

Some years ago, I realised the value of colour slides, especially of close-ups of turf and, for my own interest, I developed the necessary expertise and a large collection, some of which have appeared in *Greenkeeper*. An invaluable aid!

It probably is not enough for the green committee and greenkeeper to try to do this on their own, simply because of the universal adage that 'no man is a prophet in his own country.' (Or, as it is usually expressed, 'well he would say that wouldn't he').

In fact, if I am right and there is a need for this service, it is too big for individuals to run. However, it could be just one of the items we could expect to be organised by the national and county unions.

Perhaps the first stage would be to put the unions themselves on the list for this particular type of education. It must be at least ten years since Peter Thomson remarked that the essence of good golf is ball control and that you can't learn that on soft,



Augusta - often desired by UK golfers.

holding greens. Yet, these national and county bodies persist in selecting as venues so many courses providing such greens.

The modern greenkeeper has developed a streak of independence and that must be for the good. It should not, however, lead him into the mistaken belief that he should do everything for himself. The Public Relations work that is so clearly needed (another name for the education of others!) could well be organised, when it can draw breath, by BIGGA, but it may not be possible for greenkeepers themselves to do the speaking-out. There are times when hard things need to be said!

Maybe under its new name, the *Golf Course*, this publication can reach a wider golfing readership to pass on the message.

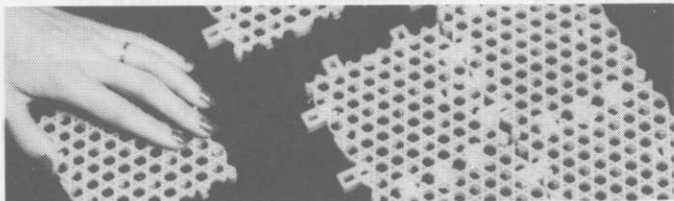
Most improvements in golf course maintenance have originated from the greenkeeper and now is the time to do something about these 'human' situations, which are at the root of many of today's problems.

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