

TEE SHOTS



by the Editor

Among other forecasts for what greenkeepers will endure in 1967 is one by a Mr O. O. Clapper of New England.

He sees courses with two groundstuffs — the night team doing all the cutting — the day team spraying, fertilizing, changing holes and general maintenance to ensure that all machinery will last the next night.

Since automatic water systems started, the benefits of night watering have disappointed nobody. You are now warned about what may follow.

Lighting the last few holes may be included in the changeover in order to get the maximum number of people on to the course during the daylight hours. If there still is a course. . . .

The Canadian Golf Superintendents Association was formed last October. It was surprising to learn that they had no organisation of this kind before in that country.

The news will have a special impact in France where there is no word for "greenkeeper". The Canadian Association has classed itself for the purposes of French Canadians "L'Association Canadienne des Superintendants de Golf".

The Germans, on the other hand, have a short simple answer to the problem. It is "Platzmeister" — "course-master", or, to be slightly pedantic nowadays, "green-master". Perhaps it is a pity that this never developed as the equivalent to "Club-master".

Mr C. R. Skogley, Professor at the University of Rhode Island, is on sabbatical leave to tour Europe. Since September he has been installed with his family in Woodbridge. He is working with Fisons on a screening programme for turf grass fungicides. In one of his first newsletters homewards he said: —

"I have visited two golf courses and have golfed on one of them. It was a beautiful course but to a poor golfer rather hair-raising. The roughs consist mainly of heather, bracken, fern, gorse and the like. General conditions are quite good but very unlike anything I have previously seen."

At many continental golf clubs, the clubhouse is closed on Mondays or Tuesdays. The day is not far off in this country when we can make out a strong case for closing the course as well. One complete day, uninterrupted by golfers should boost ground staff productivity. It would also, as one of our opposite numbers in the States picturesquely remarks, give the greenkeeper "a day when he can work on his course without getting hell for doing the job he was hired to do".