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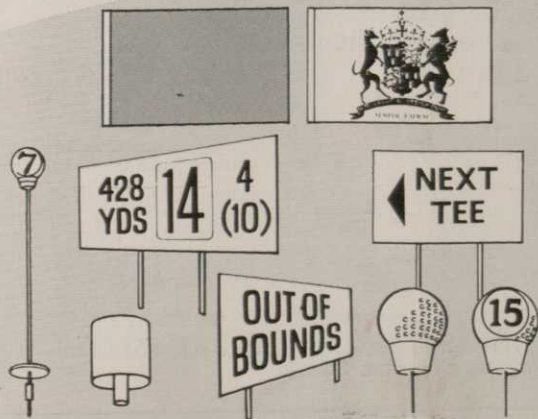
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GREENKEEPER

HON. EDITOR: F. W. HAWTREE



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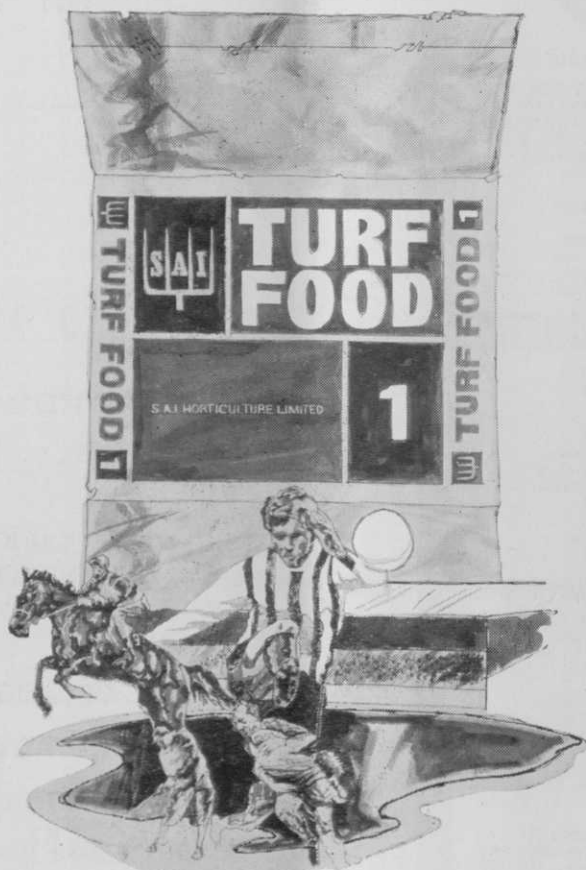
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TEE SHOTS



by the Editor

A second 18-hole course for Lossiemouth is strongly supported by the Town Council. Tourism is apparently the only growth industry in Lossiemouth and another golf course is expected to encourage it. Some of the Members are not so sure.

* * * *

Extra Gardai have been drafted to Oughterard, Co. Galway, to prevent possible trouble during the construction of a new golf course covering 170 acres of a local estate. Local smallholders have been demanding that the land should be divided between them. Outhouses on the estate have already been set on fire and explosives have been found near the home of one of the developers.

* * * *

The Oundle Golf Course opened its extension to 18 holes on May 2nd after 80 years as a 9-hole course. The number of Members just after the last war was twelve. Now there are 250.

* * * *

Kent County Council has agreed to another nine holes in Lullingstone Park. Mrs Kathleen Herbert, Chairman of the Dartford Rural Council's Estates Committee, said that when the original course was only nine holes there were many women golfers. When it was extended to 18, a lot of them stopped playing. Now they will be able to start again but Mrs Herbert stressed that the new course was not solely for their use.

* * * *

An American-European company, Hamblyn-Collett (Europe) is looking into the possibility of building a new course overlooking the Severn Gorge in the new town of Telford in Shropshire.

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18 HOLES WITH HAWTREE

No. 16 — Every Man a Golf Architect
by F. W. HAWTREE

Twenty-five new courses were building in 1970. Probably 100 or more are being planned. Last month in Essex and nearby I counted seven schemes on the move — 11 in East Anglia at least.

The golf club secretary will often be consulted. Damping misplaced or encouraging justified enthusiasm may save one man a needless expense and another a missed opportunity. Forget about golf architects for the moment. Do it yourself. This is how to sum up a site and may even help decide if that field on which your committee has had its eye for a long time is worth acquiring or not. But, if in doubt, the golf architect may be the only person able to handle the complicated relationship between layout, cost, construction, maintenance, the strategy of the game and players' psychological reactions.

1. Area

Reckon 100-150 acres for 18 holes. The upper limit applies where steep slopes, bog, woods or rock have to be avoided. The lower limit, or rather less, is adequate on flatter sites or where, say, 5,750 yards will be acceptable. Let the site dictate length not an arbitrary standard. The worst mistake is planning for too much length in a small site. A good nine-hole course is generally preferable to a very short and congested 18. If only nine holes are possible, however, future extension to 18 should at least be visualised in some form.

2. Length

A rough guide for estimating potential length is as follows:—

	Acres	Yards
A	90	5,600 - 5,800
B	100	5,800 - 6,000
C	110	6,000 - 6,200
D	120	6,200 - 6,400
E	130	6,400 - 6,600
F	140	6,600 - 6,800
	150+	6,800+

These lengths will be exceeded on easy sites but will be reduced by physical obstacles or awkward boundaries which limit land use. The clubhouse area will need 3-4 acres and a practice ground at least the same.

Resist the temptation to provide 7,000 yards in 100 acres and especially preparing a plan to show how it is possible. It isn't.

3. Contour

Slopes of 1 in 10 are just golfable sideways. Steeper slopes need special treatment. A continuous series of steep slopes may rule out the site. Frequent changes of contour in a short distance also lead to visibility problems in planning. Many abandoned courses were very hilly. Ignore the enthusiast who talks about "flattening it out with a bulldozer". This should only be necessary in restricted areas.

4. Shape

Most farms and old parkland lend themselves to golf course layout but sometimes sub-division leaves odd shapes. Where fields jut out they should be not less than 140 yards wide and preferably 350 yards long = 10 acres. A smaller one might do for a practice ground near the clubhouse. Clubhouse sites at the end of a long, thin field rule out a second starting point nearby.

Sites split up into two or three separate areas need extra care even if total acreage looks adequate. Road crossings between holes are not agreeable except in rural areas and introduce slight maintenance problems.

5. Soil and Drainage

Mixed farming implies an acceptable site but light land with poor return on cereals is preferable to clay. A slow draining clay site will produce poor playing conditions unless considerable extra money is spent. Good drainage is vital for heavily used courses. Improving fairways might cost £12,500 and close drainage as much again. In comparing costs of alternative sites, therefore, add up to £250 per acre for a wet site as against a dry one.

Provided trees are fairly isolated or in groups, old parkland is very satisfactory because of the thick cover of mould developed over the years and the ready-made landscape. But putting too many holes into a landscaped park may

destroy the one thing that should be preserved.

Sites on industrial waste may attract Government grants but absence of top-soil always suggests great expense. Less than a 4in. depth may also cause difficulty. Technical advice is needed before a final decision.

Heath land and rough grazing will generally produce a good course provided there is a fair cover of soil and reliable drainage. Bad drainage, however, may only be due to a pan which can be broken by sub-soiling.

6. *Vegetation*

Meadowland can usually be worked down to a fair turf and this saves money. But a surface very uneven or hoof-marked will have to be cultivated and sown.

Creeping buttercup, sedges, rushes, marsh thistle, tufted hair grass and water mints indicate wet land. Where grass is retained, there will be no question of improving soil conditions except by land drainage.

Scattered trees are very desirable but woodland is expensive to clear because roots have to come out. This leads to a lot of disturbance. Tree clearing on clay sites in winter may damage soil structure for years.

7. *Practical Factors*

Good access is prized by planning authorities. Entry off fast roads or by long, narrow lanes is not approved if the course will generate much traffic. Objections on this score seem to diminish if the authorities want the course there in the first place, but they grow if there has to be a public enquiry.

Footpaths through the site may lead to inconvenience, danger and vandalism. They can sometimes be diverted to a boundary but closure is rare. On the contrary, some urban authorities are now looking for new paths through golf courses because these areas may be last nature reserves left in their district.

Busy roads and back gardens near the site spoil atmosphere but can be screened. An extra safety margin will be necessary. This can reduce the acreage for planning the course by an acre per 150 yards of boundary concerned.

Streams, lakes and ponds can generally be worked into the layout to

advantage. Rivers may pose bridge problems. If flooding occurs, think twice and find out how often and how deep. River boards may object to changes in contour in flood plains where flow might be impeded.

A water supply is essential for a high standard of maintenance. Automatic systems save labour but cost £9,000-£10,000. Maximum water requirement (greens only), 12,000 gallons per day. Automatic systems should apply this at night in, say, eight hours = 1,500 gallons per hour.

Buildings on the site may be useful for machinery or conversion to staff houses. Unless they have some historical or aesthetic value, converting them to a clubhouse is to be discouraged.

8. *Summary*

Walk the site with a plan. Remember that the total acreage will be reduced by awkward shape, steep or boggy land and potentially dangerous boundaries.

Assess the soil as light, medium, heavy, pure sand or absent. If it is farmed, it can be worked. If it is derelict or only grazed, be careful. Sites with no true top-soil may be suitable but too expensive to develop. Grassland involves least expense; arable land, average expense; dense woods, poor drainage, heavy clay, absence of top-soil, greatest expense.

Slopes steeper than one in 10 should not be general and, if so, assess the effort of nine uphill holes on the gradients walked.

A short access off a "B" road to an elevated clubhouse site looking southwards across the course would be ideal. Farmhouses are often put in such position but a new clubhouse will generally be cheaper and better than a conversion.

In general, sites unsuitable for a golf course are either too hilly, too wet, too barren or too small.

9. *Site Factors in Brief — 18 Holes*

Area.—100 - 150 acres.

Shape.—"Farm" shape, compact, and free of awkward salients.

Contour.—Long, steep slopes may involve nine uphill holes. Short, steep slopes complicate good planning. Easier

(Continued on page 12)

WHICH?

Patrick Smartt

BESET daily as we are by accounts of shows of hands, secret ballots and heated arguments, I have wondered, if such goings-on came to pass in a club, on which particular point members would concentrate?

We shall exclude annual general meetings, at which arguments are not unknown. The few who start these are not on the committee and regard the occasion as an opportunity to play Aunt Sally. The aftermath of these meetings is rather amusing and euphemistic. When the meeting has been contentious, the committee will tell you that it is a good sign: members displaying interest in their club. If all goes smoothly and the meeting is over quickly, then it shows how satisfied members are. That this last could be attributed to lethargy is never mentioned.

Looking at the many facets of a golf club, it is unlikely that more than 50 per cent would choose the same item. Let us list the main headings. The course, clubhouse amenities, catering.

Much will depend on the current captain and his priorities. Also on his committee. The most vociferous members usually find their way on to the committee in the end, and very often assume a pomposity and pseudo-knowledge that is out of all proportion to their ability. Others regard themselves as representatives of members' interests, though they cannot avoid entirely their personal inclinations.

As an old "square", I shall choose the course first. In the reasonable notion that a golf club is there for the purpose of playing golf and the ancillaries of indoor comfort and the food are of secondary importance. A view that will be hotly disputed; I remain unrepentant.

Golfers hold varying ideas about the most desirable aspect of a course. There are proud courses, and carelessly tended courses; each reflecting on the secretary and the head greenkeeper. It is probable that my estimate of 50 per cent would be wrong where greens are concerned. These are the first thing a player will complain about — particularly when he

is putting badly. Good greens are the first thing I look for when visiting other courses. Well-kept teeing-grounds — not easy — are a shop window and therefore desirable.

The biggest bones of contention — in addition to the craze for lengthening courses — will be the width of the fairways and the depth of the rough. The rough, alas, we can dispose of quickly. Overcrowding on courses in the present era means that so far as possible any delay in searching for a ball should be eliminated. That is the reason given to me for cropping the rough, leaving little advantage to the man who is down the middle. So much for that. Times change.

Friends ask me how wide a fairway should be; that is for club members, not the stars. It is a question I can answer only from the first category. I should have asked our editor. It must be governed to a certain extent on the terrain, the length and nature of the design of the hole. No one should want an uninspiring polo ground to drive into. But committees change, and with them the width of the fairways. I am no expert in these things, but the answer has been 35 to 40 yards. That does seem unduly tight to me, especially when the rough is less luxuriant than some of the younger players' hair.

I have paced a fairway as being 70 yards wide, which detracted from a semi-dog leg because the player could get on the green from anywhere. At the opposite extreme, I have paced fairways on a course over which no professional tournaments are played, and found them to be under 30 yards. Not satisfied with this, the ruling body so shaped them that there was a waist round about the 200-yard mark — the area in which we may expect the average player to finish. Beyond that they expanded again, thus giving the longer and better player more room.

No longer an active player, I cannot be accused of bias. Surely this portrays

(Continued on page 12)

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THE JOINT COUNCIL FOR GOLF GREENKEEPER APPRENTICESHIP

President: J. Campbell

Hon. Secretary: W. F. Machin

Chairman: F. W. Hawtree

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE EIGHTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT BINGLEY ON MONDAY, 26th APRIL 1971

REGISTRATION

A total of 35 new registrations were made in the year 1970/71 and eight further registrations await approval at the Ordinary Meeting to follow the Annual General Meeting.

These reflect a generally healthy position in the Scheme as a whole though the reduction in the number of Deeds issued suggests that next year will show some decline.

The comparative figures for the last three years may be summarised as follows:—

	1968/69	1969/70	1970/71	Total April 1970	Total April 1971
Sets of Deeds Issued	37	34	28	220	248
Sets of Deeds Registered	33	25	35	153	188
Sets of Deeds Completed	30	25	28	90	118
Sets of Deeds Cancelled	5	7	7	21	28

TRAINING

There is again some slight improvement in educational facilities as golf at large receives more publicity and at least one firm has arranged a course for apprentices to study for a week in its mowing machinery repair shop. But there are still areas where education is difficult owing to the distance involved and with many golf clubs remote from urban centres of any size this difficulty appears fundamental. Some form of postal course would help to overcome this.

PUBLICITY

We have continued our monthly advertisements in golfing publications. The Golf Club Secretaries' Journal also published data during the year and is very helpful. We have also had inquiries from overseas and Northern Ireland regarding setting up a similar scheme.

FINANCE

Our balances at the bank are satisfactory in the sense that they show no marked variation from previous years but they do not permit more than normal activities. An income which enabled us to develop the Scheme or acquire wider publicity would be welcome.

SECRETARYSHIP

During the year, Mr P. C. French resigned his position of Hon. Secretary and Treasurer and was succeeded by Mr W. Machin, a Committee Member of the Southern Section of the British Golf Greenkeepers' Association. A great deal of detail and correspondence is involved in the position and we are very grateful to Mr French for his excellent services.

CONCLUSION

The Scheme continues to fulfil a need and there are now some 118 trained men in the field with a sounder background than would otherwise have been possible. It is, however, disappointing that there are only some 70 apprentices under training at perhaps 1,500 golf courses in Great Britain.



JUNE	24th	President's Team v. Midland Section Match.
	29th	Welsh Section A.G.M.
JULY	19th	Midland Section A.G.M. and Summer Cup.
AUGUST	23rd) 24th) 25th)	Annual Tournament Hollinwell Golf Club.
SEPTEMBER	8th	Southern Section Autumn Tournament.
	14th	Midland Section Autumn Tournament.
	23rd	Northern Section Autumn Tournament.

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HON. SECRETARY'S NOTES

Hollinwell Golf Club, Notts.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the fifty-fourth Annual General Meeting of the British Golf Greenkeepers' Association will be held at the Hollinwell Golf Club, Notts., on Monday, 23rd August 1971, at 2.30 p.m. Notice of resolutions must be sent in writing to the Hon. Secretary TWENTY-ONE DAYS before the date of the meeting. Under Rule 29 proxies may be voted at all general meetings. A Form of Proxy may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary and returned not later than the first post on Wednesday, 18th August.

THE ANNUAL TOURNAMENT

The fifty-fourth Annual Tournament will be held at the Hollinwell Golf Club, Notts., on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 23rd, 24th and 25th August 1971. Entry forms appeared in the June journal.

Programme

Monday, 23rd August: Morning—18 holes, Stableford; Afternoon — Annual General Meeting at 2.30 p.m.

Tuesday, 24th August: 36-hole Medal; News of the World Cup (scratch); Senior Division (plus to 11); Junior Division (12 to 24); the Jubilee Cup (Team Prize off Handicap); "The Coming of Age" Cup.

Wednesday, 25th August: Morning—18-hole Medal; Afternoon — Prize distribution, 3 p.m.

Handicaps

Section secretaries will be asked to verify the handicaps of all competitors from their records before the tourna-

ment. All handicaps must be based on the National Golf Union's handicapping system.

Executive Committee

A meeting of the Executive Committee will be held at Hollinwell Golf Club on Sunday, 22nd August 1971, at approximately 5.30 p.m.

Trophies

May I remind holders of trophies from last year's tournament who are not taking part this year to ensure that these are returned to the Hollinwell Golf Club before Saturday, 21st August.

Annual Draw

May I remind members that all counterfoils and monies should be returned to their Section Secretary and NOT to me.

C. H. DIX

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by J. O. WALKER

Technical Manager, Agricultural Division,
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To the agronomist, turf is an extreme example of continuous monoculture under conditions which would daunt those accustomed to growing most other crops. What other plant is required to be raised as a homogeneous mixture of two or three species, in the entire absence of weeds and disease, and also withstand continuous trampling and cutting?

There are, surprisingly, situations in nature where this ideal is virtually achieved without the intervention of man and most people will have heard of the renowned seawashed turf from Cumberland. However, it has proved difficult and expensive to transfer this turf to situations where it is required, and in any case supplies are now nearly exhausted.

A grass sward is produced in practice

by sowing seed on a carefully prepared seed bed or by laying turf which itself has been produced from seed at a nursery site. Either method requires attention to detail in site preparation, including levelling, drainage, soil structure improvement, tilth preparation and weed elimination. After attention to these aspects success will still depend on selection of high-quality seed, fertilisation, and careful sowing and irrigation. This in turn will only mark the beginning of a continuous process of culture necessary to produce and maintain the sward.

It is not difficult to appreciate therefore that the cultivation of a good sward is an extremely expensive business. For example, it can cost £1,500 to £5,000 to reseed or returf a football pitch and from £1,500 per year to maintain it. It is also clear that money spent in the best preparation of a new sward is money soundly invested.

Techniques are now available, and already widely used in other crops,

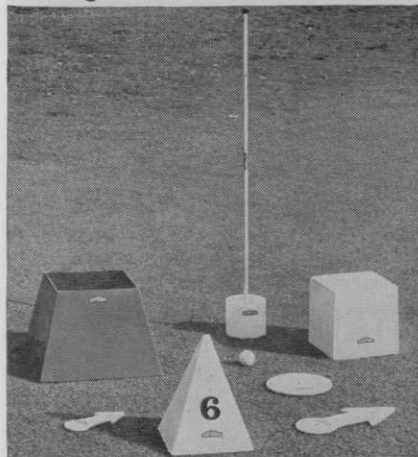
which could make a very large contribution to improving sward preparation.

These techniques involve sterilising the surface layers of the soil to remove weeds, weed seeds, and pests and diseases. Weeds and their seeds are one of the most costly and intractable problems in site preparation and it is surprising that sterilisation is not already more widely used.

Sterilisation can be carried out relatively simply and safely with Basamid, a granular material which is rotovated into the soil according to a well-proven technique. The soil surface is then sealed and the chemical left to do its work. The cost, at approximately £150/acre for the chemical and sealing, is a very low price to pay for the benefits obtained. It is also low in comparison with the total investment in turf culture. The technique is worthy of careful consideration by the raisers of turf and also by those responsible for laying new lawns and any other areas requiring a good quality sward.

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(Continued from page 5)

slopes permit oblique climbs with less effort.

Soil / Vegetation. — Type, depth: arable, grass, trees, heath, scrub, woodland.

Drainage. — =Extra cost, especially on flat sites.

Boundaries.—Roads, houses = extra safety margins.

Pools, Streams, Rivers. — Flooding? Possible use for course water supply?

Access/Clubhouse position/Services/Car park space/Practice area nearby.

Footpaths.—Much used? May attract more people when golf course is made.

Water Supply.—Minimum 3in. main desirable. Fire precautions for clubhouse.

Buildings.—Suitability for machinery, storage, staff houses.

(Continued from page 6)

a lack of common sense, and no consideration for the majority of members whose subscriptions keep a club going. It is acceptable that a fairway should taper inwards as it nears the green, the striker is playing a shorter shot and, therefore, a more controllable club. But from the tee, it is the good player who should be tested, not the inept or the elderly. A consideration which not all committees keep in mind.

At this stage we should properly turn to the other items, the clubhouse and the catering. However, they are outside the province of this journal, and so the protagonists of the "gin palace" and those who prefer simplicity must be left to fight it out for themselves.

I shall conclude with a little story told by Bobby Jones, and therefore true. The right hand side of a fairway he was playing in a tournament was guarded by a field of tall wheat! He cut his drive into it. To hasten the time in looking for the ball, his caddie grounded the bag of clubs. They found the ball, and took a considerably longer time in finding the clubs.

In the days when I played, not too ineptly, straight driving was my best stroke. This came about because I learned on a tight course, and was not "state-aided" in the matter of golf balls by my father.

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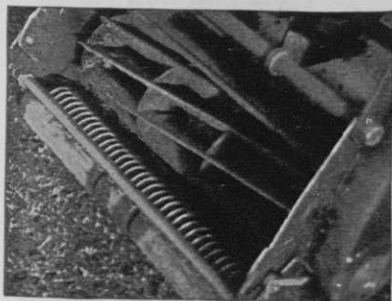
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The duties involve, under the direction of the superintendent, the upkeep and maintenance of two public 18-hole golf courses and a number of football pitches and a polo ground. Applicants must therefore have good practical knowledge of turf maintenance and green-keeping, preferably with some experience of control of a public golf course and/or park.

Apply in writing for application forms to EP4a Room 8/110, Department of the Environment, St Christopher House, Southwark Street, London, S.E.1, before 1st July 1971.

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REQUIRE

Experienced Head Greenkeeper. Free accommodation, heat and light in flat on course. Salary by negotiation. Apply to the Secretary, Richmond Golf Club, Sudbrook Park, Petersham, Surrey.

Telephone 01-940 4351.

Wirral Ladies' Golf Club, Birkenhead, Cheshire, seek the services of an experienced greenkeeper. Present greenkeeper retiring after 20 years' service.

Salary in the region of £25 per week. Duties to commence early September. No house available. Reply in confidence, with copies of references to the Secretary, 93 Bidston Road, Birkenhead.

Assistant Greenkeepers (two), experienced. £20 per week. Accommodation and food provided free. Single persons required immediately. Apply the Secretary, Dyrham Park Country Club, Galley Lane, Barnet, Herts. Telephone 01-440 3361.

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RIVERSIDE 5415

News



from the Sections

SOUTHERN

By F. W. Ford

Chairman:
C. A. MOORE
(Stanmore)

Hon. Secretary:
68 Salcombe Gardens
Mill Hill, N.W.7
Tel: 01-959 2847

Coach Trip

The 41-seater coach left Charing Cross almost full and almost on time for what proved to be a very interesting and successful day visit to Fisons Levington Research Station.

We arrived at 11 a.m. as planned and were welcomed by Mr Robert Morris, senior advisory officer, who jokingly said: "How did you manage to get so many here, did you pay for them?" Coffee and biscuits preceded a classroom talk on the setup at Levington and then we were escorted in two parties round the magnificent building, laboratory, etc. By this time we were hungry and joined the Levington staff in their canteen for lunch. They eat well at Levington. Perhaps they do not have beer on the table as we did, but the food was very good.

An interesting afternoon followed, visiting the trial plots, etc., and this was the moment of truth for most of us Southern softies, confirming that it is one pullover colder on the east coast, and I think that most of us were grateful to join those fat, healthy cucumbers in their warm greenhouses. These experimental "cues" were doing very nicely in their regimental rows of Levington compost-filled pots, set in shallow filled polythene trays and hanging like tempting bundles of grapes. Not having a penknife, and knowing that Paul Thomas had probably counted them, I wasn't tempted.

After tea—in the canteen again—our chair-

man thanked Bob Morris for entertaining us for the day, and Mr Morris said it was a pleasure to have the Southern Section and hoped we would come again.

The journey home proved that coaches were not welcome at pubs. However at Wanstead we all enjoyed a friendly drink together at "Jock Rennie's George".

Spring Tournament

The Spring Tournament was played at Hadley Wood Golf Club on Thursday, 6th May, and 53 competitors out of the original entry of 61 turned out. Pat Ainsworth and his staff are to be congratulated and thanked for the amount of work they put in to get the course in such a condition on our behalf. Thanks also to the steward and staff for looking after the "inner man" so well, the professional for the free trollies, and Ian Muir, the captain of the club, for presenting the prizes to the lucky winners. These were as follows:—

Best a.m., I. P. Smith (Limpsfield Chart), 71, knife and fork set. Best p.m., S. Kilby (Finchley), 69, travel alarm clock.

Over 60 (18 holes)—1st. G. Piggott (Henley), 72, Wills Cup and Parker pen. 2nd, B. Fordham (Tandridge), 73, Parkers tankard.

Scratch (36 holes), after a sudden-death play-off with D. Major—F. W. Corner (East Barnet), 154, Cup and canteen of cutlery.

36 aggregate—

1. A. Collis (Sonning), 135, Cup and Ransomes watch.
2. W. Machin (Addington Court), 142, Cup and Moulinex mixer.
3. F. Corner (New Barnet), 142, Cup and holdall.
4. D. Major (Betchworth), 144, Patissons Ronson lighter.
5. H. Emery (Walton Heath), 145, Clan rug.
6. R. Plain (Beaconsfield), 146, sprinkler time switch.
7. P. Ainsworth (Hadley Wood), 148, cuff links.
8. L. Coyte (Romford), 149, getaway bag.
9. F. Hayter (Enfield), 150, half-dozen balls.
10. E. Hall (Ealing), 150, vacuum jug.
11. R. Claydon (West Middlesex), 150, desk calendar.
12. W. Cavanaugh (New Malden), 151, Parker ball pen.

1st-year competitors off scratch—

1. S. A. Kilby (Old Ford), 164, transistor.
2. R. Hargreaves (Effingham), 172, one dozen balls.
3. C. Ryan (Boyce Hill), 177, blanket.
4. H. Aston (Burnham Beeches), 179, two household door mats.

Vice-Presidents—B. Huxley, steak knife and fork set.

Last but not least our sincere thanks to David Craig, Philip Marshall, John Field and Bill Holloway. What would we do without them!

We are grateful to the following firms who contributed to the prize giving: Messrs David Craig, Ransomes, Sims & Jefferies,

H. Patissons & Co. Ltd., Sutton & Sons, Flymo Ltd., T. Parker & Sons. C. H. Pugh Ltd., Maxwell Hart Ltd., May & Baker Ltd., Huxleys Garden Machinery, Kingston House Mowers Ltd., and Wright Rain Ltd.

New Members

A warm welcome is extended to our new vice-presidents whose names are listed below:

K. Thomas and V. L. Waeland of Boyce Hill Golf Club.

New Subscription Rate

Will members who have paid their 1971-72 subscriptions at the old rate please remit to me the difference.

SOUTH-WEST

By A. Cockfield

Hon. Secretary:
10 Clarence Terrace,
Claverton Down, Bath.

Chairman:
L. MILLAR

The Somerset County Golf Championship played over the Burnham and Berron Links was won by the local greenkeeper, L. Millar. Runner-up was his assistant, M. Ham, one stroke behind. Congratulations to both on a very fine performance.

MIDLAND

By R. Goodwin

Hon. Secretary:
4 Burton Old Road,
Streethay, Lichfield,
Staffs.

Chairman:
G. HART
(Gay Hill)

Annual Spring Tournament

The Spring Tournament was held at Whittington Barracks Golf Club on Tuesday, 4th May.

On a gloriously hot summer's day, 35 greenkeepers, a record number for this event, set out from the first tee of this interesting heathland course. George Hart, one of our older members, completed the morning nine holes in an excellent level par "36". Although losing his grip a little in the afternoon, he still had enough in hand to win the Scratch Championship with a score of 120 gross for 27 holes.

Bill Boyce, of Ladbroke Park Golf Club, played steadily throughout the day for a score of 35 net and 71 net — 106 — to take the Ransomes Cup and gold watch.

The heather destroyed many hopes and the only players to beat par during the afternoon were Tony Cutler, with 66 net, and Alan Kite, 67 net.

Leading scores were as follows:—

Best gross (27 holes), G. Hart — 36 + 84 = 120 (Sutton Cup).

1st net, W. Boyce — 35 + 71 = 106 (Ransomes Cup and gold watch).

2nd, A. Cutler — 33 + 74 = 107.

3rd, T. Cutler — 42 + 66 = 108.

4th, A. Kite — 41 + 67 = 108.

5th, T. Morris — 35 + 75 = 110.

6th, D. Haynes — 38 + 73 = 111.

7th, J. Bevan — 40 + 73 = 113.

8th, G. Bunting — 35½ + 79 = 114½.

9th, W. Barton — 38½ + 78 = 116½.

10th, V. Smith — 44 + 73 = 117.

George Hart, the section chairman, expressed the thanks of all greenkeepers to the captain and committee of the Whittington Barracks Golf Club for the courtesy of the course and clubhouse throughout the day.

He also expressed appreciation for the generous donations made by the club who paid for the greenkeepers' meals and provided a number of valuable prizes.

The chairman thanked Mr and Mrs Charlton, the steward and stewardess, and Chris Charlton, the chef, for the splendid meals and service throughout the day. He also thanked Adrian Sadler, professional, for the use of caddie carts, and added a few kind remarks for the ground staff, who, in spite of leaving a little too much rough, had endeavoured to produce a course in good playing condition.

Mr Bill Payne looked after the score cards throughout the day, and was assisted by Brian Chapman, Peter Wyatt and Frank Cashmore. We are most grateful to these gentlemen who worked so hard to ensure the success of the tournament.

The prizes were presented by the captain of Whittington Barracks Golf Club, Mr J. Johnson, who extended a warm welcome to all greenkeepers to Whittington and hoped to see everyone there again in the not too distant future.

Prize Donors

We thank the following prize donors who ensured the success of the tournament:— Whittington Barracks Golf Club, Ransomes Ltd., Synchemicals Ltd., Flymo Ltd., Fisons Ltd., Suttons Ltd., Stewart Ltd., F. W. Lees Ltd., Sparkbrook Golf Ball Co. Ltd., Mr A. Onions, Mr Carl Bretherton, Mr Jones, Mr F. D. Brown and Mr J. R. Greenhalgh of Warmley Golf Club and Mr A. R. Sadler, the professional.

President's Match

I do hope to see a very good number of greenkeepers come along to this very fine match at Handsworth Golf Club on Thursday, 24th June.

A.G.M. and Summer Cup

The Summer Tournament will take place at the Habberley Golf Club, Kidderminster, on Monday, 19th July, by kind permission of the captain and the directors.

The Annual General Meeting will take place after the Summer Tournament, at 4 p.m. in the Habberley Golf Clubhouse.

Will all members taking part in this event please let me have their names by Saturday, 10th July.

Autumn Tournament

The Autumn Tournament will be held at the Stourbridge Golf Club on Tuesday, 14th

September, by kind permission of the captain and committee.

Greenkeepers v. Secretaries

Mr Norman Russell has kindly arranged for the match between the greenkeepers and the secretaries to be played at the Sutton Coldfield Golf Club on Wednesday, 15th September.

New Members

A warm welcome is extended to the following greenkeepers who have recently joined the section: J. Hughes, of Moor Hall Golf Club; J. P. Randell, of Robin Hood Golf Club; and D. J. Shortley, of Ladbroke Park Golf Club.

NORTH-WEST

By H. M. Walsh

Chairman:
T. BRENNAN.
(Royal Birkdale)

Hon. Secretary:
Horrobin Cottage,
Old Links Golf Club,
Montserrat, Bolton, Lancs.

In Memoriam

It is with deep regret that I have to inform members of the death of two respected members of the association — Mr P. Campbell, of Stockport Golf Club, who was one of our oldest members both in years and as a member of the association; also Mr H. Ratcliff, of Rigby Taylor Ltd., who was known and respected by all members of the association. On behalf of all members I wish to express our deepest sympathy to their families.

Spring Tournament

Our thanks are due to the Captain and Council of the Romily Golf Club for their kindness in granting us the courtesy of their course and the facilities of their clubhouse on the occasion of our Spring Tournament and A.G.M. on the 11th May.

Once again we had a very good attendance; the weather could not have been kinder — plenty of warm sunshine; good golf, good food and good company. Our chairman thanked the captain, the steward, Mr Grazzia, the head greenkeeper for the condition of the course, Messrs N. Barlow, P. Wyatt, G. Vaughan for their valuable help in taking care of the cards and monies, to all the prize donors and our friends in the trade.

Prize Donors

Prizes were donated by the following:— Messrs Flymo Ltd., Supaturf Ltd., Rigby Taylor Ltd., Sutton and Son, W. Wilcocks and Son, W. Burrows Ltd., Fisons Ltd., Joseph Metcalf Ltd., W. Sowerbutt and Son, S.A.I. Horticulture, R. Fielding Esq.

Prize Winners (over 27 holes)

Scratch Prize: E. Walsh—117 gross.
Best Net, J. Leonard (C.P.)—107; 2nd, D. Macavoy—107; 3rd, A. Warhurst—108½; 4th, M. Owen—110; 5th, H. Summer—111; 6th, O. Jones (C.P.)—112; 7th, A. McAddey—112; 8th, J. Gillett—112½; 9th, G. Leonard—113; 10th, R. Vickers (C.P.)—115½; 11th, J. Ratcliffe—115½.

Visitors' prize was won by J. G. Parker—86 net over 18 holes.

Over-50 Cup was won by O. P. Jones—112 net over 27 holes.

A.G.M.

There was a very good attendance for the A.G.M. in the evening.

The election of officers was as follows:— Chairman: J. Gillett (St Anne's Old Links). Vice-Chairman: R. Vickers Esq. (Leigh Golf Club).

Secretary: H. M. Walsh (Old Links Golf Club, Bolton).

Treasurer: R. Janovskis.

Committee Members: J. Rhodes, E. Walsh, D. Pate (*ex officio*), E. Drage, O. P. Jones.

I would, at this stage, like to express on behalf of all members our very sincere thanks to Ted Macavoy for the 15 years' service he gave to the section and the 20 years as a committee man. Thank you, Ted

Subscriptions

All subscriptions are now due and should be sent to our new treasurer, Mr R. Janovskis, 303 Moorside Road, Swinton, Manchester, M27 3PN. The new rates are as follows:—

Class "A" membership	£2.00
Class "B" membership	1.50
Class "C" membership	1.00
Class "D" membership	2.00
Class "E" membership	2.50

New Members

We welcome to the section the following new members and hope their association with the section will be a long and happy one.

K. M. Greenwood, Hesketh Golf Club; L. Cheetham, Stamford Golf Club; P. C. Alvey, Hesketh Golf Club; I. Ashton, Dukinfield Golf Club; H. N. McAddey, Swinton Park Golf Club; J. D. Evans, Padiwood and Buckley Golf Club; T. T. Wolfindale, 1 Farm Lane, Worsley, Lancs.; J. Doran, 43 Hatfield Drive, Tyldsley, Manchester; M. Tetlow, Manchester Golf Club; P. M. Mitchell, Cheshire Light Tractors; D. Loughlin, Childwell Golf Club; G. Corcoran, Lee Park Golf Club.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Fred Cooper on his retirement after 50 years as a greenkeeper and 40 years as a member of the association. Have a very happy retirement, Fred. At the last meeting of the section it was agreed to make him an honorary life member of the section.

WELSH

By S. A. Tucker

Chairman:
M. GEDDES,
23 Fenton Place,
Porthcawl, Glamorgan.

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

Spring Meeting

Our Spring Meeting was held at St Mellons Golf Club on the 4th May 1971. The

weather was good and we had a very nice day. It was the first time at this club and we found the course in very good condition. We played our regular 27-hole aggregate medal competition and the scores were very good with some members. We played nine holes before lunch and 18 in the afternoon.

The following were the lucky winners:—1st, M. Jones, 104 net—Cardiff Cup and half-dozen wine glasses; 2nd, T. Finch, 107½ net—one dozen golf balls; 3rd, J. Martin, 108½ net—bottle sherry; 4th, D. Cheetham, 110 net—Pattison lighter; 5th, H. Fry, 111½ net—pair of towels.

24 Handicap, O. O'Rourke, 116 net—bottle sherry.

First-Year Competitor—J. Hill, 130 gross—half-dozen golf balls given by R. S. Bird, V.P.

A.G.M.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held at Royal Porthcawl Golf Club on 29th June 1971. Will all members who will be attending this meeting please let me know not later than 20th June as I have to let the secretary of the secretaries know the numbers for dinner in the evening and I also have to notify the steward as to how many there will be for lunch, so please make sure you let me know in good time.

Autumn Meeting

Our Autumn Meeting will be held at the Swansea Bay Golf Club on Wednesday, 8th September. Please make a note of these two dates. I have also fixed up a friendly match with the South-West Section for the 6th October at St Pierre Country Club course, Chepstow. This will be a team effort and we hope a yearly event, playing at a South-West Section course next year. You will hear more about this meeting at the A.G.M.

Mr J. C. Clay

On behalf of all members of the Welsh Section I would like to extend to Mr J. C. Clay, our vice-president, best wishes for a speedy recovery from a foot injury he received on the Llantrisant and Pontyclun course.

I would like to thank Colin Murphy for being so kind in doing all the accounts and cards for our meeting at St Mellons.

TRADE NEWS

JACOBSEN F-133

This is the new five-gang fine turf mower from Rolfe's Mini-Tractors of Romsey, Hants.

The Jacobsen F-133 is packed with many performance features. Designed for mowing commercial turf areas with minimum manpower in a few man hours, hydrostatic foot control provides variable speeds for close work and trimming usually done with a walking mower. Excellent carpet-smooth cutting

ability and low maintenance costs make the F-133 ideal for use on golf courses, schools, parks, cemeteries and industrial sites. It's stable and steady on side slopes and hills for extra safety. The five power-driven mower units are fully articulated to follow uneven ground contours. Cuts from 40 to 50 acres per eight-hour day in a big 133 in. cutting swath. Front mowing units are ahead of tractor wheels so there's no streaks of uncut grass. Constructed to take rugged use, it also features variable forward speeds for mowing and faster transporting between jobs at speeds up to 15 m.p.h., enabling operator to move between jobs quickly—saving time and money. All mowing units ride on replaceable skid shoes which provide added protection to bed knives and quick, easy height adjustment, while a dependable 18 h.p. engine provides reserve power for the toughest, roughest mowing. Twelve volt electric starting is standard equipment.

The Jacobsen F-133 is just one of the range of professional turf care machines from Jacobsen, probably world leaders in this field, all of which are immediately available for demonstration anywhere in the country from Rolfe's Mini-Tractors, Winchester Hill, Romsey, Hants.

GUIDE TO GRASS

A guide to grass for groundsmen, gardeners and contractors has been published by the Miln Marsters Group of Chester and King's Lynn—suppliers of seed for large-scale amenity schemes.

Copies are available, free of charge, from R. S. Cannell, The Miln Marsters Group, Waterloo House, Waterloo Street, King's Lynn, Norfolk.

RAMSOMES have extended their existing franchise for professional grass machinery to Eastern Tractors (Holdings) Limited to now cover the county of Suffolk through Eastern Tractors subsidiary, Anglian Garden Machinery Centre, Martlesham Heath, Ipswich.

Operating from extensive premises at Martlesham Heath, the Anglian Garden Centre provides extensive sales and service facilities for all Ransomes' grass machinery products.

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A single micro hand wheel adjusts the height-of-cut from $\frac{1}{8}$ " to $\frac{3}{4}$ " at only $\frac{1}{8}$ " at a time.



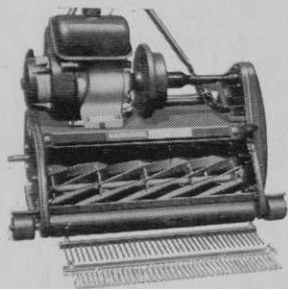
Dual control. Separate landroll and reel clutches enable easy control of the mower at all times.

Super strength cutting reel.

The 10-knife, impact resistant steel, cutting reel stays razor sharp longer—gives a perfect finish.

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Transporting. Power-driven transport wheels allow quick, effortless site-to-site transportation.



Brush and Comb Set.

A nylon brush and steel comb are optional extras, for controlled turf grooming.

Ransomes lawn mowers are the sophisticated end product of our 130 years of experience. In all that time, the company have been in the forefront of grass care progress, and have pioneered most of the worthwhile improvements in mower design. In brief, Ransomes know how to make mowers. More important, they know from an immense practical field experience, how you will use them, and the kind of problems you are facing and solving daily. Mowers built in the light of this knowledge excel. Because of it, a vast range has been developed, with performance values that make work study worthwhile; that enable close and economical costing of mowing schedules with machines matched *exactly* to the job.



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Manufacturers of the largest range of grass machinery in Europe