There has been no notable improvement in the scores. When there are, it could be attributed with some surety to shorn rough. It is the old question of whether the figures returned on the card take precedence over the fun of accepting a real challenge.

After that grouse, it is a pleasant surprise to record the unexpected consequence that many bag carrying players enjoyed themselves. My wife, for one, said she had never felt so relaxed. Do not ask me to explain that one. It may be significant that all had to discard some clubs, to lighten the bag. Thus, the favourite ones were chosen, and the difficult ones left out. Apart from the problem, during the round, which to choose from the caboodle of fourteen, they would play better with the clubs with which there is sympathy.

Anyone with a knowledge of golfers will be certain that the whole load will come out, when trolleys are permitted again. A lesson wasted.

There must be gratitude that, contrariwise, modern methods should evoke old golf, even briefly. I was glad: Somehow, it brought the course alive.

BIG CHANCE FOR WELL-OFF GREENKEEPERS

V.I.P. TOURNAMENT PATRONS FOR £100

Prestige facilities at all professional golf tournaments, and at the Open Championship. are announced today by the Professional Golfers' Association, for a limited number of 50 golf enthusiasts who wish to become Tournament Patrons of the Association.

The privileges, which will cost an annual subscription of £100, will include free entry to all tournaments; reserved parking accommodation; admission to the Clubhouse; a place as guest at the Association's Annual Dinner in London at the end of the season; and a copy of the P.G.A. Annual Tournament Guide with its facts, figures, and pen portraits of professionals who regularly play the Circuit.

The new band of P.G.A. Tournament Patrons will also receive a £26.40 season ticket for the Open Championship—the R. & A.'s topprice ticket—with reserved seating accommodation, and while they are at the Open Championship they will be able to use the P.G.A.'s own Private social marquee.

Colin Snape, Secretary of the P.G.A., in making the announcement, said: "A modest Tournament Patrons' Scheme has existed in the past, but the Association has held it in abeyance in recent years. We believe that what we are offering for £100 is extremely good value to the many golf enthusiasts who attend several of our events and the Open Championship itself during one season.

"Our aim is to give them 'V.I.P. treatment'. They will be easily identifiable on arrival at a tournament by their special badge and permanent car windscreen label. We feel it will be a popular move, and in granting membership we will work strictly on a first-come-first-served basis with those who apply.

"Our 50 Tournament Patrons will be a quite separate category from the Association's existing Vice-Presidents. Anyone who is interested should write to me here at the P.G.A. Headquarters, Kennington Oval, London S.E.11."