jackson who was Plant Pathologist from 1958 to 1965.

Containing approximately 90 pages of text with 13 pages of coloured or black and white photographs, the book will be of value to practical men, plant pathologists and research workers. All known information on the more common turf diseases is concisely summarised and control methods are fully described. All golf greenkeepers, groundsmen, gardeners, parks superintendents, playing fields officers, club secretaries and plant pathologists should own a copy

Those wishing to place an order should apply to the Institute. The price is 25s. (net) including postage. This hard-backed book is attractively bound in green with gilt lettering with a serviceable transparent dust cover

The contents are as follows:—

Section 1. The Principles of Turf Disease Control.

- (a) The effect of environment on the incidence and development of turf diseases.
 - (i) Moisture.
 - (ii) Temperature.
 - (iii) Soil texture.
 - (iv) Soil reaction.
 - (v) Soil organic matter
 - (vi) Plant nutrients.
- (b) The effect of species and varieties of grasses.

The field behaviour of some turf grasses towards common diseases.
- (c) The effect of cultural practices on turf diseases.
 - (i) The establishment of turf by seeding.
 - (ii) The establishment of turf by vegetative means.
 - (iii) Mowing.
 - (iv) Top dressing.
 - (v) Liming and turf acidity control.
 - (vi) Fertilisation of established turf.
 - (vii) Weed control.
 - (viii) Moss and worm control.
 - (ix) Rolling.
 - (x) Scarification.
 - (xi) Switching.
 - (xii) Aeration.
 - (xiii) Soil sterilisation.
 - (xiv) Watering.
 - (xv) Frost prevention.

(d) The control of turf diseases with fungicides.

- (i) Fungicidal materials.
- (ii) Application of fungicides.
- (iii) Safety considerations.

Disease control chart.

Section 2. Fungal Diseases of Sports Turf and Lawn Grasses.

- (a) Seedling diseases.
 - (i) Seedrot and pre-emergence blight.
 - (ii) Post-emergence seedling diseases.
- (b) Major diseases of established turf.
 - (i) Fusarium patch disease.
 - (ii) Dollar spot disease.
 - (iii) Corticium or red thread disease.
 - (iv) Ophiobolus patch disease.
- (c) Diseases due to *Helminthosporium* spp.
 - (i) Melting out of smooth-stalked meadow-grass.
 - (ii) Leaf blight of ryegrass.
 - (iii) Leafspot, footrot and seedling blight.
 - (iv) Other *Helminthosporium* spp.
- (d) Diseases of lesser importance.
 - (i) Anthracnose of annual meadow-grass.
 - (ii) Powdery mildew
 - (iii) Crown rust.
 - (iv) Stripe smut.
- (e) Inflorescence diseases.
 - (i) Choke.
 - (ii) Twist.
 - (iii) Blind seed.
 - (iv) Ergot.
- (f) Fairy rings.
- (g) Slime moulds.
- (h) Lichens.
- (i) Important turf diseases rarely or not yet recorded in the British Isles.
 - (i) Typhula blight (snow scald).
 - (ii) Brown patch.
 - (iii) Frost scorch (string of pearls).
 - (iv) Copper spot.

References.

Index.



HON. SECRETARY'S NOTES

A MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE Committee will be held on Saturday, 12th March 1966, at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, at 12 noon. Luncheon interval at 1 p.m. The Agenda will be forwarded direct to members of the Committee.

C. H. D.

TRIBUTES TO THE LATE TOM BRIDGES

Tom Bridges was universally acknowledged to be a master of the calling to which he devoted himself so arduously and assiduously.

His long and honourable career is so widely known that it needs no repetition from me.

However, the nature and character of the man was only discernible to those who were privileged to be his friends, and I was fortunate to be one of them.

Tom was not an easy man to know. One's first impression inclined to a dour and taciturn nature.

This impression was quickly dispelled on further acquaintance. Reserved — yes, but one soon discerned the natural dignity of the man, combined with a very humane and understanding outlook.

For instance, Tom would never countenance the denigration of a fellow Greenkeeper who may be unfortunate enough to be in a spot of trouble at a given moment. I know of many a greenkeeper, including myself, who was grateful at one time or another for the sage advice Tom had unobtrusively tendered if approached.

He was always a stalwart of the B.G.G.A., and took a leading part in the resuscitation of the North-West section after the war. He was immensely grateful when he was elected a Vice-

President of the section, an honour which he richly deserved.

Tom Bridges will be remembered with deep affection by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

His presence will be sorely missed, but his influence will live on.

T. BRENNAN.

Apart from Bill and Jim, his two sons, I feel I have known Tom as much as any other member. Having first met him in the early twenties I had the pleasure of playing with him at Swansea Bay. Being very much a junior to him I always looked up to him and respected him. During my many years at Formby, with Tom at Hoylake we were, so to speak, neighbours. We used to spend many weekends together sorting out our problems.

He was always a great man for the Association and one of the members to help from the North-West section, a section that has gone from strength to strength.

Tom would always be at our lectures in Manchester and many times I have seen younger Greenkeepers getting advice on their problems.

He is a great loss to the Association, a greater one to Bill, Jim and Greta and a loss of a great personal friend to myself.

STAN MORTON.



FEBRUARY	7th	North-West Section, Lecture, C. H. Pugh Ltd., 7.45 p.m.
	8th	S.G.G.A. Glasgow, Lecture.
	9th	S.G.G.A. Dundee, Lecture.
	10th	S.G.G.A. Edinburgh, Lecture.
	16th	Southern Section, Lecture, Whitbreads, 6.30 p.m.
	24th	Northern Section, Film Show, West Bowling Golf Club, 7.15 p.m.
MARCH	1st	North-West Section, Lecture, J. D. Ross, S.T.R.I., Bingley.
	9th	South-West Section, A.G.M., Henbury Golf Club, 7.30 p.m.
	16th	Southern Section, Lecture, Whitbreads, 6.30 p.m.
	25th	Southern Section, Annual Dinner, North Middlesex Golf Club.
AUGUST	8th	Annual Tournament, Little Aston Golf Club.
	9th	
	10th	

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TADMARTON HEATH GOLF CLUB

Banbury, require qualified Head Greenkeeper Only applicants with first class experience considered. House available. Attractive salary offered. Reply to Secretary, Clubhouse, Wiginton Heath, Banbury

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WEARSLIDE GOLF CLUB, SUNDERLAND Working Head Greenkeeper required. Accommodation provided, wages in region of £16 per week. Details to J. F. Potter, "The Lawn", Ashbrooke Road, Sunderland.

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News



from the Sections

SOUTH-WEST

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

By A. Cockfield
Hon. Secretary:
(Shamcastle G.C.)

Competition and Dinner

OUR SECOND ANNUAL CHRISTMAS Competition and Dinner took place at Shirehampton Golf Club on the 13th of December

For the Greenkeepers taking part in the competition, a trophy was very generously presented by Mr Veals. This trophy plus a silver plaque which the winner retains is to be played for each year at this event. The first name to go on the trophy was none other than our Annual Tournament winner, Mr A. Meaker of Henbury Golf Club with a nett score of 67 Congratulations. For the visitors taking part, there was a triple tie for 1st place between Mr T Dingle, Mr G. H. J Holland and Mr S. Veals again with a nett score of 67 Each received a half bottle of Scotch. Prior to the Dinner Mr A. Hines, Captain of Shirehampton Golf Club, presented the prizes.

Including guests, thirty-five sat down to an excellent Christmas Dinner Formalities were brief. Mr Hines again welcomed all. Our President, Mr Southgate, replied on behalf of the Association and Harry Sheppard expressed our thanks to the Captain for granting us the courtesy of their course and clubhouse, and all members of the staff for looking after us so well.

But on behalf of the Section let us all add a special word of thanks to our Vice-President, Mrs Snell, who did such a lot behind the scenes. Undoubtedly, a little feminine know-how on these occasions is very

valuable and we are all most grateful. Also a special word of appreciation must go to the steward and stewardess for their excellent effort. It is often remarked that to keep the right side of man you have to feed the brute. Well, they will be on our side for a very, very long time.

To conclude, I believe everyone had a very enjoyable evening and once again on behalf of the Committee may we thank all who came along and helped to make the day the success it undoubtedly was. May we look forward to seeing you all again next year?

All members please note the A.G.M. will be held at Henbury Golf Club on Wednesday 9th March, at 7.30 p.m.

NORTHERN

Chairman:
D. ROBERTS
(West Bowling G.C.)

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

Grand National Sweep

MEMBERS WILL NOW HAVE received books of tickets for the Annual Grand National Sweep. It is hoped that all will make every effort to make it a success by selling the tickets sent. I would be obliged if members, when returning counterfoils, would put some identification as to who has sent them so that I know who to send draw lists to. Closing date 14th March.

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February Meeting

This will be held on Thursday, 24th February at the West Bowling Golf Club, Newall Hall, Rooley Lane, Bradford, at 7.15 p.m., and this will be a film show kindly presented by Carreras Ltd., showing one of the Golf Tournaments promoted under the title of Piccadilly

Subscriptions

There are still quite a number of members who have not paid those that became due 1st May 1965. I would be much obliged if those "guilty" would forward them as soon as they see this notice and so save me writing my annual crop of individual letters.

SOUTHERN

By **W. Mason**

Hon. Secretary:

Chairman: **W. E. Moore** 18 Albert Road, Hendon, N.W.4.
(Romford) Tel.: SUNnyhill 0245

Lecture

WE HAD A MOST INTERESTING lecture on Wednesday, 12th January, given by Mr F. W. H. Pyne, representative from Messrs. Suttons. His main topic was drainage and the best methods of coping with it. The various pipes required, and how it should all be planned, he demonstrated by drawing on a blackboard.

The question of whether open or piped drainage was most convenient was discussed. Mr Pyne considered that piping would save a lot of labour, cleaning out, etc., and serve the same purpose.

We had a very good attendance thanks to the help of Mr John Field and D. Craig telling all the members they came in contact with, about the lecture. The Chairman in conclusion thanked Mr Pyne for a very educative lecture.

Mr William Finch will give us a lecture on Wednesday, 16th February—6.30 p.m.—at the Whitbread Club Rooms.

The committee have asked that all members wishing to take part in the friendly game on the day of the Annual Dinner please let them know in good time, to enable all arrangements to be made.

New Member

We are pleased to welcome as a new member J McWilliam, Head Greenkeeper at the West Byfleet Golf Club.

WELSH

By **S. A. Tucker**

Hon. Secretary:

Chairman: **M. Geddes**
(Royal Porthcawl)

36 Clase Road
Morriston
Swansea, Glam.

Spring Meeting

I HAVE NOT YET HAD CONFIRMATION of the dates for the Spring Meeting, 6th or 13th April, but hope to have it in plenty of time for journal publication. I hope you all can arrange to be there.



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George Brennan

I am very pleased to be able to tell you that George Brennan is home from hospital and is getting on, although very slowly. Let us hope that it is slow but sure. We are all very pleased about it, George, and hope you continue to improve.

NORTH-WEST

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

By H. M. Walsh
Hon. Secretary:
 78 Hadfield Street,
 Oldham, Lancs.

Lectures

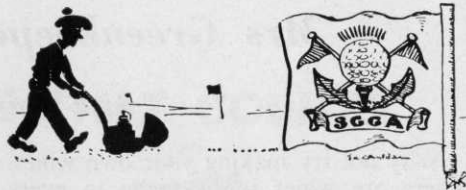
I WOULD LIKE TO THANK MR Lidgate of S.T.R.I. for the very instructive talk he gave the section on "Methods of Weed Control" I would also like to thank the members for the wonderful support we are now getting for these important occasions.

The next lecture will be carried out with the help of films and will be given by the Longton Service Branch of Messrs Charles H. Pugh Ltd., on 7th February at 7.45 p.m.

The last of this series of lectures will be given by Mr Joss of S.T.R.I. on the 1st March and I am looking for the same kind of support you have given for previous talks.

New Member

We are pleased to welcome to the section K. Howe of Romiley Golf Club.



THE SCOTTISH GOLF GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

Chairman
 J. K. CAMPBELL
 St Andrews

General Secretary
 R. B. MOFFATT

71 Kelton Street Glasgow E.2. Phone SHE 6591

Winter Lectures

WITH ONLY ONE LECTURE LEFT ON this year's programme, I hope we will have as good numbers as at the last three. In December we had a very interesting talk given by Mr Kitson of S.A.I. on the work done producing new fertilisers and weedkillers.

In January we once again had a very interesting talk by Mr Palin of Suttons. This was more a question and answer night than a lecture, which I am sure everyone enjoyed. I am sure all who turned out on this cold and frosty night will agree with me when I say, it was a night when Greens' Conveners and Club Committees would have learnt a lot about damage done to courses during winter conditions. To both these speakers I send the Association's thanks.



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Hock

3 oranges, 3 lemons, 6 small potatoes, 4 lb. sugar, 1 gallon warm water, 1 lb. raisins, $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. yeast.

Pour the warm water over the above ingredients (cut the raisins open). Let the liquor stand for two weeks. Take off the top, strain and bottle, but do not cork tightly until all hissing ceases. Cork up.

Potato Wine

1 gallon boiling water, 3 lb. old potatoes, $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. yeast, 1 lb. raisins, $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. hops, 4 lb. demerara sugar

Wash the potatoes well, but do not peel them. Cut them up into very small pieces then put them in a large bowl. Add the sugar, raisins and hops, pour over the gallon of boiling water and stir well with a wooden spoon. When the contents of the bowl are lukewarm, stir in the yeast. Cover the bowl and leave for two weeks, but you must stir daily. After two weeks, strain the liquid off through muslin, do not

squeeze, and bottle. Cork loosely at first, have some wine spare in a bottle to fill the bottles if the wine should ferment over the top. Add some sugar candy to each bottle at intervals of about 4 weeks until fermentation has finished. You will realise that fermentation has finished when you add a piece of sugar candy to a bottle and the wine remains clear, does not fizz or bubble. This means the yeast has finished working and cannot absorb any more sugar. The wine should be ready in six months.

Lemon Wine

9 lemons, $3\frac{1}{2}$ lb. sugar, 1 gallon water, $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. yeast.

Put the thinly peeled rind of half the lemons into a pan and bring to the boil with the water. Simmer for 15 minutes. Put the juice of all the lemons and the sugar into a large bowl and pour over the hot liquid, stir well. When lukewarm add the yeast mixed with a little of the liquid. Cover and leave for 24 hours in a warm place. Pour all into a fermenting jar and insert an air lock. Leave to ferment to a finish, then bottle. Remember these are wines and not cordials and can be very intoxicating.

—Until March

S.G.G.A News—contd.

Apprenticeship Scheme

I was very interested to learn from the Joint Council that another three clubs in Scotland are interested enough in their apprentice and the future of greenkeeping to register them with the Joint Council. I only wish all Superintendents would ask their club to do this. I am sure if any club would like information on the scheme, Mr Wood the Secretary, or myself would be only too pleased to hear from them.

It was very interesting to see that clubs as far away as Stornoway and Nairn were interested, yet only a very small number, not more than about twelve in Scotland, including these two, have registered an apprentice. I think the time has come when every club should have an apprentice under the Joint Council as a lot of time and money has gone

to the introduction of this scheme. We in your committee are always being asked when are we going to do something for greenkeepers. I can only say in these past three years since I was elected to the position of General Secretary of the Association this scheme has been one of the main objects of our work, along with wages which are now much higher and in line with most industries. I now think it is time we had the support of all Superintendents and at this point I ask for more registrations with the Joint Council.

Re-Employment

Any member of the Association who would like his name put on the list for a position either as Superintendent, Foreman or Assistant, please let me have his name and position wanted. I am always being notified of positions available, mostly from English clubs and my list is very small.

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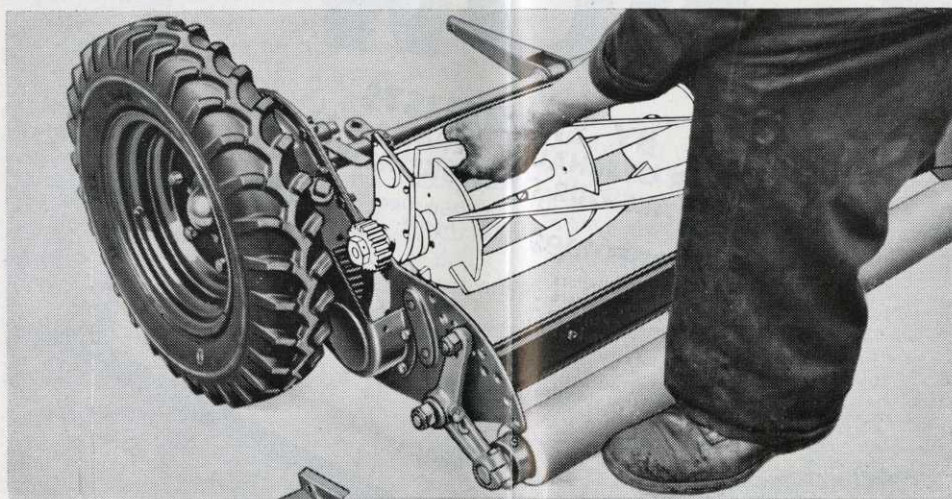
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