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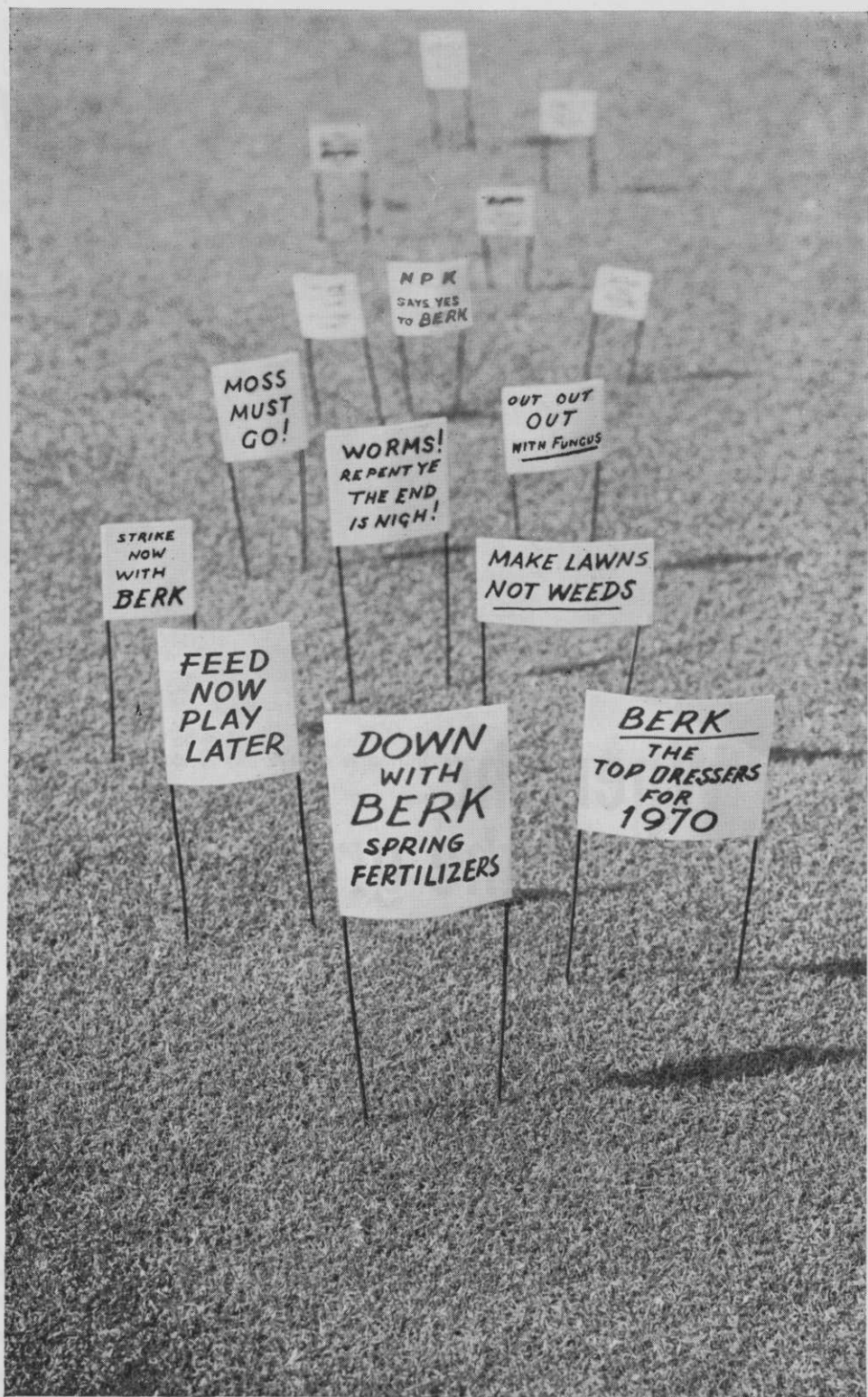
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M-W.185



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£3,000 CLAIM AGAINST GOLF CLUB

A GREENKEEPER raised an action before Lord Hunter in the Court of Session today claiming £3,000 damages from Caldwell Golf Club Ltd., Caldwell, Renfrewshire, following an accident involving a rotor grass mower.

Ian Wilson, of 1 Hillside Road, Neilston, states that on 26th September 1966, he was required to cut grass on the bank of a burn with the mower which "floated" over the ground on a cushion of air and had a rotating blade, 19 inches in length, on its underside.

The engine of the mower was above the cutting blade. It was started by a cord pull and stopped by operating a switch on the outside of the engine. The handlebar of the mower was 3 ft. long and when holding it, he said, the operator was unable to reach the switch controlling the engine.

There was no control which could be operated from the handle to stop the machine.

To cut the grass, Wilson said, he had to stand at the top of the bank and push the mower down and pull it up again.

As he was pushing the mower down, he slipped and lost his balance. His left foot slipped under the mower, which he was unable to switch off and which was still cutting.

As a result, two toes of his left foot were severed.

Another toe had to be amputated in the Royal Alexandra Infirmary, Paisley, next day. He was in hospital for six weeks and attended as an out-patient for about four months, and was off work for six months.

Wilson blamed the golf club for their alleged negligence and failure to take reasonable care to provide proper plant.

The golf club said Mr Wilson was an



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experienced operator of the mower and had been instructed in its use.

The bank where he was cutting the grass did not exceed 4 ft. in height and did not require a rope, as suggested by Wilson.

The accident they claimed, was caused by Wilson's negligence and failure to take reasonable care for his own safety. They fulfilled all of the duties incumbent on them.

In awarding £1,000 damages Lord Hunter said that Wilson slipped on the wet grass of a slope and his foot went under the edge of the mower.

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THE NEW GENERATION

by Cecil E. Jones

Looking back to the time when golf was a pastime to be enjoyed only by people who could afford to be members of Private Golf Clubs one can now see the trend to a more realistic view of the game. The new generation of Golfers with more leisure and a better standard of living can enjoy a game that has escalated to a peak of popularity through the medium of television. With a deeper understanding of the game the populace can enjoy watching or playing the game of golf with knowledge that was formerly absent. Most golf clubs have a full membership with the municipal courses trying to cope with the overflow. More golf courses must be constructed to come to terms with a situation that is fast becoming a need to satisfy the ever growing demand of this new addiction to golf. Now that the game of golf is big business a golf course can be constructed on a long term policy knowing that if set within the green belt a successful venture is assured. Football clubs have seen the advantage of golf in the training of football players as a relaxation from the normal training. Although golf may seem an expensive game with the initial expense of equipment and a private club subscription, a days' golf need cost no more than a day out at some sports meeting as a spectator. In the early days of golf

when one considers the class of people who played golf the cost of a days' golf was rediculously low. For the modest price of ten shillings a member of a private club could play two rounds of golf inclusive of caddie, 5s. including tip, lunch 2s. 6d., bottle of beer 6d., tea 1s. and golf ball 1s.

Golf is now in line with other sports as regards amateur players striving to reach a peak with professional status in mind. The new generation, if proficient enough to join the professional ranks, have every incentive to strive to reach the top ranks with so much sponsored golf at stake, a far cry from the precarious living of their predecessors who through lack of competition had to rely on the goodwill of the members of the golf club they served.

With golf now being not only a game for the player but for the specatator also, it will need to be accommodated on courses with the appropriate facilities. The situation is fast becoming complicated for golf clubs and sponsors alike through spectator participation. Perhaps sometime in the near future a national course with all mod-cons will solve the problem. May the new generation of golfers enjoy this Royal and Ancient game of golf now flourishing as never before.

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HON. SECRETARY'S NOTES

Executive Committee Meeting

A meeting of the Executive Committee has been arranged for Saturday, 21st March 1970, at the Imperial Centre Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, commencing at 12 noon.

Annual Tournament

A reminder to members wishing to make arrangements for the 1970 Annual Tournament that it will be a week later than in previous years, the 17th, 18th and 19th August at Filey Golf Club, Yorkshire.

SITUATIONS VACANT

EXPERIENCED GREENKEEPER REQUIRED. Free cottage accommodation available to suit single man or married man without children. Apply: Secretary, Moor Park Golf Club, Rickmansworth, Herts. Tel. Rickmansworth 73146.

GREENKEEPER / PROFESSIONAL REQUIRED for short 18 hole course. Must be experienced and used to working on own initiative. Salary, Professional's shop and teaching rights to suitable applicant. Write stating qualifications to The Secretary, Flamborough Head Golf Club, Flamborough, Yorkshire.

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News



from the Sections

NORTH-EAST

By G. Jeffries

Chairman:
J. SIMPSON

Hon. Secretary:
55 Brackenfield Road,
Framwell Gate Moor, Durham.

December Lecture

At our December lecture held in the Duke of Wellington Hotel, Newcastle, on the 15th, Mr B. D. Lloyd-James, Institutional Representative for Flymo Limited, gave a very interesting talk on lawn mowers, with the aid of slides.

The turn out was very poor due to the fact that quite a number were suffering from influenza, however, a good night was had by those present.

Our chairman thanked Mr Lloyd-James for his lecture, and we ended the evening with refreshments.

Spring Outing

A visit to the S.T.R.I. is proposed in the Spring, the exact date to be given later. A coach will be hired for this outing and will leave from Newcastle. Any member wishing to go, please let me know as soon as possible to enable me to make arrangements for meals etc.

MIDLAND

By R. Goodwin

Chairman:
G. HART
(Gay Hill)

Hon. Secretary:
4 Burton Old Road,
Streethay, Lichfield,
Staffs.

Charles Woodhouse Retires

The end of 1969 saw the retirement of Charles Woodhouse after completing 51 years as a Greenkeeper.

At the age of 14, Charles started work on the

Carlisle & Silloth Golf Course, Cumberland. From there he moved to Keswick Golf Club in the Lake District as Head Greenkeeper.

In 1929 he went to South Staffordshire Golf Club where he remained for the past 41 years.

In those years Charles has sought, and achieved perfection, the South Staffordshire course being renowned throughout the Midlands for its magnificent condition.

Congratulations to you Charles on this excellent achievement and wonderful contribution to Greenkeeping and the game of golf. My fellow greenkeepers will join me in wishing you a long and happy retirement.

Spring Tournament

The Spring Tournament will take place at the Oswestry Golf Club on Wednesday, 6th May 1970, by kind permission of the Captain and committee. It is intended to run a coach from the Hall of Memory, Birmingham, leaving at 8.15 a.m.

In order for me to make detailed arrangements for the tournament, it is important that all members wishing to play, should send in their entries by the end of MARCH, stating if they will be travelling on the coach, require lunch and tea, and names and requirements of their visitors.

Subscriptions

Should any member have forgotten his 1969 subscription, would he please send it to Mr F. Cashmore, 76 Four Oaks Common Road, Sutton Coldfield.

New Member

We welcome to the section D. A. Barker, of the Finham Park Coventry Golf Club.

SOUTHERN

By F. W. Ford

Chairman:
J. K. GLASS
(Thorpe Hall)

Hon. Secretary:
68 Salcombe Gardens
Mill Hill, N.W.7
Tel: 01-959 2847

January Lecture

Headed by our President, Mr J. Wallis-Arthur, 26 members attended the lecture at the Stirling Castle on Wednesday, 7th January.

"How to get the best out of your MF tractor" was the theme of the talk given by Mr Nigel Wright assisted by Mr David Smith.

Maintenance of the MF 135 occupied most of the talk and this was followed by a demonstration of the correct Hydraulic Control lever positions.

Tractors to be refuelled and DI's to be completed at the end of the day, Mr Wright advised.

Question time proved that either not many members possessed MF 135 tractors or that the majority were still suffering from the festival hangers!

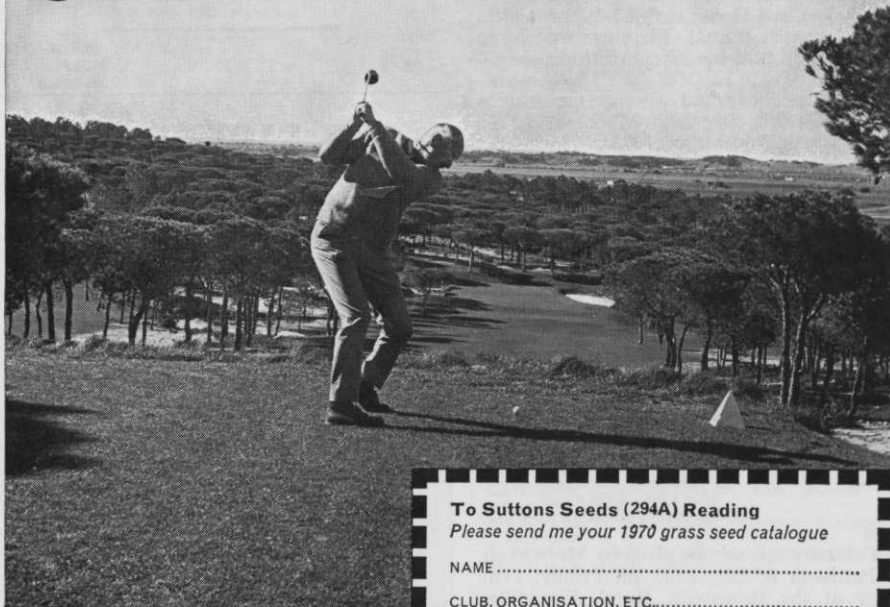
A disappointed Chairman, whose MF tractor was alleged to be older than the speaker, concluded the proceedings by saying how much the interesting and instructive talk had been enjoyed.

March Lecture

On 4th March, 6.30 p.m. at the Stirling

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You probably know that we at Suttons offer the finest grass seed mixtures, fertilizers and turf dressings. From Aberdeen to Eastbourne, from Madrid to Milan, you will find examples of outstanding turf produced from our special grass seed prescriptions. Take a look at the Vilamoura golf course and you will see what we mean. No matter if the game is golf, cricket, bowls, tennis, polo, football or hockey we have the right mixture of grasses. But sometimes it is necessary to devise prescriptions to meet special conditions. And sometimes problems arise in turf management which call for specialist advice. This is where our unique experience comes in. Experience gained by years of planting, growing, blending, experimenting. Our team of experts, headed by Owen Sutton, and the knowledge they have is available to you. Send today for our 1970 catalogue of Grass Seeds and Sports Turf Needs for the full story, as well as lots of useful information and ideas. The catalogue is free and gives you a ready guide to the best range of grass seeds and turf dressings on the market. It is also a sound basis for your own turf care ideas.



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NAME

CLUB, ORGANISATION, ETC.....

ADDRESS

Suttons Seeds

Castle, London Wall, Moorgate, we shall once again have the pleasure of another visit from the Sports Turf Research Institute at Bingley, of Mr Bartle.

This will be the third and final talk on green-keeping and I shall look forward to a full house as usual.

Annual Dinner

The Annual Dinner and 18 holes competition will take place at the Shirley Park Golf Club, Addiscombe Road, Croydon, Surrey, on Friday, 20th March 1970.

Tickets are £1 each and are available from me either by writing or collecting at the Stirling Castle on lecture evenings.

The nearest station is East Croydon with a short bus ride. Members wishing to play in the 4-ball, better ball 18 hole Stableford must arrange their own partners and record the best net score. 5/- sweepstake each competition.

Any person requiring lunch or sandwiches to notify the steward on arrival (Tel. 01-654-1143).

The Secretary of Shirley Park, Mr Frank Lister, has informed me that the club can accommodate 140 to dinner which means that we should have plenty of elbow room this year and no limitation on how many guests you can invite.

Spring Tournament

The Spring Tournament will be in Surrey this year at the Walton Heath Golf Club, Tadworth. There are no entry forms! Members wishing to enter for this 36 hole medal competition should write to me stating in **BLOCK LETTERS**, name, club, lowest handicap and whether requiring a late start. Closing date 30th March 1970, the draw to be made 31st March 1970.

Members are again reminded that no entries will be accepted from persons who are in arrears with their subscriptions. Rule 7 (c).

New Member

May I extend a warm welcome to the following new member H. Tripp of Burnham Beeches.

NORTH-WEST

Chairman:
T. BRENNAN

By **H. M. Walsh**
Hon. Secretary:
Horrobin Cottage,
Old Links Golf Club,
Montserrat, Bolton, Lancs.

Lectures

The February talk will be given by Mr Whyatt of H. Pattison & Co., Ltd., on Friday, 17th February at the Brunswick Hotel, Piccadilly, Manchester, time—7.30 p.m.

The March talk will be given by G. Vaughan, Esq., of Ransomes Sims & Jefferies Limited, on the 17th March at 7.30 p.m. and the venue will again be the Brunswick Hotel.

This will be the last of this winter's series of talks.

New Member

We welcome to the section the following new

member and hope his association will be a long and happy one.

D. Hampson, Shaw Hill Golf Club, Whittle le Woods, Nr. Chorley, Lancs.

WELSH

By **S. A. Tucker**

Chairman:
M. GEDDES
(Royal Porthcawl)

Hon. Secretary:
36 Clase Road,
Morrison,
Swansea, Glam.

Spring Meeting

I am pleased to be able to let you know that the Spring Meeting will be held on Wednesday 22nd April 1970 at the Wenvoe Castle Golf Club. I would like your entries as soon as you know if you will be coming.

Subscriptions

There are still a few subscriptions not paid. It would help Mr Geddes very much if you sent yours on to him right away. His address is:—

M. Geddes,
23 Fenton Place,
Porthcawl,
Glam.

PLEASE do not send them to me.

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