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MIDLAND

By F. Cashmore

Chairman: G. HART (Gay Hill) Hon. Secretary: 76 Four Oaks Common Road Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire.

OUR DINNER AND CONCERT WILL be at the King's Head Hotel, Hagley Rd., on Friday, 1st November. We have booked the concert party on the same lines as last year, when everyone expressed their satisfaction. The Committee would be pleased to receive any gifts for the raffle, which helps us with our expenses. We hope that all our members will make an effort to attend, and make it as big a success as previous years.

Treasurer

As you are aware George Wilson has moved to a job in France, we wish him the best of luck, and thank him for his work on our behalf. For the time being, the Committee have asked me to combine the Treasurer's job with my own, so I shall be pleased to hear from those members who have not yet paid their subs as I see from the books there are quite a number outstanding.

A.G.M.

We had quite an enjoyable time at Birkdale and I was very pleased to see Bill Machin from Shifnal there. He told me how much he had enjoyed it and I am sure that more of our younger members would feel the same if they would make the effort to attend. Some very interesting discussions took place at the meeting, wages, increased subscriptions, etc., I will write more about them in a later journal.

News of the World Draw

Thanks to the members who supported the draw. I will send a list for inclusion in a later journal, as an acknowledgment of the money received.

S.T.R.I.

TWENTY-EIGHT MEMBERS VISITED the S.T.R.I., Bingley on 3rd September. We were welcomed by Mr. Bartle and spent the remainder of the morning with the wide selection of machinery on view.

The afternoon was devoted to the trial plots which proved very interesting and were very well explained by the advisory staff.

It was evident that a lot of work was put in preparing for our visit—marking out plots, etc. Nothing seemed too much trouble to Mr. John Parker and his staff who demonstrated a number of machines.

The meals in St. Ives Mansion were excellent and I would recommend them to other visiting sections. It was good to see many of our younger members present again and their keenness seems to emphasise the need for the apprenticeship scheme to help them.

Dennis Sadler

We wish Dennis Sadler of Lees Hall Golf Club who is at present in hospital a speedy recovery and hope he will soon be well enough to join in our activities again.

GOLF!!!!

Brigadier C. Morton, M.C., has written a new book from the golf club secretary's standpoint. "GOLF!!!" (Hammond, Hammond & Company, 21/-d.) is dedicated "to the Backroom Boys of Golf and to Their harrassed and long-suffering wives", John Cooper's illustrations back up the entertaining text admirably and few of the foibles of golf club members escape comment. It is the sort of book which is likely to make the boys in the front room, slightly self-conscious when they next enter their clubhouse and give more subtlety to the perennial contest in which paid and elected officials play the rest.

Chapter 6 is (we hope) rather more serious than the rest and our readers will be interested to see themselves as Brigadier Morton sees them.

THE HEAD GREENKEEPER THAT GREAT GUY

He is the man we all envy in good weather; we would like his job ourselves. But what about those unkind squally days, so frequent in this sceptred isle . . . He is the head greenkeeper—tough, sturdy, weather-beaten, rough in dress. He has to be— he is a man of the open, not because he plays in it: but because he lives and works in it.

He is a man of the soil and turf; knows all about its texture, its wants, drainage, top-dressings, mowing, fertilizers, weeds, moss and fungi.

He is a man of the animal world; is the enemy of and knows in detail the damage than can be done by hares, rabbits, moles, earthworms, leather-jackets, rats, field-mice, birds (and members).

He is a man of the trees; knows all the species, what and when to plant, where to look in the woods for the vermin that sally forth to do damage to his course.

He is a man of science; knows all about fertilizers and their action; also about poisons which he uses for his assaults on the vermin of the course.

He is a man of irrigation and water; knows all about hoses and sprinklers, when and how to use them in times of drought.

He is a man of diplomacy; knows how to deal with directors, captains, committees, and members (all of whom think they know more about his job than he does).

He is a man of mechanisation; knows all about mechanical operation in turf upkeep; the maintenance of his machines; the driving of tractors, mowers, gangmowers, roto-rakes, auto-scythes and cultivators.

He is a man of the weather; knows nature's signs for change and is far more accurate than the B.B.C.

He is a man of unending patience—and without him no golf would be worth playing.

A whisper in your ear-

If you want to help him, watch your little itching hand with the water sprinklers. Don't meddle.



WHERE GREENS ARE MOWN BEFORE 9-30 A.M.

For many years there has been a growing need for the early completion of greens mowing duties to enable golfers to enjoy uninterrupted hours of play throughout the day.

Mr. Bert Fordham, Head Greenkeeper at the beautiful Tandridge Golf Club course, Oxted, Surrey, has successfully overcome this problem with a fleet of six 20 in. "Specials" and in the picture he is depicted with one of them.

BAREFOOT BOY

When 13-year-old O. J. Price Jr. showed up at the first tee of the recent Tri-State Open in Pittsburgh barefooted and carrying his own clubs, other contestants stared in amazement. This didn't bother the young man, however, nor did he waver when Paul Erath, president of the Tri-State P.G.A. Section, told him, "you can't play without golf shoes".

"Show me something in the Rules that says I can't" young Price replied. Then he belted his first drive 250 yards up the middle.

O. J. didn't win the tournament, but he proved again that the best equipment next to a good pair of golf shoes is a strong pair of bare feet. Legal but tender.

"Golf Digest".

Not only are these 4/stroke models fitted with twelve bladed cutting cylinders, specially thin bottom blades and metal front rollers for precision close cutting but the use of the easily attached and detached power-operated disc-type, rubber tyred transport wheels provide a speedy means of travelling from green to green.

Price, complete with Transport wheels, £90 0s. 0d.

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SITUATIONS VACANT

WANTED—Greenkeeper and Stewardess, and/or Steward and Stewardess and/or Greenkeeper, for 9-hole Golf Club.

Apply stating experience and wages required to The Secretary, Ashton-in-Makerfield Golf Club, Bryn Road, Ashton-in-Makerfield, in writing.

"GREENKEEPER required for Golf Club (27 holes) situated 12 miles from London. Applicant must be fully experienced and able to control staff. Living accommodation is available. Please write, giving full details of previous experience and salary required to The Secretary, Hartsbourne Country Club, Bushey Heath, Herts."

HEAD GREENKEEPER, for small private Golf Club in Herts.—wage £13 with modern 2 bedroom flat. Full particulars of experience—Box No. 104.

SITUATION WANTED

HEAD GREENKEEPER from Essex seeks a change of job, preferably in Surrey or Kent. Has family and would require accommodation. Would appreciate any enquiries to:—P. Whitehead, 23 Dowsett Ave., Southend-on-Sea, Essex.



*	OCTORER	
*	OCTOBER	
翠	9th	Southern Section Quiz, Talbot Restaurant.
	17th	Northern Section Autumn Tournament, West Bowling Golf Club, Bradford.
	17th	S.G.G.A. East Section, Annual General Meeting, Torphine Golf Club.
	23rd	East Midland Section, Annual General Meeting, Central Tavern, Huntingdon Street, Nottingham.
	NOVEMBER.	
	1st	Midland Section, Dinner and Concert, King's Head Hotel, Hagley Road.
答	12th	Northern Section Lecture.

RANSOMES' HURLINGHAM STAND

Ransomes, Sims & Jefferies Ltd., of Ipswich highlighted their extensive professional mower exhibit at this year's Hurlingham Exhibition with the "Motor Triple".

This "Motor Triple" mower is the ideal machine for cutting parks, sportsgrounds, better class road verges and surrounds, and will have a place in the stable on many golf courses.

Hand machines displayed were the 12 in. Ajax Roller Mower, the 12 in. Conquest, 14 in. Ripper and the 16 in. Certes. The 16 in. Battery-Electric Mercury together with its petrol-engined

counterpart were also on view with the 18 in. and 20 in. "Marquis" fitted with the new B.S.A. engines and the 14 in. Sprite 4-stroke.

The side wheel 20 in. "Antelope" also fitted with the new B.S.A. 4-stroke engine attracted attention, while the 18 in. "Auto-Certes", complete with power driven transport wheels continues to satisfy its many admirers.

The well-known "Typhoon Major", the 18 in. Rotary Mower, was on view and other professional mowers include the versatile "Multimower" with its 27 in. rotary head and 30 in. cylinder head, and the ever popular 30 in. "Vergecutter".

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CRITICAL SOIL TEMPERATURES FOR NITRATE CONVERSION

The critical temperature for converting ammonium nitrogen over to the nitrate form—which will move down through the soil in drainage water—is about 42°F., says O. E. Anderson of the Georgia Experiment Station.

If the soil temperature is below 42°F., little change of nitrogen will take place, says Anderson. But if the soil temperature is above 42°F., the soil microbes will convert the ammonium to the nitrate form in a relatively short time, he says.

In one experiment, with a 52°F. soil temperature, virtually all of the ammonium was converted to nitrate within 12 weeks, Anderson says. But at 42°F. only about one-third was converted in 12 weeks. This fertiliser had been applied at normal rates for fall and winter crops.

Conversion starts more slowly at the lower temperatures, Anderson says. But, over a 3-month period, a daily average of 1.2 pounds of ammonium nitrogen was changed to nitrate nitrogen at 42°F. Some conversion took place even at temperatures as low as 37°F., but it was negligible.

Anderson concludes that the conversion of ammonium to nitrate proceeds at an appreciable rate in most well-limed Piedmont soils, until the soil temperature drops below 42°F. It is unlikely that much fall-applied nitrogen will be carried over to the spring in the ammonium form, except that which is applied just before the time when soil temperatures normally drop to 42°F. and below.

(With acknowledgments to "The Golf Course Reporter".



THE SCOTTISH GOLF GREENKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

Chairman:
D. L. MACDIARMID,
Royal Burgess Golfing Society,
Barnton, Edinburgh 4.

General Secretary:
R. B. MOFFATT,
71 Kelton Street, Giasgow, E.2

EAST SECTION

IT IS WITH SINCERE REGRET THAT we announce the deaths of three of our members, J. Melrose, Muirfield; J. Jamieson, Lothian Burn and P. Flynn, North Berwick.

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1963

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THE HON. SECRETARY WRITES . . . Vice-Chairman, 1963/4

I am very pleased to announce that the South West Section have nominated Mr. Harry Sheppard of the Weston-Super-Mare Golf Club to act as Vice-Chairman for the current year. I am sure all members would like to join me in thanking Mr. Sheppard for accepting this office and wish him every success.

Annual Tournament, 1964

Mr. A. A. Cockfield has been successful in obtaining the courtesy of the Weston-Super-Mare Golf Club for our Tournament in 1964, to be held on the 10th, 11th and 12th of August. I have expressed our appreciation to the Secretary and Committee for their kindness, and I am sure we can look forward to a most enjoyable meeting.

Our Chairman, Mr. G. T. Geddes had the misfortune to lose one of his clubs during the meeting at Birkdale. It was a Pinsplitter No. 5 Iron and I am asked to enquire if any member inadvertantly picked it up in error, as there is no evidence of it having been left in the Club.

Annual Draw

I would like to congratulate all members on the successful result of the Annual Draw. In particular, I must mention the Welsh Section who sold 570 books, a truly great effort, Mr. T. G. Lloyd topping the list with 139. Details of the results are given below.

1963 DRAW ACCOUNTS

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14,167	Tickets	@	6d.	 	354	3	6

Printing Tickets ...
Printing Results ... 3 Postage and Stationery ... 10 10 Balance in hand ... 222 15

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£354 3 6

17 15

9

9

£

NEWS AND NOTES

Drought in North Wales

Ernie Folkes has now shaped up three of his four new greens at Flackwell Heath in record time and managed a week's holiday in North Wales into the bargain. We were worried how Ernie would manage on the arid Sundays in that part of the world but the well-known Folkes charm apparently opened the back doors of suitable establishments with no trouble at all.

Stanmore to County Down

Charlie Moore from Stanmore was off to Ireland for the British Ladies' Championship at the end of last month. His daughter was meeting the Vicomtesse de Saint-Sauveux in the first round. The prospect in no sense alarmed her and by the time this appears in print we shall know if she got over this first stiff hurdle and, let us hope, others as well.

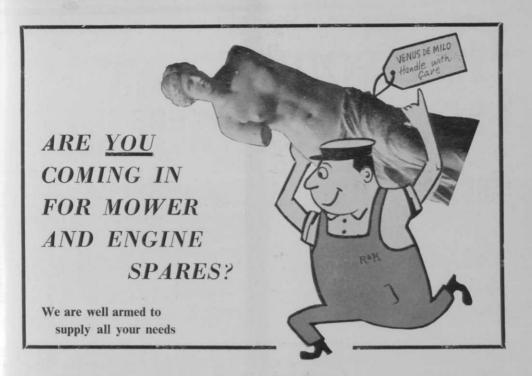
As the Hurlingham Exhibition took place after we had gone to press, a full report will be appearing in the November issue.

New Club House

We were shown over the new club house at Whitefield, Manchester, last week. This is the work of the Design Partnership, a group of architects in the North. They had not planned a golf club house before but we hope they will do more. The building gives a sense of space although it is not large by pre-war standards. Circulation, cleanliness, cost and convenience have all been admirably studied and we recommend it to all those many clubs who are now considering setting fire to their wooden pavilions.

Old and New

Messrs. Pattison's have sent us a copy of their latest catalogue. Several new features, especially motorised aerated machines are included. This firm has carved a very special niche for itself in the maintenance of golf courses by painstaking service and sensible design. We hear that they are now experi-menting with ball retrievers for driving ranges.



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