



SPALDING PARK

GOLF CLUB

HONORING THE PAST



FAIRWAY RETICULATION

Over many years fairway construction and improvement was in progress, but owing to the lack of a water supply to aid grassing of the course, play was restricted to the months May to October while there was some winter weed coverage.

Water was therefore the next necessity. Under the leadership of Tom Pedersen, and aided by Water Supply Engineer Gus Belford, plans were prepared for a limited reticulation scheme based on the Chapman River which bounds the northern edge of the course.

Funds for the work came from a further loan from the Town Council. The signatures of Merv Height, President, and Rudy Rybarczyk, Secretary, appear on the agreement for the Club to borrow \$5000 repayable over 5 years from 15th April 1967.

A pump, pipes, fittings, and long aluminium pipes mounted on wheels to form a mobile sprinkler system were purchased, and members set to work with picks and shovels to provide the pipe trenches. While the sandy areas proved easy going, herculean efforts were needed to dislodge the hard set clay down the bank of the river—picks bouncing with minimal results.

To ensure that water was

available when the river was at its lowest summer level, the electric pump was stationed well down the bank. The site was below top winter river levels and those caused by flash floods in summer, so a block and tackle was suspended over the pump to allow it to be lifted clear when necessary.

"Bunny" Schram and Don Worthington tell of the time when, warned of an impending flash flooding, they hur-



ried down, released the pump from its base, and laboriously hauled it to its highest refuge level.

To their dismay and disappointment after such a strenuous efforts, the river rose above normal levels, and major repairs were needed.

Grassing of the fairways that could be reached by the travelling sprinkler proceeded apace but the limited system meant that many fairway

"bosses" had to resort to a variety of methods of planting and hand watering.

It has been a long haul to the complete and automatic system of today, the story of which must be left to another day.



CEC. REEN (deceased)

Joined the club in 1969, Appointed Secretary in Jan 1972 when membership numbered 248. Retired in Sept 1974, but was back in office in March 1975. In Jan 1976 a paid Secretary was appointed and Cec., was again retired. When the new system failed, Cec, was coaxed back to the job in March 1977.

This was to be his longest stint, and he finally retired when a managing Secretary was appointed in July 1980 when the membership stood at 700.

Cec, was elected a Life Member in 1983.