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HON. EDITOR: F. W. HAWTREE



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No. 263 New Series

FEBRUARY 1967

PRACTICE MAKES PFFFT!

*On practice shots I'm confident,
My left arm's straight, my knees are bent,
I swivel, shift, and follow through,
And do the things I ought to do.
With graceful ease beyond compare
I hit the ball that isn't there.*

*But when the ball is on the tee
The strangest change comes over me.
My elbow flies, my grip is loose,
My stance becomes hypotenuse.
My left arm warps, my knees turn stiff,
And with a might swing — I whiff!*

—Ethel M. Havens

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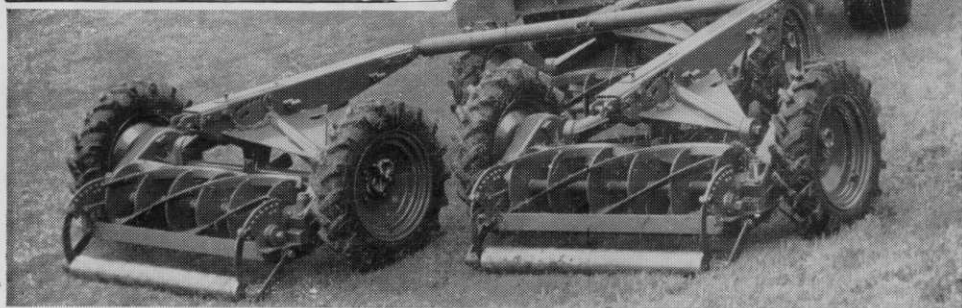
There are three models available. The popular general-purpose model No. 1; the heavy-duty No. 2; and now:

The NEW MODEL No. 3 with these star features:

- ★ Special two-section gearbox makes cutter changing a moment's job — no stripping!
- ★ 10" Heavy-duty cutter unit of advanced design for outstanding cutting and clearing efficiency.
- ★ Even less time needed for maintenance — For example: oil bath changes, ONCE A YEAR only! — making more time for mowing!
- ★ Full width rear roller for fine turf mowing — Easily attached and detached to suit varying conditions.

Atco Gang Mowers are only some of the many machines in the Atco complete range, from the 12" to the 34" roller type, as well as rotary grass cutters and side-wheel mowers.

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FOR 'SUPERFINE' MOWING OF GREENS

This 'self-contained' motor mower has become recognised as the best machine of all for the maintenance of the perfect finish required for the Greens. The specification is complete and will maintain peak performance — for life.

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IMPECCABLE SERVICE

EVERYWHERE there is an ATCO Engineer attached to an ATCO owned Branch ready to advise on any problem in connection with grass cutting.

DEMONSTRATIONS OF ANY ATCO CAN BE ARRANGED TO SUIT YOU OR YOUR GREENS COMMITTEE

TEE SHOTS



by the Editor

Ding Dong

The Wrekin Golf Club is going to lose about 3½ acres to the Wellington by-pass. Efforts to obtain a similar area from neighbouring woodland donated as open space were approved by the Council's committee, referred back to it by the Council, and have now been re-approved by the Committee.

Anti-Golf Course

Sidmouth Ratepayers' Association is appealing for volunteers to stand as anti-golf course candidates for the local council. A rather grandiose scheme for a championship course on Muttersmoor has been brewing for some years and the town is sharply divided on the issue.

Words

Henry Longhurst has been wondering in the *Sunday Times* why earlier golfers referred to "holding" putts instead of "holing" them. We have two pet hobby horses in present-day usage. "Greens" Committee instead of "Green" Committee. Remember the visitor who was introduced to the Chairman of the Greens Committee and complained about the lunchtime cabbage? The other is "seeding" instead of "sowing". Seeding is something only the plant can do. Otherwise we may as well re-write the parable: "A seeder went forth to seed . . .".

Too Easy

The 500-odd 3rd at Hollinworth in a drive and a No. 8. David Snell certainly had a near gale behind him. But he also holed the No. 8 for an albatross.



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CHANGES IN GREENKEEPING

By J. K. CAMPBELL

Links Supervisor, St Andrews, Scotland

READING the 75th anniversary issue of *Golf Illustrated* brought back to mind many changes in the game of golf from the days of the old "guttie" to the modern ball, and from hickory to the power steel shafts of this modern era.

On reflection as a greenkeeper and in discussion with many of my profession, one is also reminded of the changes and evolution in the methods and equipment for golf course upkeep, in an effort to maintain the turf to withstand the wear and tear of the welcome and ever-increasing numbers of enthusiastic golfers who, after all, make up the vast majority.

It was my privilege to know and have many discussions with the late J. H. Taylor while he was living in retirement in North Devon, and when he recalled the experiences of his first job as a greenkeeper at Westward Ho! In those early days the greenkeeper's only equipment was a shovel and birch broom and the methods of golf course maintenance much more primitive than they are today. The greenkeeper had to be an expert with the scythe which was one of the main implements for manicuring greens and tees, cutting long grass, and trimming bunker faces.

The early types of grass mower did not give the smooth fine cut that the precision multi-bladed motor mowers make today to produce the immaculate putting surfaces that are now an essential.

The high standard of upkeep in modern golf course maintenance has placed a distinct responsibility on the greenkeeper who is expected to be a man of many parts, with more than a modest knowledge of petrol and diesel engines, soil chemistry, grass and weed identification and eradication, and so on, plus

the natural affinity to deal with his own staff, his committee and players.

The push type grass mowers once used for cutting greens and tees are gradually being replaced by powerful multi-bladed motor mowers which have made the task much easier and better results are obtained in less time.

The old horse-drawn grass mowers once used for cutting fairways has now been superseded by tractor-drawn quintuple and septuple gang-mower units, and those can contend with considerable areas in the course of a day.

There are rotary mowers for dealing with all kinds of long grass, and although the old art of scything is gradually dying out, it is still a joy to see the results achieved by the few who can still handle this useful implement.

Also there is now a wide range of mechanically propelled machines for almost every conceivable operation of golf course maintenance from turf-cutting to hollow-tining, which do the job more efficiently than was ever possible by old-time methods.

Advanced techniques and their application depend so much upon the skill and experience of the man on the job, namely the greenkeeper, in order to keep abreast of the many problems with which he may be confronted in the course of his work.

The Greenkeepers Association would like to pay tribute to those connected with the Sports Turf Research Institute whose efforts should surely have every support. With the theoretical and thorough practical experience from which should follow the wholehearted approval of every Greens Committee if the ever-increasing number of golfers are to be presented with the best possible playing conditions.

SPORT

Altogether, there are 20 courses and 5,762 club members in the Netherlands. Dutch golfers would dearly love to have more courses but this is made difficult by the acute shortage of land in the overcrowded Netherlands. Apart from the shortage of courses Dutch golfers also have to face high membership fees and considerable social sifting, for the game has its class barriers. That may just add to its desirability, of course. Then again, golf was introduced to the Low Countries from a lofty height. It was first played in 1893, by foreign residents in the Hague — probably British diplomats. Golf isn't without status in Britain. Neither are diplomats.

(From the "Holland Herald")

Now there is the almost equally remarkable phenomenon of a 28-year-old Irish woman, Mrs Gwen Brandom, once a motor-racing driver and badminton international who took up golf purely by chance. She was caddying for an older woman, picked up a club at the end of the day and hit the ball such a prodigious distance she decided she'd take up the game seriously, and within three years had come down to scratch.

Mrs Brandom stands 5 ft 4 in, weighs 12 stone, drinks Guinness, smokes cigars and can crush a beer can in one small hand.

(Brian Glanville writing on Girls in Sport in "Town")

THE MEAT IN THE SANDWICH

Golf

Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews—Sec: Brig E Brickman, DSO; Deputy Sec: Mr W N B Loudon, The Royal and Ancient Golf Club, St Andrews, Fife (St Andrews 12).

British Golf Greenkeepers' Association—Sec: Mr C H Dix, Addington Court Golf Club, Featherbed Lane, Addington, Croydon, Surrey (Sanderstead 0281).

English Golf Union—Sec: Lt-Col K A Nash, 35 Broad Street, Wokingham, Berks (Wokingham 1952).

(From A Directory of Sports and Pastimes published in "The Field", Vol 228, No 5946).



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Ideal for Spring renovation of Winter-Playing Pitches, Golf Fairways and other large areas of grass.

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10 cwt. at 43/6 per cwt.; Per ton £41 10s.

Our world-famous Grass Seed Mixtures are carefully blended to produce the finest quality lawns for all purposes.

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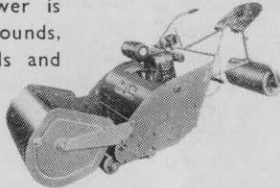


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TALK ABOUT: the 30" SUPER MASTER MOWER. Fitted with reverse gear and other leading features this mower is very suitable for cricket grounds, golf courses, playing fields and other large areas.



TALK ABOUT: the Greens "Master" 30" verge cutter. Operators like this shock and vibration free machine. Your Greens dealer has full information.



TALK ABOUT: Greens Mk. 3 gang mowers available from single to nine gang units. For use with tractor hydraulic lift systems, or as trailed type mowers these machines have a number of outstanding features which your Greens Dealer will be glad to discuss with you.

Finally don't forget to talk about After Sales Service — the best possible.



If you are altering a green next Autumn it is not too early to start planning for it now.

CONSTRUCTING A NEW GOLF GREEN ON AN EXISTING COURSE

by

D F BOOCOCK

BEFORE going to the considerable trouble and expense of constructing a new golf green, committee members should examine the pros and cons very carefully, preferably in consultation with a golf architect, and be absolutely sure that any change in a particular hole will bring lasting benefits over the years. Quite often one sees abandoned green sites on a course — members having realised after a year or two's trial that the old way was better after all!

Once the project has been agreed, the operation should be carefully planned, particularly if the course staff are going to undertake it as an extra to routine maintenance. Constructional work, especially involving major grading to form satisfactory levels, is best completed during the drier months of the year. The aim should be to have the green site prepared up to the final cultivation stage by mid-August despite the considerable demands on labour for regular grass cutting on the rest of the course.

In order to gain time, turfing the new green is generally preferred to sowing and turf may be taken from the green which is being replaced. On the other hand, this procedure involves a time lag when neither old nor new green is available for use. The difficulty can be surmounted by preparing over a period beforehand (scarifying, feeding, mowing) a suitable area of turf elsewhere on the course. If sufficient turf is not available for the whole site then banks and parts of surrounds could be sown (together with any areas damaged by the passage of heavy equipment) and turf used only for the immediate approach and the green itself. The turfing should be completed

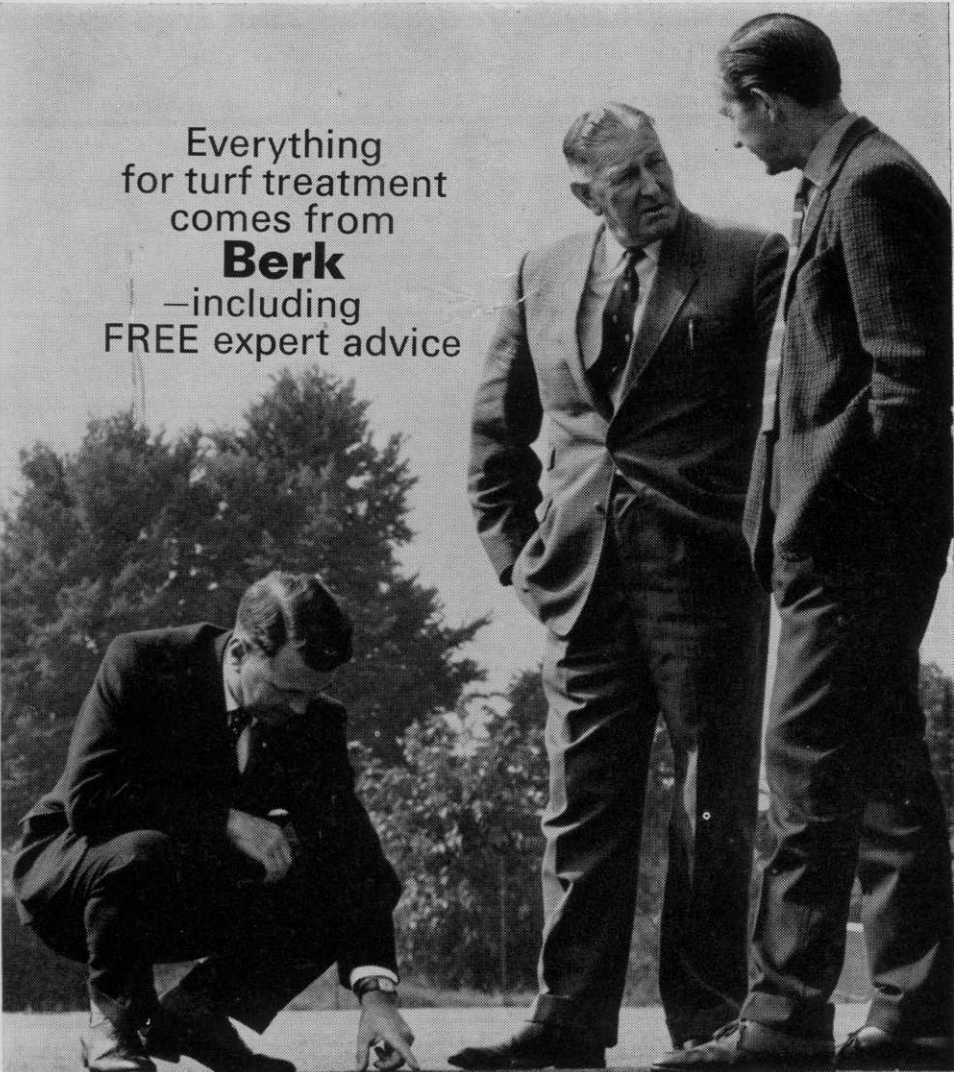
during the period October/December.

Having chosen the site, consideration must be given as to how best to form the green. If the ground slopes up towards the green or if there is a cross fall the cut and fill method is usually adopted. If the ground slopes down to the site then filling material will have to be imported (or excavated elsewhere on site) to raise levels at the back of the green, setting it up to catch the ball. On fairly level ground it may be possible to just bring in sufficient top soil to form banks and allow these to be merged in naturally with surrounding levels. In all cases acute slopes and angles should be avoided; contours must be as gentle and natural as possible both for aesthetic and maintenance reasons.

Where considerable grading is necessary the first step is to strip the turf and top soil from the area of the green and its surroundings. Grading is then carried out in the sub-soil, the filling being deposited in uniform layers about 6 in thick and made firm to minimise settlement, but not so compact that drainage suffers. If the green-keeping staff are tackling the job it will probably be necessary to hire suitable equipment together with operator. The surface of the foundation level should be moulded exactly to the contours required on the finished green, ensuring that there will be plenty of flat places for the pin, and that the final surface will naturally shed rainwater. This last point is particularly important where greens are sited on the foot of a sloping fairway — there will be considerable surface water runoff from surrounding higher ground and too often the green acts as a natural

(continued on p. 12)

Everything
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Bert Lock
one of Britain's leading
turf experts heads the
Berk advisory team

Turf—healthy turf—has been Bert Lock's life. He was head groundsman at The Oval for more than twenty years. Now he leads a unique Berk FREE advisory service that solves many problems that the groundsman or greenkeeper can come up against. Either personally or through his team of highly qualified turf specialists he can help you to use the comprehensive range of Berk turf treatments to full advantage. Take a look over page at the entire range, then get in touch with Berk.

Berk comprehensive turf treatments

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BERK HAVE THE ANSWER**

	Application Rate	Timing	Mixing
Wormkilling			
25% Chlordane Worm Killer (liquid)	1 gallon per 1000 sq. yds.	Apply in warm showery weather, Spring and Summer when worms are most active	1 gallon in 20 gallons of water
20% Chlordane Worm Killer (granular)	80 lbs. per acre	Apply in warm showery weather, Spring and Summer when worms are most active	-
Feeding			
Berk Spring/Summer Fine Turf Feed	5 cwts per acre, 2 ozs. per sq. yd.	March-August	-
Berk Spring/Summer Granular Fertilizer for Outfields	3 cwts per acre	March-August	-
Weedkilling			
Berk Weed Killer (Standard) 2.4D	2-3 fluid ozs. per 100 sq. yds.	Warm dry weather during Spring or Summer	Half gallon of water per 100 sq. yds.
Berk Weed Killer (Super) 2.4D + CMPP	4-6 fluid ozs. per 100 sq. yds.	Warm dry weather during Spring or Summer	Half gallon of water per 100 sq. yds.
Berk Clover Killer CMPP	6-8 pints per acre	April-September	20-50 gallons of water per acre
Moss Control			
Berk Mercurized Turf Sand	4 ozs. per sq. yd. 10 cwts per acre	Late February to June	Water in during dry spells
Berk Moss Killer	4 ozs. per sq. yd. 10 cwts per acre	Any time during the year, but especially prior to normal Autumn treatments	-
Berk Moss Eradicant	4 ozs. per sq. yd. 10 cwts per acre	Any time during the year	-
Berk Lawn Sand	4 ozs. per sq. yd. 10 cwts per acre	Early Spring to Late Summer	Water in during dry spells
Fungicides			
Berk Turf Fungicide	1 oz. to 40 sq. yds.	As and when necessary	Liquid-1 oz. in 2-8 gallons of water Powder-1 oz in 14 lb. of fine dry sand
Top dressing			
Berk Fine Turf Top Dressing (Contains Bedford Sand, Neals Kettering Loam & Fine Sedge Peat-parts by weight 3-2-1)	Spring-3 lbs. per sq. yd. 6 tons per acre Autumn-Winter-5 lbs. per sq. yd. 10 tons per acre	Late February to Mid-March Late September to late November	Ready mixed
Watering			
Berk Supplex Hose	Overall lengths from 15 ft. to 126 ft. The longer lengths being 'tailored' for cricket squares, tennis courts and bowling greens	-	-
Tricoflex Reinforced Plastic Hose	Available in three internal diameters 15 mm (approx ½") 20 mm (approx ¾") 25 mm (approx 1") in lengths of 25 and 50 meters (27½ and 55 yards).	-	-