

# 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<br>April<br>1970 | Total<br>April<br>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.