

'66 car sales rise sharply

Shipments up 19%, dollar value up 25% during past year, AGCMA members told.

Shipments of golf cars have increased 19%, members of the Golf Car Manufacturers Association were told at their third annual meeting held at Shawnee-on-Delaware, Pennsylvania.

Statistics soon to be released will show that 30,400 golf cars were shipped by the industry in the 12 months ending June 30, 1966, compared with 25,700 cars estimated to have been shipped in the previous 12-month period.

Other highlights of reports to members include: member factory shipments in units increased 18%; dollar value of shipments increased 25%. Last year the unit increase was 13% and the dollar increase was 15%, so a rate of growth is being maintained by the industry. First quarter 1966 shipments were up 48%; second quarter shipments were down 8%. In the first six months of 1965, 22% of the Association members' unit shipments were gasoline-powered; only 16% for 1966.

The Association was told that there are now 24 manufacturers actively en-

gaged in production of golf cars, compared with 29 a year ago. It was estimated that there are now 120,000 golf cars in use in the United States and Canada today.

Retiring president David Metcalf introduced the newly elected directors and officers as follows: President, William A. Dolan Jr.; Vice President, Vaughn Border; Secretary-Treasurer, Edward Mardigian; Directors, William A. Dolan Jr., Eldon Thorman, and Aubrey Wright.

Harold K. Howe was reappointed executive secretary and assistant treasurer of the Association.

President Dolan told the members: "A fleet of golf cars is one of the most reliable sources of income a golf course can have, and more and more courses are becoming aware of this. Some courses are using golf cars for the first time, but our greatest sales increase is coming from courses which are adding to their fleets because player demands are increasing."

Member companies represented included Columbia Car Corp., Cushman Motors, E-Z-Go Car Div., Jato Mfg., Mobilelectric Div., Versal, Inc., East Penn Mfg., Electric Storage Battery Co., Fox Products Co., General Battery & Spark Plug Co., Gould-National Batteries, Inc., Lester Electrical of Nebraska, Inc., Motor Appliance Corp., Terrell Machine Co., and Trojan Battery Co. ●



New Officers of the association (from left): Vaughn E. Border, Cushman Motors, Div. OMC, Lincoln, Neb., vice president; William A. Dolan, Jr., E-Z-Go Car Div., Textron, Inc., Augusta, Ga., president; Harold K. Howe, who is AGMA executive secretary.