

Tee Shots

The Royal & Ancient Championship Committee has taken on a consultant agronomist to help it prepare and repair links over which its championships are played. J. H. Arthur, B.Sc., is the man. A Reading University graduate, he was recently with Twyford's, the seeds firm, and much less recently an advisory officer with the Sports Turf Research Institute. He is also consultant to the golf architects' firm of Cotton (CK), Pennick, Lawrie & Partners. Mr. Lawrie is Chairman of the Championship Committee.

Mr Lawrie has not, as far as we know, any present connections with a research or experimental establishment but, at 51, he will obviously have considerable experience behind him. It is said that he will be co-operating with head greenkeepers.

This will be of interest to members of the British and Scottish Golf Greenkeepers' Association, especially those who have borne the brunt of championship preparations in the past generally with a 4 or 5 a.m. start for a week or more.

Now men with the greatest experience in getting important golf courses ready for big events will have the benefit of outside advice. Let us hope it will be more helpful than some of the suggestions made in the past, so that greenkeepers can co-operate with Mr. Arthur.

It is curious that the Royal & Ancient has only done one thing for greenkeepers in the past. This was the establishment in 1929 of the Bingley Research Station with the help of the four national golf unions. Over forty years later, the greenkeepers' associations still support that foundation. The R & A appears to be more steeped in modern than ancient history.

The Editor

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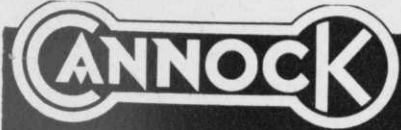
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