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Moss Control of moss is a Berk speciality. In recent years over 5000 acres of fine turf have been treated successfully with M.T.S. which was first developed by Berk and is still sold in the original formulation.

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Please send me complete details on Berk products that solve Spring and Summer turf problems

NAME _____

POSITION _____

ADDRESS _____

- Moss
 Worms
 Weeds
 Clover

BG2

THE CLUB GREENKEEPER

by CECIL MORTON

NOW, AND THE FUTURE

THINGS have moved a long way from the days when the only greenkeepers were the rabbits.

Greenkeeping is now a highly specialised science and cannot any longer be left to the vagaries of nature and pests. The head greenkeeper is a tough, sturdy, weatherbeaten man of the open. He has to know all about soils and turf, its texture, its wants, drainage, top-dressings, mowing, fertilisers, weeds, moss and fungi; he must know how best to deal with the pests of the animal world; he must have a good knowledge of trees, the species, what and when to plant; he must know about fertilisers and their action, and the use of poisons on the course; he must know about irrigation and modern watering appliances, when and how to use them. He must be a man of diplomacy in dealing with directors, captains, committees and members, many of whom sometimes think they know more about his job than he does. He must be a man of mechanization, knowing all about mechanical operation in turf upkeep, and the maintenance of his machines, which today are numerous. He is always a man of the weather, knowing nature's signs for change; he is usually more accurate than the B.B.C.

Dedicated

Finally, he is a man of unending patience. With the high standards of turf maintenance now required and with the greater wear courses are subjected to with the present golf boom, such dedicated head greenkeepers as clubs now have, now gradually reaching retiring age, which for them is often 70, are just irreplaceable.

Pay and conditions for greenkeepers have at long last improved vastly and is now on a par with many other employments. The recommended weekly

pay of head greenkeepers averages from £22 to £26 plus accommodation; that for first assistants from £17 to £19 and assistants from £13 to £16. Many of the most competent first assistants are now in demand as head greenkeepers. Also, many clubs now have a pension scheme which will ensure that a retired employee will enjoy an income, including his state pension, of not less than half his income on retirement.

In most clubs, head greenkeepers are given free accommodation, free light and heat facilities. In a few clubs there is accommodation for all greenkeepers employed, but only the few as yet. It is of course an advantage for greenkeepers to be accommodated near the course since they have to start work early, and frequently take their turn on Saturdays and Sundays brushing up the course.

It is now common practice for greenkeepers to play golf. There are annual matches between the British Golf Greenkeepers' Association and the Association of Golf Club Secretaries, and many others. Many of the greenkeepers are scratch golfers. They run their own annual championship trophy. As far as their job is concerned, the playing of golf not only keeps them fit and happy, but also enables them to appreciate the club members' viewpoint on the course. In short, it helps to sustain their interest in their own courses and improves their greenkeeping. Clubs therefore should widely encourage the playing of the game by all their greenkeeping staff.

Since the course is a golf club's biggest asset and the pride of all the members, it follows that a club committee must be appointed for overall control. This is the green committee. This committee should limit itself to control of money spent on the green staff and on

(contd. on p. 14)

Are you green about grass?

Probably not. The fact that you're reading this magazine suggests that you probably know a great deal about turf.

But establishing and maintaining a good turf is no easy matter, even for an experienced man.

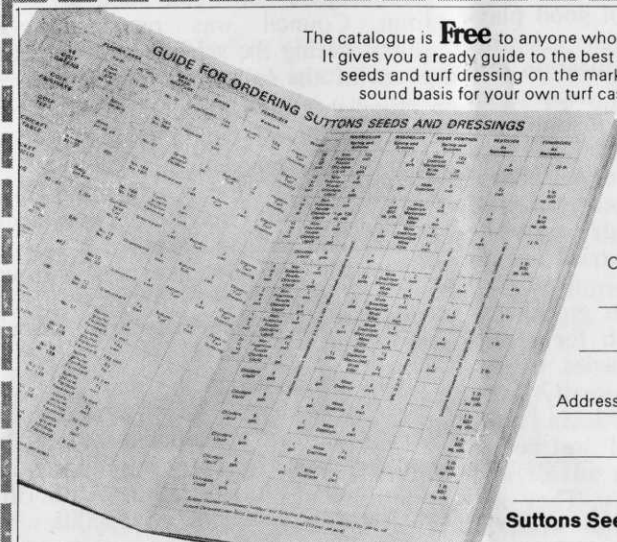
So to make it a little simpler Suttons have included a guide chart for all their products in their 1969 catalogue of 'Grass Seeds and Sports Turf Needs'.

This chart helps you choose the right seed and suggests quantities for anything

from a golf green to a race course. It tells you which of our fertilizers to use and at what time of year. (Greensward, Fairward, Autumn Turf Fertilizer, Organic Turf Dressing). And it tells you when to use Suttons wormkillers, when to apply our selective weedkillers, moss destroyers, pesticides and fungicides.

Suttons Seeds

The catalogue is **Free** to anyone who sends this coupon. It gives you a ready guide to the best range of grass seeds and turf dressing on the market. And at least it's a sound basis for your own turf case ideas.



Name _____

Club, Organization, etc. _____

Address _____

Suttons Seeds (442) Reading, Berks.

(contd. from p. 12)

the course and machinery; to very general supervision of the course maintenance without attempting to do the head greenkeeper's job for him, or the secretary's for that matter; and for minor alterations to the course (all major ones should be decided after seeking the advice of a golf course architect).

All instructions should be transmitted through the club secretary who in turn conveys them to the head greenkeeper. The secretary is responsible for seeing that the policy of the green committee is carried out. On no account should members of the green committee give instructions direct to any of the green staff. The chain of command and control should be rigidly observed.

Instruction and Advice

The Sports Turf Research Institute at Bingley, Yorkshire, was first established in 1929 as the Board of Greenkeeping Research. It is officially recognised as an independent scientific research organisation and is the only one of its kind in Europe. It is non-commercial and non-profit making. Its board of management is represented by nominees of the four individual national golf unions and the Council of National Golf Unions.

Its objects are the raising of the standard of turf used for all sports, and to further the production of good playing areas on turf through scientific research, practical trials, education and advice. Any golf club may become an associate member of the institute on paying an annual subscription. This entitles a club to free advice on course maintenance, including the testing of samples when necessary. Advisory visits to members' courses are carried out on payment of a fee.

Courses of instruction in greenkeeping are annually held, both for greenkeepers and for club secretaries. Greenkeepers stand to benefit greatly from their clubs belonging to this institute, both from any courses of instruction they may attend and from advice and visits to their own courses. They are invaluable to club secretaries when in trouble over their courses.

A number of clubs employ the services of some trade firm. These too are very good and exceedingly helpful. I have had personal experience of both the Institute of Research and of trade firms and can strongly recommend both. In my view, such an organisation forms a valuable base behind the two men on the spot, i.e. the head greenkeeper and his secretary, to which to appeal for help when in doubt.

Apprenticeship

As early as 1959 it was foreseen that, unless something was done to induce young men to take up greenkeeping as a trade, there would be no trained men to take over from the numerous head greenkeepers soon to reach the age of retirement. Scotland felt the pinch before England and moves towards an apprenticeship scheme began that year. It was not until 1963 that the newly formed Joint Council for Golf Greenkeeper Apprenticeship had its first meeting and approved a draft scheme. This Joint Council includes representatives from the golf unions of England, Scotland and Wales and from the Scottish and British Golf Greenkeepers' Association.

Briefly the scheme was as follows: It was a scheme to provide for the systematic recruitment and training of greenkeepers on golf courses. The Joint Council was responsible for administering the scheme and was composed of the following representatives:

- English Golf Union (1)
- Scottish Golf Union (1)
- Welsh Golfing Union (1)
- Sports Turf Research Institute (2)
- British Golf Greenkeepers' Association, England (2)
- Scottish Golf Greenkeepers' Association (2)
- British Golf Greenkeepers' Association, Wales (1)

This Joint Council, *inter alia*, co-operated with the Youth Employment Service in the recruitment of suitable young persons for entry into apprenticeship, and with Education Authorities in the establishment of facilities for

(contd. on p. 21)



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HON. SECRETARY'S NOTES

Executive Committee Meeting

A meeting of the Executive Committee has been arranged for Saturday, 8th March 1969, at the Imperial Hotel, Birmingham, commencing at 12 noon.

Annual Tournament

I have been advised by the Welsh Section that the following hotels are recommended for those wishing to attend the Annual Tournament at the Pyle and Kenfig Golf Club in August:—

Esplanade Hotel	Porthcawl, Glam.
Atlantic Hotel
Westward Hotel
Porthcawl Hotel
Fairways Hotel
Brentwood Hotel
Seabank Hotel

If you prefer other accommodation, please write to the Publicity Officer, the Publicity Department, Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl, Glam., enclosing a stamped, addressed envelope, and he will send you a list of addresses.

Ransomes Colour Slide Lecture

I would refer Section Secretaries to the Trade Notes on page 4 of the February issue. I have purchased a complete set on behalf of the Association which will be available for any Section to use in turn if I am advised as to the date required. First come first served.

CHANGE AT WENTWORTH

Wentworth Golf Club Limited have accepted the resignation of their secretary, Air-Commodore Fergus A. Pearce, C.B.E., as from the end of February this year and have appointed Mr William Chassels, Barrister-at-Law and company director, as director secretary with effect from the 1st March.

Fergus Pearce has maintained the Wentworth Club as one of the top inland golf clubs in the United Kingdom for nearly five years. The club has a mixed membership of around 1,700—the largest in the country. He now feels he has had a good innings and wishes to retire from such an onerous appointment. It may well be that when he has had a good rest he might be persuaded to accept the secretaryship of a much smaller club somewhere on the south coast of England as he is still under 60 years of age, and a very active personality.

Bill Chassels, aged 55, married, with three grown-up daughters, a past captain of the club, and the executive director for many years, will have full executive powers in his capacity as director secretary.

Wentworth Club, a wholly owned subsidiary of Sir Lindsay Parkinson Limited, will benefit from the experience of Bill Chassels, who has spent many years with the parent company as legal adviser and a director in the Parkinson Group of Companies. He will now be able to devote much more of his time to the responsibilities of running the club where he will normally be found. The club has two 18-hole championship golf courses, a nine-hole course, lawn and hard tennis courts and a large open-air swimming pool.

FOR HIRE

SISIS AUTOTURFMAN AERATOR, £25 per week—do it yourself. For contract prices telephone Burnell, Eaglescliffe 3647.

SITUATIONS VACANT

TAUNTON & PICKERIDGE GOLF CLUB require the services of a Head Greenkeeper. Good salary to experienced man. Assistance given with accommodation. Apply in writing to the Secretary, Taunton & Pickeridge Golf Club, Gorfe Taunton, Somerset.

ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER required. Wages up to £18 according to experience. Apply, giving full particulars, to the Secretary, Hampstead Golf Club, Winnington Road, London, N.2.

HEAD GREENKEEPER WANTED. Chance of a lifetime for experienced, fully qualified man. 27-hole exciting new course being constructed South Birmingham to highest specification. Accommodation, pension, first-class salary. Apply Secretary, Kings Norton Golf Club, Wychall Lane, Birmingham, 30.

FULLY EXPERIENCED WORKING Head Greenkeeper required. Modern three-bedroomed house available. Apply, stating age, experience and references, to the Secretary, Birstall Golf Club, Birstall, Leicester.

ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER required. Modern cottage. Apply in writing, giving full particulars of age, experience, family, references, to the Secretary, Ellesborough Golf Club, Butlers Cross, near Aylesbury, Bucks.

FOR SALE

Equipment for disposal:—

- 2 Gangmowers—Ransomes "Sports-cutters"
- 2 Ransomes "Auto-Certes" Mowing Machines Mk. 5A
- 1 Ransomes "Overgreen" Tractor
- 1 "Sisis" Fertiliser Distributor Box, 6 ft. spread
- 1 "Flymo" Mower

Available for inspection Sundridge Park Golf Club, Bromley, Kent.

Offers to the Secretary.

CAUGHT AGAIN!



It's agony, especially if it's *you* whose caught out! Greens, watered unevenly and inconsistently can play havoc with putting—and approach shots. So start complaining. Eliminate the guesswork by insisting that **Toro** 'pop-up' sprinklers be given number one priority at your club!

Look at the benefits. No daytime stoppages because **Toro** 'Pop-ups' water at night, automatically. Greens become trustworthy—all over—will hold a well-struck ball, will putt evenly. Greenkeepers have more time for other important jobs too!

BOIL Installation does not interfere with play and costs can be spread. Your club owes you better playing conditions, start the ball rolling now, ask the secretary to write for full details...



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The 19" Contractor.

Powerful two-stroke engine. Economical because of direct fuel induction to cylinder barrel.

New dual filtration system ensures cleaner fuel mixture and reduces frequency of filter cleaning.

The new reversible flat blade lasts longer, and the new style ABS rolled edge hood prevents "digging in" on uneven ground.

The heavy duty handle gives greater strength and has rubber covering for operating comfort.

Recommended Retail Price 58 gns.

Undercarriage is available for this mower at 9 gns. extra.



new airborne mowers from Flymo

— lower fuel consumption!

The 21" Contractor.

Exceptionally versatile. The extra-power 21" has been designed for day long working on jobs like verges and caravan sites.

The engine has been further developed to give even more power.

And the built-in undercarriage is standard, with three handle positions to assist manoeuvrability on uneven ground and give easy transport from site to site. A much deeper hood makes for good grass clearance.

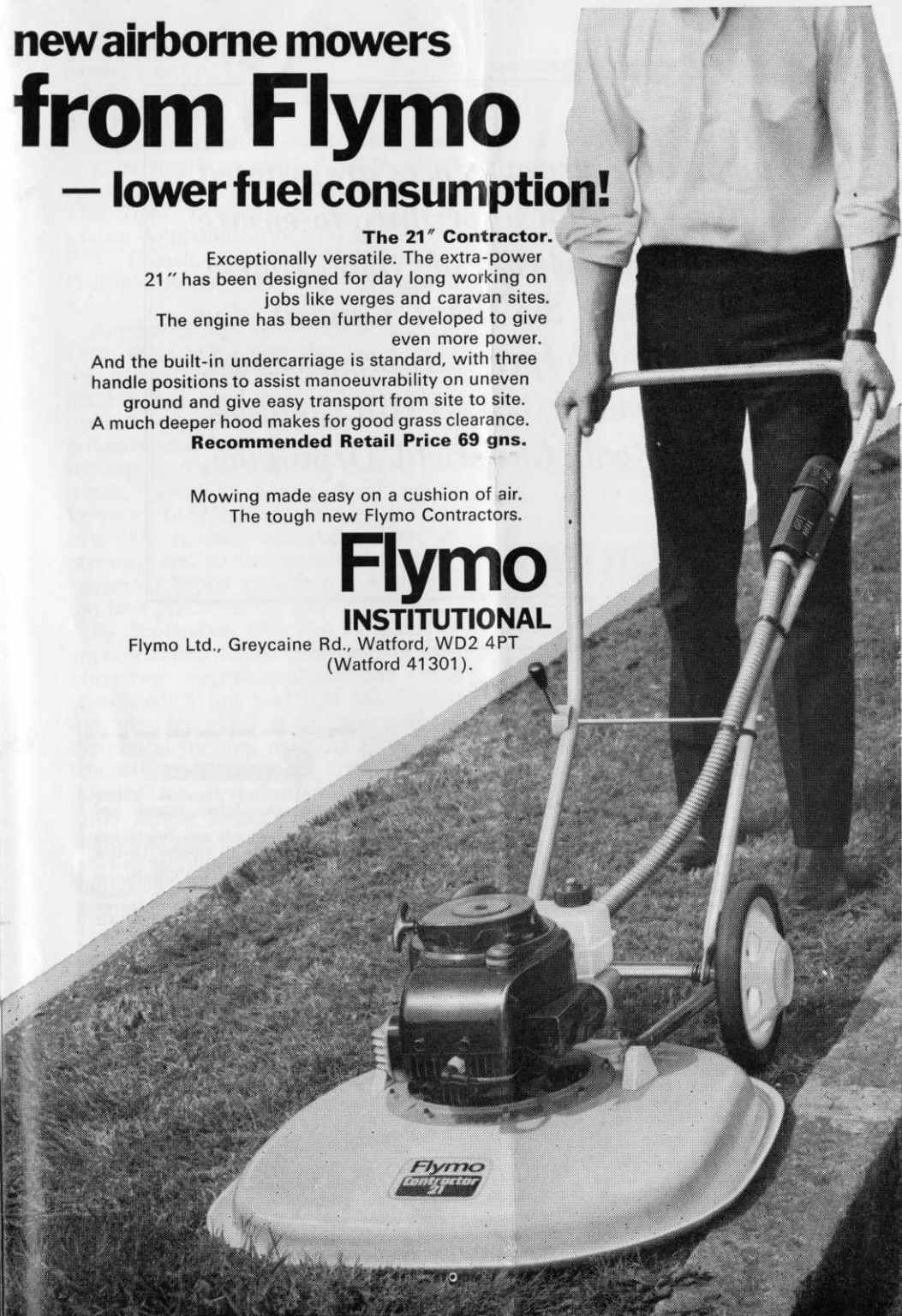
Recommended Retail Price 69 gns.

Mowing made easy on a cushion of air.
The tough new Flymo Contractors.

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Flymo Ltd., Greycaine Rd., Watford, WD2 4PT
(Watford 41301).



Tomorrow's greenkeepers are wanted today. Train an apprentice to ensure the future upkeep of your course. Details from the Joint Council for Golf Greenkeeper Apprenticeship. Hon. Secretary, 3 Skeet Hill Cottages, Dalton's Road, Chelsfield, Orpington, Kent.

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