

KNOT FOR SALE

An invitation to the

smarter greenkeeper

DO you wear your Association tie?

I ask this because on 4th February the Tie Manufacturers Association announced the Top Ten tie men and I was disappointed to find no greenkeeper amongst them. Something is obviously wrong.

The Duke of Windsor got an honourable mention for having invented the Windsor knot. But I worked this one out for myself years ago. Weary of standing knee-deep in discarded neckties searching for one not irretrievably crushed by the pre-Windsor or Hanoverian knot, I found that the double circuit of the thin or static end by the rotating or broad one distinctly prolonged the life of all tie-types. But I never put my name up to the selection committee. I assumed that they would be more interested in tie-consumption than tie-conservation. Something is wrong here too.

In fact, the whole business seems upside down. The inclusion of Mr Heath in the list made me suspect that plain, sober neckwear might provide a short-cut to the top. But the Chairman of the Tie Manufacturers' Association added the

comment "There's nothing Conservative about Mr Heath's choice of tie. He gives the same flair to them as he does to his music. I have not had the pleasure of hearing Mr Heath play the organ or conduct a choir, but "flair" is generally defined as "instinctive discernment" and everyone reckons he has this when he reaches for the day's appropriate tie.

The principles underlying a good selection remain obscure. A meeting of the Greenkeepers' Association presents no problem. The Association tie requires no flair and puts its own seal on the occasion. Beyond that we can only deal in terms like harmony and contrast which leave the field wide open to personal interpretation.

Tomorrow morning perhaps you will analyse your emotions as you make your choice and let us know what happens. Is there one at the end of the line which somebody gave you for Christmas and which has never been touched? What is wrong with it? Perhaps the plain green background with the red, white and yellow stripes is safest after all. (Obtainable from the Hon. Secretary at 10s. 6d. a time. —Adv't.)

Spreading the Load

Chesterfield Council have passed a rule that a person may play only one round on a Saturday so that more players can get a game.

Footing the Bill

Brentwood U.D.C.'s first nine holes (municipal) cost £14,500. They estimate annual running cost, greenkeeper, pro., ground staff, upkeep and loan charges at £7,300.