



USGA JOURNAL

AND
TURF MANAGEMENT

WITH AN EYE TO MUIRFIELD



Marguerite Reynolds

These five members of the USGA Curtis Cup Team, which will meet the British ladies at Muirfield, Scotland, in June, played in the Titleholders' tournament at Augusta, Ga., and posed for the nearest thing to a Team photograph yet taken. From the left they are: Miss Marjorie Lindsay, Miss Claire Doran, Miss Dorothy Kirby, Miss Patricia O'Sullivan and Miss Grace DeMoss.

APRIL 1952



USGA JOURNAL

AND
TURF MANAGEMENT

PUBLISHED BY THE UNITED STATES GOLF ASSOCIATION

PERMISSION TO REPRINT ARTICLES HEREIN IS FREELY GRANTED (UNLESS SPECIFICALLY NOTED OTHERWISE) PROVIDED CREDIT IS GIVEN TO THE USGA JOURNAL

Vol. V, No. 1

April, 1952

THROUGH THE GREEN	1
SPORTSMAN'S CORNER	3
THE CASE FOR FOXBURG'S OLD COURSE JOHN P. ENGLISH	5
THE LADIES LOOK TO MUIRFIELD	9
THE RULE ABOUT OBSTRUCTIONS JOSEPH C. DEY, JR.	12
"GOLF HOUSE" IS FOR YOU	14
KEEP THINKING S. MAX MCCREADY	15
SILVER ANNIVERSARY FOR THE BOYS	16
PREPARING MERION FOR A CHAMPIONSHIP JOSEPH VALENTINE	19
RECORDS IN THE GOLF SHOP GEORGE CALDERWOOD	20
THE REFEREE: DECISIONS BY THE RULES OF GOLF COMMITTEES	21
TURF MANAGEMENT: USGA GREEN SECTION	
PHYSICAL CONDITION OF PUTTING-GREEN SOILS AND OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS AFFECTING QUALITY OF GREENS RICHARD RICHARDSON DAVIS	25
PERMEABILITY OF VARIOUS GRADES OF SAND AND PEAT AND MIXTURES OF THESE WITH SOIL AND VERMICULITE WILLIAM L. GARMAN	27
EFFECT OF POROUS SOIL AMENDMENTS ON WATER RETENTION CHARACTERISTICS OF SOIL ROBERT M. HAGAN AND JOHN R. STOCKTON	29
EXCERPTS FROM TYPICAL ADVISORY SERVICE REPORTS	31
IT'S YOUR HONOR: LETTERS	33

Published seven times a year in February, April, June, July, August, September and November by the
UNITED STATES GOLF ASSOCIATION
40 East 38th St., New York 16, N. Y.

Subscriptions: \$2 a year. Single copies: 30c. Subscriptions, articles, photographs, and correspondence, except pertaining to Green Section matters, should be sent to the above address. Correspondence pertaining to Green Section matters should be addressed to USGA Green Section, Room 331, Administration Building, Plant Industry Station, Beltsville, Md. Entered as second-class matter March 3, 1950, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

Edited by Joseph C. Dey, Jr., and John P. English. *Advisory Committee*—John D. Ames, Chairman; Isaac B. Grainger, Curtis W. McGraw and Bernard H. Ridder, Jr. All articles voluntarily contributed.
Printed in U. S. A.

USGA COMPETITIONS FOR 1952

Curtis Cup Match — June 6 and 7 at Muirfield Golf Club, Muirfield, Scotland.
Women's Amateur Teams, British Isles vs. United States.

(Dates entries close mean last dates for applications to reach USGA office, except in the case of the Amateur Public Links Championship. For possible exceptions in dates of Sectional Qualifying Rounds, see entry forms.)

<i>Championship</i>	<i>Entries Close</i>	<i>Sectional Qualifying Rounds</i>	<i>Championship Dates</i>	<i>Venue</i>
Open	May 19	June 2	June 12-13-14	Northwood Club, Dallas, Texas
Amateur Public Links	*May 29	**June 15 to 21	Team: July 5 Indiv.: July 7-12	Miami Country Club, Miami, Fla.
Junior Amateur	June 30	July 15	July 23-26	Yale G. C., New Haven, Conn.
Amateur	July 21	Aug. 5	Aug. 18-23	Seattle G. C., Seattle, Wash.
Girls' Junior	Aug. 4	None	Aug. 18-22	Monterey Peninsula C. C., Pebble Beach, Cal.
Women's Amateur	Aug. 7	None	Aug. 25-30	Waverley C. C., Portland, Ore.

* Entries close with Sectional Qualifying Chairmen.

** Exact date in each section to be fixed by Sectional Chairmen.

THROUGH THE GREEN

Question

The following query has been received from a lady golfer, indicating that it is now open season on the Rules of Golf and each quivering paragraph is susceptible of being shot down without warning:

"If, because of a shortage of caddies, I am sharing a caddie, am I disqualified if our caddie tells me something about my opponent derogatory to her?

"Can't I shut my ears and not listen?"

Briton Wins with Our Ball

How does the larger United States-size golf ball compare in performance with the British-size ball? A comment on this was given by Leonard Crawley, former British Walker Cup player, in a recent article in the British publication "Golf Monthly". Writing about the competition for the President's Putter at Rye, England, which he won, Mr. Crawley had this to say:

"Having convinced myself that the larger ball, as used in America, is easier in winter conditions even at Rye, I used it in all seven rounds at upwards of 75 per cent of the holes I played, and not one of my opponents noticed it, or at any rate none of them commented upon it. I used our little ball against the wind at the long holes, but never at the long 14th where the lies on the fairway are always very difficult. Our greens at Rye at this time of year are terrifically fast, and if there is one factor more than any other that helped me to win round after round, it was that with the shorter irons and the big ball, I was much more accurate than any of my opponents."

Sir Guy Campbell, writing in "Golf Monthly" of March 1952, heartily applauded Crawley's use of the American ball and seized the opportunity to comment:

"In using the big ball Crawley was no

doubt influenced by what he had seen in America as well as by personal experiment.

"The fact that he did use it in competition against his peers playing the small heavy 1.62 in. and 1.62 oz., yet with no sense of handicap, but to the greatest demonstrable advantage, is as significant as it is heartening. For it is the first real blow at a missile, generally unsuitable, that has dominated British golf for over thirty years.

"A ball that without bringing any good to the game has added materially to its cost in the continued increase in distance and maintenance charges of links and courses.

"A ball that ought never to have been admitted, and should be ruled out as soon as possible.

"If Crawley's example is followed by other first-class players and thereafter by players of all handicaps, I have sanguine hopes that the big heavy ball will be generally preferred to the small heavy type.

"That will lead to the disappearance of the latter—as great a contribution to the good of the game as its introduction was a disservice.

"In fact, it may well point the way to the standardization of another missile that, in playing qualities and economy, satisfies the ideal still being sought; an ideal I hope to see realized before I die."

May and August

The Merion Golf Club has kept track of the number of rounds played on its two courses for several years and therefore has a statistical basis for the assertion that more rounds are played in May and fewer in August than in any other months during the Philadelphia season. This, of course, is in line with the theory that enthusiasm in the East is highest in the spring and that city dwellers most commonly select the hot weeks of August for vacations.

Last year 26,590 rounds were recorded on Merion's two courses (and undoubtedly a number of rounds on the detached West course were not recorded). This compares with 26,450 in 1950 and 24,516 in 1949. "As usual," Merion reports, "the least golf was played in February (281) and the most golf in May (3,889). Fewer rounds were recorded in August than in either April or October, bolstering the theory that August is *the* vacation month."

John English Back with USGA

John P. English has returned from a military leave of absence to his position as Assistant Executive Secretary of the United States Golf Association.

He had been recalled by the Navy in the late summer of 1950 and served in Washington until his release from active duty in February, 1952. During his last tour of duty Mr. English was promoted to the rank of commander in the Naval Reserve.

He is a native of Boston, was graduated from Williams College in 1932, and



Harris & Ewing

John P. English

served as Golf Editor of the Boston HERALD and as an Associate Editor of TRUE Magazine before joining the USGA staff in the spring of 1949.

Are You Guilty?

The Teaching Committee of the Professional Golfers' Association has appealed to America's golfers to help eliminate one of the game's major problems, slow play. The Committee urges all players to:

1. Be ready to play in turn, to make up their minds what club they will use while their companions are playing and then play their own shots without delay.
2. Give up unnecessary practice swings. The Committee points out they will do final scores more harm than good.
3. When playing with double caddies, take a club, or optional clubs, and replace their own divots if the caddie must follow the other player.
4. Allow faster players to play through, and ask slow-playing groups if you may play through.
5. Eliminate the habit of practicing putts after holing out, particularly if other players are waiting to play to the green.
6. Do scorekeeping at the next tee, not on the green while other players are waiting to play.
7. Give up the "Mulligan," wherein a player who drives poorly from the first tee is given a second try.

Help!

The collection of USGA Rules of Golf booklets in the Museum and Library at "Golf House" is not complete, and the donation of any issues now missing would be greatly appreciated. The booklets desired are those for any year prior to 1920, except 1905, and those for the years 1924 and 1925.

To Prestwick

The British Amateur continues to hold a strong appeal for United States golfers. Richard D. Chapman, of Pinehurst, N. C., plans to defend his title at Prestwick,

Scotland, and entries also have been filed by Charles Evans, Jr., of Chicago, James B. McHale, Jr., of Philadelphia, Robert W. Knowles, Jr., of Aiken, S. C., Edward E. Lowery, of San Francisco, J. E. Bernolfo, Jr., of Salt Lake City, Louis B. Stoner, of Hartford, Conn., Clark Espie, of Indianapolis, and William L. Harmonay, of Mamaroneck, N. Y. The Championship will start May 26. Mr. Lowery plans to play also in the French Amateur, and Mr. Bernolfo has entered that and several other continental championships.

A Friend Retires

After 15 years as a real working member of the Public Links Committee, Ed Miles, of Atlanta, Ga., has decided to retire, and as always when our loyal friends make such decisions we experience a sense of loss tempered only by our high regard for his successor.

Miles joined the Public Links Committee in 1937, before the present system of sectional qualifying rounds was instituted, and has seen the Championship grow to its record of 3,586 entrants in 1946. He shared in the gratification when Wilfred Crossley, representing Atlanta, won the Standish Cup and Atlanta the Harding Trophy in 1947 and when the competition was brought to Atlanta, for the first time, in 1948. It was a full and useful 15 years.

"Having headed sometime since into the wrong side of the 50-year mark," Miles explains cryptically, "I feel I should turn the task over to a younger and more ambitious worker. 'Pop' Herrington, you see, is just a little past 70!"

. . . in One Generation

Gayle Talbot, of The Associated Press, came up with some significant observations in discussing the victory of Jack Burke, Jr., in the Texas Open last winter, with a score of 67-65-64-64—260. The victory was the first of Burke's remarkable string on the winter tour and it

SPORTSMAN'S CORNER



Alex T. Kyle

Alex T. Kyle, of Boroughbridge, Yorkshire, England, has won many honors in amateur golf, including the British Amateur Championship in 1939 and membership on three British Walker Cup Teams. Yet none of these earned him greater distinction than his conduct in the last Yorkshire Open Championship.

Although Kyle has been playing winning golf since the late Twenties, he never developed a truly Damon-and-Pythias relationship with the Rules of Golf and in the Yorkshire tournament he had his caddie hold back a growing branch so that he might have a free swing at his ball.

A week later, over a dinner table, Kyle and some golfing friends were discussing episodes of the game and Rule 17-3, which prohibits such moving, bending or breaking of anything fixed or growing, was injected into the discussion.

"Why, I did that very thing the other day when I won the Yorkshire tournament," Kyle exclaimed. He then wrote to the tournament committee, insisting that he be disqualified, and returned the prize. Honor, it is clear, can derive from defeat as well as from victory.

prompted analogy to the also excellent play of Burke's father a generation ago.

"It indicates," Talbot wrote, "that in one generation, from club-making father to exhibitionist-entertainer son, the art of

golf has improved approximately seven strokes to the round. That is, better clubs, better balls and incessant play have transformed sonny into a scoring machine the likes of which his pappy could not have dreamed.

"This is a case where the figures may be nailed down. Exactly 26 years ago, over the same Brackenridge Park course in San Antonio, crusty Macdonald Smith won the fifth annual Texas Open with a score of 288. And playing with him in perhaps the most harrowing, hilarious finish of all golfing history were Jack Burke, Sr., and little Bobby Cruickshank.

"That was the memorable day when Wild Bill Mehlhorn climbed the tree overlooking the last green and shouted well-meant encouragement to Cruickshank — something like 'Sink it, Bobby.' Wee Bobby, who a moment before had first money as good as banked, jumped and got the trembles and took four strokes from the edge of the green to finish an exceedingly angry second.

"The only point in recalling the oft-told tale is to haul in the fact that Burke, the elder, was among those present and to emphasize that he was at that time one of the country's best golfers. Six years before, he had finished in a four-way tie for second place in the United States Open, one stroke behind the leader."

Uncle Joe Dickson

The new president of the Kentucky State Golf Association is Joseph S. Dickson, of the Seneca Golf Club in Louisville. His election is somewhat more interesting than you might assume at first glance because he represents a public course and has long been a member of the USGA Public Links Committee. And in our opinion it proves once again that the game is the thing, not the course.

How to Run a Rules Clinic

The other day we received a letter from a member of an old-line golf club. He wanted to know whether in match play a lost ball automatically meant loss of the hole. There used to be a Rule to that effect, but it expired in 1920.

It is strange to contemplate the number of 1952 golfers who play the game under 1920 Rules, give or take a few years. It is strange to realize how rare is the average club member who has a clear understanding of the Rules.

Some golf committees are aware of this rather general ignorance, and now that an entire new Code of Rules is in effect they are holding clinics and discussion periods about the Rules for their members.

The Rules contain so many rights and privileges for the golfer that every golfer ought to be informed on the basis of self-interest. The Rules contain so many provisions designed to produce fair play for the other fellow that every golfer ought to be informed for the pure and simple sake of sportsmanship.

How should a golf committee go about bringing the gospel to its members? Here are a few ideas on how a little clinic could be held:

First, the person holding the clinic should have a clear understanding of how the Rules of Golf are set up, that is, their arrangements by sections and the general scheme of order. The Rules are not a hodgepodge but are rather closely interrelated as a result of a good deal of study.

Second, the principles underlying the various sections should be stressed before details of the individual Rules are gone into. For example, there are general principles governing the subject of penalties, and you will find that there is uniformity among penalties.

Third, invite questions and give answers and try as much as possible to stick to one section of the Rules at a time; jumping about is apt to produce a confused impression. It is preferable to have questions written in advance and submitted to the person conducting the clinic. In this way the questioner is more nearly apt to ask sound and sensible questions, and the conductor has opportunity for a studied reply.

Fourth, decisions on actual cases, as published in "The Referee" section of the USGA JOURNAL, could be studied profitably.

The Case for Foxburg's Old Course

By JOHN P. ENGLISH

USGA ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

The Foxburg Country Club, in western Pennsylvania, believes that it is the oldest permanent club and possesses the oldest permanent golf course in the United States. The claim is set forth in the notarized affidavits of five distinguished elder residents of three little neighboring communities, each of about 1,000 persons or fewer. If their memories are accurate, and in some cases they are linked to corollary events which can be confirmed, the first five holes were laid out and the club was organized some time during 1887 and the same land has been used by the same club for golf continuously to this day.

The St. Andrew's Golf Club, which has been at Hastings-on-Hudson, N. Y., since 1897, holds documentary evidence that its first course was laid out and its club organized in Yonkers, N. Y., in 1888, one year later than Foxburg claims. It has been generally believed to be the oldest permanent golf club in the United States, although other courses are acknowledged to be older.

Foxburg is near the confluence of the Allegheny and the Clarion Rivers, about 60 miles north of Pittsburgh in the foothills of western Pennsylvania. The course lies beside the Petersburg Road (State Highway 338), which runs between Foxburg and St. Petersburg, and its fairways roll across the hills above the Allegheny and provide picturesque glimpses of the river valley. It has the simple dignity which grows out of its own modesty.

The course and club came into existence through a chain of events similar to those which led to the founding of St. Andrew's in Yonkers, except that the late Joseph Mickle Fox fulfilled for Foxburg the roles which both Robert Lockhart and John Reid played for St. Andrew's.

Fox was born in Philadelphia on February 4, 1853, developed as a cricket player at Haverford College, where he

was graduated in 1873, and continued to enjoy the game at the Merion Cricket Club. After his graduation and admission to the bar, however, he made his summer home in Foxburg in order to manage family properties in western Pennsylvania, where his great grandfather, Samuel Mickle Fox, had accumulated 118,000 acres at the time of his passing in 1808, and he retained the residence until his death in 1918. The house is still standing and maintained by caretakers of the Fox estate. When Merion assembled a cricket team to compete in a series of amateur matches in Ireland, Scotland and England in 1884, Fox was among those selected. The team sailed in May, the matches were played through June and July and the players returned to Philadelphia that autumn.

Introduction at St. Andrew's

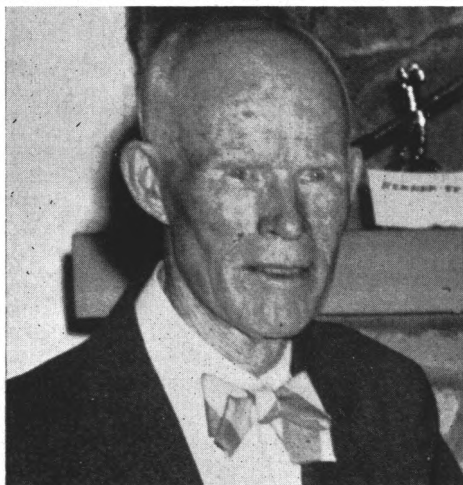
These facts are matters of documentary record in histories and clippings held by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania and are relevant because they confirm the recollections of Foxburg elders that Fox had been introduced to golf and acquired his first left-handed clubs and gutty balls while abroad with the cricket team in 1884. The introduction is said to have taken place at St. Andrews, Scotland, and the team did in fact play at Edinburgh on June 7 and 8.

Unfortunately, there are no first-hand documentary records concerning either the first rounds of golf in Foxburg or the subsequent organization of the Foxburg Golf Club, as there are in the case of the American St. Andrew's. However, Foxburg residents who were associated with the early play have contributed confirmatory segments of the story. These basic recollections were notarized from 1947 through 1950.

According to these recollections, Fox laid out a short course on the grounds surrounding his home, known as the Man-

sion, in 1885. Subsequently, he sent to Scotland for more clubs and balls for his friends. In addition, he offered the present site to make the game available to the community, participated in the organization of the Foxburg Golf Club and became its first president in 1887. The precise dates on which the course was laid out and the club organized cannot now be recalled.

For purposes of comparison, Robert Lockhart visited Scotland in 1887 and brought back to Yonkers the clubs and balls which enabled John Reid and John B. Upham to play their original exhibition in the pasture across from Reid's home on Lake Avenue on a date which



Lester Studio

Harry R. Harvey

participants later recalled to have been Washington's birthday, February 22, 1888. The group also recollected that it had laid out its first course on North Broadway in April, 1888, after the great blizzard of March, and organized the St. Andrew's Golf Club and elected John Reid the first president during a dinner at his home on November 14, 1888, a date which was recorded in the minutes which have been carefully preserved by the St. Andrew's club. While Foxburg retained its original site through the years, St. Andrew's moved three times, to the Apple Orchard in 1892, to Grey Oaks in 1894 and finally to its present location in 1897.

The key witness for Foxburg is Harry R. Harvey, who with his late brother Frank stimulated the founding and progress of the club from its inception. He is now 85 and stated in a deposition notarized on September 10, 1947:

"That he was present at the organization of the Foxburg Country Club, Foxburg, Clarion County, Pennsylvania, in the year 1887 and at the organization meeting he was elected secretary and treasurer of the Foxburg Country Club and served in these offices continuously until the year 1941, a period of 54 years; that in the year 1884 the late Joseph M. Fox, Esquire, was a member of the American cricket team which went to England to play the English cricketers and while there was introduced to the game of golf; that in the year 1885 the said Joseph M. Fox built a short golf course on the Mansion grounds near Foxburg; that in the year 1887 the said Joseph M. Fox offered the present site of the Foxburg Country Club links, rent free, and that golf has been played continuously on said links (enlarged from time to time) until the present time; that five holes were in play in the year 1887 and in the year 1888 the course was enlarged to nine holes."

Upon Harvey's resignation as secretary and treasurer in August, 1941, the club arranged a testimonial dinner and the program carried the following notation: "Given in honor of H. R. Harvey, who has been secretary of the Foxburg Country Club, Foxburg, Pennsylvania, (the oldest golf club in continuous existence in the United States) from the time of its organization in the year 1887 to the time of his retirement this year, completing a term of fifty-four years' service. We believe Mr. Harvey to be the earliest living golfer in the United States."

Harvey was still playing the Foxburg course last summer, 84 years after his birth and 64 years after the present course is said to have been laid out and the club organized. Harvey's recollection of the year in which the community course was laid out and the club founded is supported by other elder residents.

H. J. Crawford of Emlenton, Pa., a

Linking the Past and the Present at Foxburg



An early four-ball at Foxburg. From the left, the players are Harry R. Harvey, D. C. Hart, Charles Hart and H. H. Porterfield. The date is not known.



More recently on the same course. The players are Harry R. Harvey, Gilbert Chipley, Marcellin C. Adams and Charles Adams.

banker who is more than 80, deposed on September 9, 1947, "that for a period I was a member of the Foxburg Country Club and to my personal knowledge know the said club was organized and began doing business in the year 1887, that the said club has been in continuous existence and operating without interruption since that date."

C. H. Adams of Parker's Landing, Pa., 86, deposed on October 30, 1950, "that in my younger days I was a commercial traveler. In 1888 I made the territory adjacent to Foxburg, Pennsylvania, every thirty days. One of the places covered regularly was St. Petersburg, a distance of three miles beyond Foxburg. Returning by livery team on an early spring trip to St. Petersburg, I passed a field on which a game new to me was being played. This I found to be the game of golf, and on several occasions I stopped to watch the players. This field is still part of the Foxburg Country Club golf course. I fix the year from the fact that in 1888 I first began traveling in that section. Also it was the year of the great blizzard of March, 1888."

The late C. A. Miller of Foxburg deposed on September 29, 1951, "that he attended Clarion State Normal School during the years 1887 and 1888 and made frequent trips on the narrow gauge railroad which passed the golf grounds of the Foxburg Country Club in the Borough of Foxburg, Clarion County, Pennsylvania;

that he usually returned home from Clarion to Foxburg for week ends and says that during the spring vacation of 1888 he played golf on the Foxburg Country Club course with Mr. A. J. Dixon of Philadelphia, who he understands was one of the original members of the Foxburg Country Club; that he has been a citizen of the Borough of Foxburg, Clarion County, Pennsylvania, practically all his lifetime and that he believes the Foxburg Country Club has been in existence since sometime during the year 1887 continuously until this time." The opening of the Normal School in Clarion in 1887 and the existence of the railroad are confirmed facts.

Miller's brother, the late Hubert F. Miller, wrote in a letter dated June 16, 1949, "If you go back to 1887 . . . you will have to visualize a very crude golf course at Foxburg with only five playable holes for the first year or two, no regular income or clubhouse, no caretaker, a few 'natural' greens . . . verily, an abandoned cow pasture. Within the area and quite near by were several producing oil wells and several large oil storage tanks . . . The real founder of the club was Mr. Joseph Fox who gave us the free use of the cow pasture, reserving room for a small ball park also, without cost to anybody . . . He certainly showed his personal interest in golf and baseball and maintained a private course around the Mansion. That was a year or

two before the Foxburg Country Club began to function. I played there by invitation with several founder members of the Foxburg Country Club after 1887."

The late Mrs. Major R. Morgan of Foxburg, who was then 87, stated in 1948 that in the autumn of 1888 she had been married and moved to Foxburg, where her late husband had regularly played golf with Frank and Harry Harvey, Fox and visitors from Philadelphia. "The men all played on land belonging to the Fox estate. This is the same land on which the Foxburg Country Club still has its course," she wrote. "Several years after the men had organized their golf club, a ladies' golf club was formed of which I was the first president, and with the exception of two intervals I retained that office for thirty years. Although we used the same course, this was an entirely separate organization with its own rules," she added. "I do not remember a time when golf was not being played either on the course laid out by Mr. Fox around his residence or on the links adjoining the Petersburg Road on land Mr. Fox allowed the new club to use."

Early Record-Keeping

The lack of documentation regarding these early dates is simply explained. Harvey relates that he took care of the simple details of running the club with the

sole assistance of a small notebook into which he entered the names of the members and the dates on which they paid their dues, originally one dollar a year. The dues eventually were used to pay one John Dunkle at the rate of \$15 a year to cut the fairways with a scythe. Collecting the dues and paying the "green-keeper" were Harvey's only duties in the early years, and when all financial entries had been made, the records were considered complete for the year. Eventually the notebook disappeared, probably when Harvey changed his residence. There were no minutes and no newspapers were published at the time in Foxburg, so there was no medium for other records of club activities in the earliest years.

Although organized as the Foxburg Golf Club, the name was soon changed to the Clarion County Golf Club. When it became apparent that players were being drawn from the counties of Armstrong, Butler and Venango, it was decided that it would be more diplomatic to revert to the Foxburg name. Since then, it has been the Foxburg Country Club. The course, which had been enlarged from five to nine holes in 1888, later grew to 18 holes, but the newer nine subsequently were abandoned, leav-

(Continued on page 14)



The Foxburg ladies formed their own club soon after men had established the course and club and always have played a prominent part in the activities there. Mrs. Adam Miller here is addressing her ball in an era when golfing costumes were somewhat more cumbersome than they are today.

The Ladies Look to Muirfield

The Captain and seven players who will represent the USGA in the seventh Match for the Curtis Cup will assemble at "Golf House" on May 21 and travel as a Team to Scotland. The ceremonies at "Golf House" will be brief, and they will board the MV Britannic in New York the same day.

The Match, against a women's amateur team representing the British Isles, will be played over the Muirfield course, near Edinburgh, June 6 and 7. There will be three foursomes at 36 holes on the first day and six singles at 36 holes on the second day. The USGA Team will be defending the Cup, which it won at the Country Club of Buffalo in 1950 and in fact has never relinquished since it was donated by the Misses Harriot S. and Margaret Curtis, of Boston, in 1932. However, the only previous Match played in Scotland, that at Gleneagles in 1936, was halved.

The Muirfield Course

Muirfield, the home of the Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers, has rarely felt the tread of feminine feet. The British Ladies' Amateur Championship has never been played there, and the Scottish Ladies' Championship but once, in 1914. Consequently, there is no yardstick by which it can readily be measured as a test for women golfers. When the men's championship tees are used, there are eight holes of more than 450 yards and the 18 holes total 6,806 yards. It is unlikely that it will be stretched to such length for this Match.

The course, which is set apart from the hurly burly of traffic and noise, is laid out in a broad oblong on gently undulating ground and no hole impinges even remotely on another. The layout is such that it is necessary, in the course of a round, to play shots to every point of the compass. No matter from what direction the wind blows, and it can howl down the Firth of Forth or across from the

hills of Fife, it makes every hole a different test in wind judgment. It is a course on which the player can never let up.

All the Curtis Cup players have entered the British Championship, which will be held a week later at Troon, June 16 through 20. Miss Louise Suggs, a member of the 1948 Team which played at Birkdale, England, won the British Championship in the course of her trip abroad with that Team. The winner last year was Mrs. P. G. MacCann, of Dublin, Ireland, who defeated Miss Frances Stephens in the final.

The Team is scheduled to arrive at Liverpool, England, on May 30 and go directly to Edinburgh in order to have six days of practice at Muirfield. The ladies will be free to travel or practice for the Championship, as they prefer, in the week immediately following the Match, and they will have another free week following the Championship.

The Players

Mrs. Frank Goldthwaite, a member of the River Crest Country Club in Fort Worth, Texas, and Chairman of the USGA Women's Committee, is non-playing Captain. She represented the USGA in singles at the Chevy Chase Club in 1934 and also was a member of the Team which halved at Gleneagles, Scotland, in 1936. In the USGA Women's Amateur Championship, she reached the quarter-finals in 1938 and the semi-finals in 1941, and she has won the Southern and Texas Championships. She is the mother of three children, one of whom, Aniela, will accompany her.

This will be Mrs. Goldthwaite's first experience as Captain, and five of the seven members of the Team will be enjoying their first experience as players. Only Miss Kirby and Miss Polly Riley, a clubmate of Mrs. Goldthwaite's, have previously represented the USGA, as the following biographical sketches reveal:

**Mrs. Goldthwaite****Miss DeMoss**

Miss Grace DeMoss is a senior at Oregon State College and the youngest member of the Team. Her home is in Corvallis, Ore., and she is a member of the Corvallis Country Club.

She is particularly attracted to the challenge of hitting a long iron shot to a green and does it so successfully that she reached the semi-final round in the 1950 and 1951 USGA Women's Amateur Championships, losing to the subsequent winner each year. She won the Canadian Ladies Open Championship in 1949 and gained the final again in 1950. In sectional competition, she has taken the Pacific Northwest and Arizona Championships and is the present Oregon State and Oregon Women's Golf Association Champion. A fine stroke player, she has led qualifying rounds in the Canadian, United States Collegiate, Trans-Mississippi, Western Open and Pacific Northwest Championships.

**Miss Doran****Miss Kirby**

Miss Claire Doran has both bachelor's and master's degrees from Western Reserve University and devotes part of her time to teaching. Her home is in Cleveland, Ohio, and she represents the Westwood Country Club.

She was runner-up in the 1951 USGA Women's Amateur Championship and was Ohio Champion a year ago. She holds the stroke-play title in the Cleveland District and has won the match-play title there six times. In Women's Western Golf Association competition, she has gained the semi-final round of the Open and the quarter-final round of the Amateur

Championships. She has been playing in Florida this winter and won the Palm Beach tournament. The pitch to the green is her favorite stroke.

Miss Dorothy Kirby, who won the USGA Women's Amateur Championship in her 13th attempt last summer, works in the sales department of a radio station in Atlanta, Ga., where she makes her home. She is a member of the Capital City Club.

Her golfing career was successfully launched when she won the Georgia Championship at the age of 13, and it has included membership on the last two Curtis Cup Teams, two previous appearances in the final of the USGA Championship and victories in the Southern, North and South and Titleholders tournaments. In addition, she gives generously to the game through service on the USGA Women's Committee and has held various offices in the Women's Southern, Western and Eastern Golf Associations. Opponents customarily fear the worst when she plays a chip shot.

In the 1948 Match at Birkdale, England, she lost to Miss Jean Donald, 2 down, in singles, but she and Mrs. Edwin H. Vare, Jr., defeated Miss Philomena Garvey and Mrs. Zara Bolton, 4 and 3, in foursomes. She also reached the quarter-final round of the British Championship that year. In the 1950 Match at the Country Club of Buffalo, she and Miss Dorothy Kieley defeated Miss Garvey and Miss Jeanne Bisgood, 6 and 5, in foursomes.

**Miss Lindsay****Miss Murray**

Miss Marjorie Lindsay has devoted much of her time to both the playing and administrative phases of golf since attending Gulf Park College. She represents the Country Club of Decatur, Ill., where she lives.

Last season she won the Western Amateur and the Illinois Championships and reached the semi-final round of the Western Open, Trans-Mississippi and North and South tournaments. She was the 1950 Trans-Mississippi Champion and had won four previous Illinois Championships. In the last three USGA Women's Amateur Championships, she has reached the fourth round twice and the third round once. She also serves the Women's Western, Women's Trans-Mississippi and Illinois Women's Golf Associations. Her pet weapon is the No. 4 iron.

Miss Mae Murray is a desk clerk in a mid-southern resort, but she has achieved her high place in golf as a representative of the Rutland Country Club in Rutland, Vt., where her Scottish-born father is the professional. Miss Murray's trip with the Team will take her to her father's native land.

She won five Vermont Championships and was runner-up in the Women's Eastern Amateur Championship as a youngster before an unusual season in 1950. That year, in the fourth round of the USGA Women's Amateur Championship, scheduled at 18 holes, she and Miss Fay Crocker of Uruguay played 27 holes in three less than women's par before Miss Murray earned the victory; it was the most extra holes ever played in the Championship. Miss Murray went on to become runner-up. She was also runner-up in the Western and Eastern and a semi-finalist in the North and South tournaments that year. Last season she was runner-up in the Eastern and North and South tournaments, a semi-finalist in the Canadian Ladies Open Championship and reached the third round in the USGA Women's Amateur Championship. The chip shot is her favorite.

Miss Patricia O'Sullivan works with Miss Murray as a desk clerk in the mid-southern resort but she, too, is a New Englander. Her home is in Orange, Conn., and she plays at the Race Brook Country Club.

Last season she won her third successive Connecticut Championship, her second successive North and South tournament, her second Eastern, the Titleholders' tournament and was runner-up in the Western Open. She lost in the third round of the USGA Women's Amateur Championship. Between rounds she enjoys knit-

ting. In contrast to the majority, she has a fondness for playing from bunkers.



Miss O'Sullivan



Miss Riley

Miss Polly Riley is a bookkeeper in Fort Worth, Texas, and plays at the River Crest Country Club.

In addition to playing with the last two Curtis Cup Teams, she has won the Southern Championship three times, the Western Amateur, the Trans-Mississippi and the Texas Amateur and Open Championships. She has been a quarter-finalist three times in the USGA Women's Amateur Championship but lost in the third round last year. She, too, played in Florida this winter and was a member of the winning team in the four-ball tournament at Hollywood, Fla. She is particularly adept at playing wood shots off fairways.

In the 1948 Match at Birkdale, England, she defeated Miss Maureen Ruttle, 3 and 2, in singles, but she was later beaten in the second round of the British Championship. In the 1950 Match at the Country Club of Buffalo, she defeated Mrs. George Valentine, 7 and 6.



A scene on the Muirfield links

Rule about Obstructions

By JOSEPH C. DEY, JR.
USGA EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

It was a sad, sad story the new golfer was telling:

"My drive was right down the middle," he said; "one of the few I hit in the fairway all day. But I found the ball nestling against a water outlet.

"Well, I tried to hit it with my number three iron. Not only was it a punk shot, but I broke my club, and it was a new one."

"But why didn't you lift the ball?" his friend asked.

"Lift it? I thought you had to play the ball as it lies all the time."

That's a good, safe way to start life as a golfer—to play the ball as it lies. But the fact is that there are times when the ball may be lifted and its position improved, without penalty.

The average golfer is inclined to regard the Rules of Golf as being mainly prohibitions and obligations—you can't do this and you must do that. But that dim view is an uninformed view.

The Rules contain a great many rights and privileges which can be appreciated only by reading the code. An important Rule in this respect is the one which the new golfer in the sad incident above could have invoked but did not—Rule 31, dealing with obstructions. This rule is a prolific source of questions submitted to the USGA.

Artificial or Natural?

It should first be understood what is meant by the term "obstruction". Definition 20 in the Rules provides:

"An 'obstruction' is anything artificial, whether erected, placed or temporarily left on the course.

"When walls, fences, stakes, railings or similar objects define the boundaries of the course, they are not obstructions, nor are artificially constructed roads and paths anywhere."

Thus, obstructions include such things as:

pipes	water outlets	buildings
vehicles	bottles	shelters
paper	rakes	hoses

The Rules make a distinction between *artificial* things (which are obstructions) and *natural* objects. For example, Definition 17 describes loose impediments as follows:

"The term 'loose impediments' denotes natural objects not fixed or growing or adhering to the ball, and includes stones not solidly embedded, leaves, twigs, branches and the like, dung, worms and insects and casts or heaps made by them."

In summary: An obstruction is an artificial thing. A loose impediment is a natural thing.

How to Treat an Obstruction

We are discussing obstructions here. Relief from an obstruction is provided for in Rule 31. The Rule has two sections.

The first section presents no problems:

"Any movable obstruction may be removed. If the ball be moved in so doing, it shall, through the green or in a hazard, be dropped, or on the putting green be placed, as near as possible to the spot from which it was moved but not nearer the hole, without penalty."

Suppose a rake has been left in a bunker. Your ball comes to rest against the rake. As the rake is movable, you may remove it. If your ball is moved in the process, you must drop it as specified.

The second section of Rule 31 deals with *immovable* obstructions:

"If a ball lie on or touch an immovable obstruction, or if a player's stance or stroke or the backward movement of his club for the stroke be interfered with by any immovable obstruction which is within two club-lengths of his ball, the ball may be lifted without penalty and, through the green or in a hazard, dropped, or on the putting green placed, not more than two club-lengths from that point of the obstruction nearest which the ball originally lay, and must come to rest not nearer the hole."

When the Rule Applies

In the first place, we may apply the Rule if the ball *lies on or touches* an *immovable* obstruction.

Or, secondly, we may apply the Rule when *all three* of the following conditions exist:

1. There must be interference with the player's stance or stroke or the backward movement of his club for the stroke.

2. The interference must come from an obstruction which is immovable.

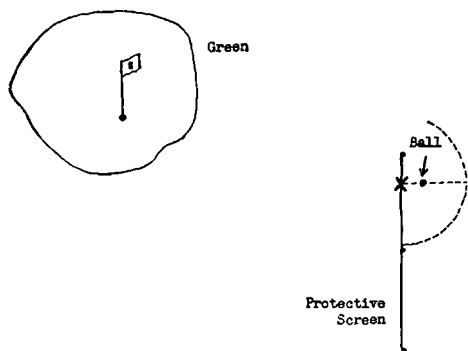
3. The obstruction must be within two club-lengths of the ball.

If any one of those three conditions is not present, you can't invoke this section of the Rule.

But assuming all three conditions do exist, what relief does the Rule allow? Well, you may lift the ball, without penalty. Then, everywhere except on the putting green, you *drop* it within two club-lengths of *that point of the obstruction nearest which the ball originally lay*, and it must come to rest not nearer the hole. On the putting green you *place* it as described above.

Note that you don't drop it within two club-lengths of where the ball originally lay. Suppose the ball originally lay a club-length from a protective screen which interfered with your backswing. If you were allowed to drop it within two club-lengths of where it originally lay, you might drop it a total of three club-lengths from the screen.

To make matters uniform and fair, the Rule requires dropping the ball within two club-lengths of *that point of the screen nearest which the ball originally lay*. Here is an example:



Point X is that point of the screen nearest which the ball originally lay. You are allowed to drop within two club-lengths of that point, not nearer the hole than where the ball first lay. Thus, if the

straight dotted line is two club-lengths long, you may drop the ball anywhere within the territory bounded by the curved dotted line, provided the ball comes to rest not nearer the hole than its original position. You may *not* measure *through* the obstruction in determining where to drop within two club-lengths.

Boundary Stakes Not Obstructions

Under Definition 20, stakes or similar objects used to mark out of bounds are *not* obstructions. Therefore, they may not be pulled up. If they interfere with a stroke or stance, there is no free relief from them. This is a change in the Definition this year. Heretofore a boundary stake was an obstruction.

Why the change? Various means are used to define boundaries: stakes, fence posts and so forth. Sometimes, on a single hole, part of a boundary is marked by a fence and part by stakes. It is considered advisable to treat them uniformly. Since the inside edge of stakes and fence posts at ground level determines the line of bounds (Definition 21), the stakes and posts themselves are out of bounds. Rule 31 applies only to obstructions *on* the course.

Further, if boundary stakes were classified as obstructions, some might be removed to enable a player to play a stroke, and the player might neglect to have them replaced. Thus, the competitors in a tournament might not play a uniform course.

It was therefore felt that classifying out-of-bounds stakes as non-obstructions would discourage tampering with them, would simplify the definition with regard to boundary markers and would help insure uniform playing conditions.

(However, stakes defining water hazards are obstructions under the Rules.)

Incidentally, some clubs set boundary stakes permanently in concrete, or use concrete markers. This prevents a fluctuating boundary and in the long run should reduce upkeep costs.

Following are some points about obstructions which have arisen under the new Rules:

(Continued on Page 18)

"Golf House" Is for You

People drift into "Golf House", the new USGA headquarters in New York, on the average of three or more per day. Often men working nearby come in during their lunch hours. They have signed the guest book from 28 states and six foreign countries.

Our library is here for the use of golfers who would like to look up references or just sit down for a while and read. The other day J. F. Curtis, of Roslyn, brother of Margaret and Harriot, came in wanting to know when he played in a match against the Canadians. Mrs. Paul W. Adams, of Hartford, came to look up background for a Connecticut women's bulletin. A newspaper man from St. Louis wanted to write about "Golf House."

We have more than 750 books, not counting bound periodicals, dating from the earliest days of the game. We suggest that anyone desirous of contributing to this library write in advance, giving the name of the book and author, so that there will be no duplication.

James O. Burns, of Kenmore, N. Y., recently donated a ball which Johnny McDermott used in winning the Open Championship in 1912, to increase our collection of the memorabilia.

The USGA flag is now flying outside of "Golf House". It was donated by Isaac B. Grainger and the pole by James D. Standish, Jr.

A new idea for enrolling Founders of "Golf House" has come from Shepard Barnes, of Jersey City, N. J. He has made contributions in the name of his two young grandsons, Ross M. Barnes, Jr., of Detroit, and Charles W. Saacke, Jr., of Ruxton, Md. Mr. Barnes formerly was President of the Metropolitan Golf Association in New York and is a member of the USGA Handicap Committee.

Approximately \$20,000 is now needed to complete the purchase and renovation of "Golf House." Additional contributions to complete the fund are welcome, and any golfer, club, association or any-

one else interested in the game may become a Founder. Contributions should be addressed to:

USGA GOLF HOUSE FUND
40 EAST 38TH STREET
NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

Following are Founders not previously recorded in the USGA JOURNAL:

Frank Campsall, Jr.
J. E. Cummings
John McKinley
Mrs. Warren R. Pollard
Dr. A. G. Sacco
Morgan J. Seaton
C. Ross Somerville
Mrs. Otto Wenzel
William F. Zongker
Club
Berkley Hills Golf Club, Pa.

FOXBURG'S OLD COURSE

(Continued from page 8)

ing only the original nine. The club purchased the original land, which it had been leasing, in 1924 and has since acquired some additional land to accommodate changes in the course. The original sand greens are now grass.

There are, of course, earlier references to golf in the United States, but none reflect the permanence which attaches to Foxburg and St. Andrew's. Rivington's Royal Gazette of April 21, 1779, a New York publication, carried an advertisement for clubs and Caledonian balls addressed "To the Golf Players," indicating some acceptance of the game here at that time. The South Carolina and Georgia Almanac of 1793 carried under the general heading "Societies Established in Charleston" an item entitled "Golf Club Formed 1786" and listed the officers thereof, and there were subsequent references in southern publications through 1811 to the "South Carolina Golf Club" and the "Savannah Golf Club." Russell W. Montague and four friends organized a golf club in 1884 at his summer home at Oakhurst, only two miles from White Sulphur Springs, W. Va. None of these endured, however. The first permanent golf club in this hemisphere was the Royal Montreal Golf Club, formed in 1873.

Keep Thinking

By S. MAX MCCREADY

BRITISH AMATEUR CHAMPION, 1949

How do I prepare myself mentally for a game against a leading American? What mental state am I in before and during the game? These are questions I have been asked, and the answers throw some light on the vital difference between the amateurs of Britain and of America.

To play any game in the highest class, we know, requires months of physical and mental practice. Both are equally im-

portant and results are never attained without a perfect balance between the two. In actual competition, I contend that the amateurs of my country are as good strikers of the golf ball as our friends across the sea. How, then, do we come unstuck? I am convinced,



S. Max McCready

without a shadow of a doubt, on the mental attitude toward the game.

The best example of this perfect balance must surely be an old friend, Willie Turnesa; and if any of our young hopefuls wish to attain the highest honors in golf, then I advise them to study his methods at all opportunities and from all angles. That inscrutable little man, tuned up to perfection from the moment he steps up on the first tee, completely oblivious to all his surroundings, never relaxes his grip on himself for one moment. How many of us can say in this country that we have approached a tournament in a like state of mind? To play against such a man and to feel that tenacity of purpose spreading itself all around makes

one realize that hitting and hoping will never get us very far. Willie is not alone in his attitude to golf; each and every American amateur has schooled himself in this phase of the game, some to a greater, some a lesser but all to a necessary extent.

Firstly, then, it is of vital importance that the mental side of the game is developed to as great an extent as the physical before the tournament begins.

What about during the actual playing of the game? Here again the state of mind plays a vital part. Destructive shots are a direct result of mental lethargy. How can they be otherwise? The same swing that has been hitting the ball bullet-like to the pin is not suddenly going to collapse and cause the ball to fly off at an angle. The answer is that for one vital second the mind is removed from the task in hand and the shot is played from memory.

I can give a perfect example of this during the 1950 Amateur at St. Andrews. I was locked in mortal combat with big Bill Campbell and, as I thought, about to eliminate him, having arrived at the 18th green dormie one. Both on the green in two good shots, I was left, Bill having missed his putt, with two putts for the match from nine yards. As I bent over the ball, having lined up the putt to the best of my ability, I suddenly thought "My goodness, I'm hungry!" In the middle of this terrible thought, I knocked the putt exactly halfway to the hole. From that moment the result was never in doubt and I was soundly beaten at the 19th.

There it is, the answer to so many of our lost games, the loss of control at the vital moment, the direct result of lack of mental practice. Until such time as our leading golfers can tune the mind to last out the game, the edge will always be against us.

Reprinted by courtesy of "Golf in Australia," January 1952.

Silver Anniversary for the Boys

1952 is the Silver Anniversary of the District of Columbia Golf Association's junior program, and Frank Emmet, the guiding spirit, believes it is the oldest of such programs in the United States. There are older single events, such as the Western Junior and the Eastern Inter-scholastic Championships, but he knows of no association which has sponsored and supported such a comprehensive junior golf program for 25 consecutive years.

In 1927, when the golf course was nearing completion at Georgetown Prep School in the suburbs of Washington, the headmaster told Emmet, then the general manager, to form a golf team and find competition. The school had a golf course

and some pretty good players. Why not make full use of them? Emmet made a few calls, wrote some letters and came up with a blank. There wasn't another schoolboy golf team in the area.

This year, thanks to Emmet, a record number of 23 teams are starting the 25th year of schoolboy golf, playing in three leagues. All matches will be on private courses, for the member clubs of the District Golf Association are cooperating fully.

The schoolboy matches will be followed by the schoolboy championship, which draws about 160 players, junior field days, competition in several national tournaments, inter-city matches and the District Junior Match Play Open, an



Jones, Washington Post

In characteristic setting and mood, Frank Emmet, director of junior golf activities for the District of Columbia Golf Association, looks up to receive the entry of Paul Taggart of Montgomery Blair High School in a competition at the Manor Country Club. Allan Vogt, Montgomery Blair coach, is assisting Emmet, and the entrant on the right is Carney Howell, also of Montgomery Blair.

event which is open to both public-links and private-club juniors. This event has now been set up as a memorial to the late Marvin (Bubby) Worsham, one of Washington's outstanding young golfers who was killed in an automobile accident near Wake Forest College in 1950. Trophies have been donated by Del Webb of Phoenix, Ariz., who was an ardent admirer of Worsham.

One of the highlights of the Silver Anniversary program will be a trip to Toronto, Canada, to engage the juniors of Canada in the Robert Simpson Cup series on July 29. Play is patterned after the Walker Cup and Ryder Cup matches, with eight boys on a side, two selected from each age group from 14 to 17 inclusive. Foursomes are played in the morning and singles in the afternoon. Canada lost, 8 to 3, at the Columbia Country Club in Chevy Chase, Md., last year in the first match of this home-and-home series.

District of Columbia Golf Association clubs are planning a fund raising week end May 3 and 4, and \$2,500 is the goal for junior golf competition. In fact, the first week end every May is traditionally devoted to fund raising for the juniors. With the USGA Junior Amateur Championship in New Haven, Conn., the team match in Canada, the Western Junior at St. Paul, Minn., the Four-Ball at Charlotte, N. C., the Junior Chamber of Commerce tournament at Eugene, Ore., and the PGA caddie tournament at Columbus, Ohio, it may take more than \$2,500 to support the program this year.

Under the Washington program, schoolboy golf teams are made up of six players each. There are restrictions at the clubs; no practice is allowed, no clubhouse privileges are granted and faculty supervision is mandatory. The majority of club members give the youngsters every other consideration, however.

During the summer several clubs conduct junior field days. Invitations are extended to all boys interested in golf. The club professional usually opens the meeting with a talk on an aspect of the Rules, etiquette and instruction. He may be assisted by well-known amateurs. An

18-hole competition follows. In 1951, 168 boys played in the high school golf matches, 325 individuals participated in the various events running from April to Labor Day, more than 1,000 entries were received for all events and 22 boys made trips to national junior competitions.

The juniors, in addition to their own officers, handicap committee and so forth, have a card-index file on all players with official scores and a scrapbook in which they maintain a record of all competitions. In fact, four scrapbooks cover the 25 years of junior golf in Washington.

USGA PUBLICATIONS OF GENERAL INTEREST

THE RULES OF GOLF, as approved by the United States Golf Association and the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews, Scotland, effective January 1, 1952. 25 cents. (Special rates for orders of 1,000 or more.)

ARE YOUR LOCAL RULES NECESSARY?, a reprint of a USGA Journal article containing recommendations regarding local rules. No charge.

USGA GOLF HANDICAP SYSTEM, containing recommendations for basic handicaps for men. Booklet, 25 cents. Supplementary handicap table in poster form, 10 cents.

THE CONDUCT OF WOMEN'S GOLF, containing suggestions for guidance in the conduct of women's golf in clubs and associations, including handicapping. 25 cents.

TOURNAMENTS FOR YOUR CLUB, a reprint of a USGA Journal article detailing various types of competitions. No charge.

HANDICAPPING THE UNHANDICAPPED, a reprint of a USGA Journal article explaining the Calloway system of automatic handicapping for occasional players in a single tournament. No charge.

PROTECTION OF PERSONS AGAINST LIGHTNING ON GOLF COURSES, a poster. No charge.

HOLE IN ONE AWARDS. No charge.

GLOSSARY OF GOLF TERMS. No charge.

AMATEURISM IS IN THE HEART, a reprint of a USGA Journal article by E. G. Grace. No charge.

THE UNITED STATES GOLF ASSOCIATION, a pamphlet describing its origin and activities. No charge.

TURF MANAGEMENT, by H. B. Musser (McGraw-Hill Book Co., Inc.), the authoritative book on greenkeeping. \$6.

USGA JOURNAL AND TURF MANAGEMENT, a 33-page magazine published seven times a year and containing authoritative information on the Rules of Golf, tournament procedures, handicapping, amateur status, greenkeeping methods, clubs and ball, new trends and the play of the game. \$2 a year.

These publications are available on request to the United States Golf Association, 40 East 38th Street, New York 16, N. Y.

OBSTRUCTIONS

(Continued from page 13)

"Nearest Point" of Open Shed

USGA 52-19. D.20; R.31

Q1: Ball went into a shed on the course. It stopped in the middle of the shed and the nearest point of the obstruction to the ball was a post in the middle of the shed. Moving two club-lengths from nearest point of the obstruction to the ball would not get the ball out of the shed. Is this correct?

A1: No. In Rule 31 the reference to the nearest point of the obstruction means the nearest point on the outside of the obstruction. The object of the Rule is to provide the player with relief from the obstruction.

Pavement around Obstruction

Q2: On the course there is a drink stand. Around the stand is pavement. The ball stopped on the pavement. Again, moving two club-lengths from the nearest point of the obstruction would not get the ball off the pavement. Would it have to be played on the pavement?

A2: It depends upon whether the local committee defined the pavement as an obstruction. Under Definition 20, artificially constructed roads and paths are not obstructions; however, it would not be improper to consider the pavement in question as an obstruction. If it were classified as an obstruction, see answer 1 above.

Out-of-Bounds Post — No Relief

Q3: According to the Rule book, a ball cannot be moved away from an out of bounds post, or anything marking out of bounds. Is this correct?

A3: Yes. Under Definition 20, a boundary marker is not an obstruction and there is no relief under Rule 31.

Questions by: CHARLES F. BAILEY
TAMPA, FLA.

Embankment Not Obstruction

USGA 52-23. D.20, 14b, c; R. 33-2,3

Q: Definition 20 says:

"An 'obstruction' is anything artificial, whether erected, placed or temporarily left on the course."

An earthen reservoir has been erected some 30 yards from No. 6 tee, and at an approximately 45-degree angle to the right thereof. Occasionally, bad shots from beginners or shanked shots come from the tee to rest on the side of this reservoir embankment, now covered with grass and weeds, or go over the embankment into the water. A sketch is attached to roughly show the relative locations.

The question is whether this reservoir em-

bankment is an obstruction as contemplated by your Definition.

There are three different views represented on our Committee, as follows:

1. That the entire area, including the embankment and the water inside, is an obstruction, and the ball should be dropped and played as in Rule 31-2.

2. That it is not an obstruction and that the ball should be played as if on any mound or earthen elevation, such as are a part of the course, such as those around traps, greens, etc.

3. That it should be described as a "lateral water hazard", and played as in Rule 33-3. Argument against this is that the reservoir was not built as a hazard but as a water system for the course. They rely on some of the Definitions in the 1951 Rules.

It should be borne in mind that a ball coming to rest any place except in the water is playable—that is, there are no wires, steps, pipes or other hindrances to making a shot of some kind.

Of course, a local rule can be drawn that balls in this area are to be played in any of the above manners, but we prefer to rule in line with the intention of the USGA when it wrote the Rule.

Question by: CLAUDE C. WILD
AUSTIN, TEXAS

A: The earthen embankment is not artificial in the sense contemplated by Definition 20 and therefore is not an obstruction.

The reservoir itself—that is, the depression containing water—should be classified as either a water hazard or a lateral water hazard, depending upon the applicability of Rule 33-2 and 3.

Ball in Hazard Must Be Dropped in Hazard

USGA 52-24. R.11-4, 31-2

Q: A ball lies on a bridge crossing a water hazard. The spot on the bridge at which the ball lies is within the confines of the hazard, but is less than two club-lengths from the rear margin of the hazard. In proceeding under Rule 31-2, may the player drop the ball without penalty outside the hazard but within two club-lengths of the spot on the bridge where the ball originally lay, but not nearer the hole?

Question by: FIELDING WALLACE
AUGUSTA, GA.

A: No. As the ball originally lay within the confines of a hazard, it must be dropped within the confines of the same hazard in proceeding under Rule 31-2. There is no authority for doing otherwise either in that Rule or in any other Rule, and the principle of equity (Rule 11-4) would require that the ball remain within the hazard.

Preparing Merion for a Championship

By JOSEPH VALENTINE

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT, MERION GOLF CLUB, ARDMORE, PA.

Merion has entertained six USGA Championships in my time as golf course superintendent, and yet Merion wears no special costume for a tournament. Merion is a championship course. No change in fundamentals has ever taken place for any tournament. Only small changes have taken place from year to year. In other words, we do not get a new shirt to look pretty on Sunday morning; we only need a clean one. We feel that we have the right answer in conditioning the course for a USGA Championship. In fact, the members feel that the course is always in championship condition at any time. We cannot see why it should be so different during championship play from when the members and guests play it. The players are playing the same game, even though the proficiency differs. Still, it should always be in good playing condition.

The players have a golf course that was brought to maturity with a sustained regard for the tradition of the game, a course that was not overglamorized for the occasion. The all-over aim was to open an inviting chance to the end that one who approached with circumspection should realize a happy return. Merion is a golf course that rewards precision. In other words, it is just like when you are playing a game of pool. You have to play for precision in order to be remunerated.

For a USGA tournament the only thing we do is mark the boundaries more clearly. That is to avoid discussions between plays. All water hazards must be clearly defined, not by the use of a white line but by small sticks painted white and they are spaced approximately 25 to 30 feet apart. Also, the start and end of a lateral water hazard must be clearly defined with sticks.

Most of the tees have to be roped off, as well as all the fairways. All of these things come under the tournament ex-

pense. The installation of public telephone booths must be provided for, as well as the phones for the press boys and the messengers.

The most important of all is to have men to take care of all the ball, as well as foot, marks in bunkers and on the putting greens for every match that has gone through. This means that someone must be there for every green or one can take care of two greens if they are near each other. These are a few things that we always have to take care of for the tournament.

After the tournament has been played, a certain amount of repair work will have to be done because of the wear and tear on the fairways. After all the work has been done and everything has gone through satisfactorily, the whole committee will receive all the credit and the superintendent will still remain an unknown man.

Prior to the Open Championship in 1950, we did carry out some renovation, not because of the championship but because the fairways really needed it. In 1948 we used some chemicals for insect control. The fairways were also reseeded, fertilized and aerified.

The first operation of the renovation program was aeration by using the Aerifier. Spoon penetration was to about an average depth of 2½ inches to 3 inches. I believe this was started September 16, 1948.

The reseeded consisted of a mixture of 40% Highland bent, some redtop and also we had a small percentage of Kentucky bluegrass. DDT was applied for grub control and fertilization was with a complete fertilizer high in organic nitrogen.

[From a talk by Joe Valentine. The most significant statement is to the effect that Merion does not have to be *groomed* for a major tournament — it is ready for one at all times.—Ed.]

Records in the Golf Shop

By GEORGE CALDERWOOD

VICE-PRESIDENT, PROFESSIONAL GOLFERS' ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

When we speak of "records," we are prone to think in terms of scores, such as Al Brosch's 60 for 18 holes during the third round of the Texas Open last year or the neck-and-neck finish of Doug Ford and Dutch Harrison at San Antonio, with 265s for 72 holes. Consequently, shop "records" seem extremely commonplace. However, as in every other business, adequate bookkeeping records have become a must with the successful professional in serving today's golfer and his club.

With this in mind, officials of the PGA a few years ago started an extensive study to devise a simplified bookkeeping system tailored to fit the needs of the present-day professional and his shop. Through the generous help of Mr. S. C. (Chick) Allyn, president of the National Cash Register Company, who at that time was Chairman of PGA's National Advisory Committee, the Bookkeeping System, which complies with these requirements, was devised and published.

The many changes which have taken place in the business habits and the thinking of the professional through the years have underlined the necessity of a sound method of recording business transactions. Until the late Twenties one could procure in the pro's shop only those things which, according to present-day standards, were the bare necessities for playing the game. The professional's stock-in-trade then consisted of balls, clubs, bags, repairs and lessons. His time was taken up mostly with teaching, playing and making and repairing clubs. Such things as income taxes were not so burdensome as they are now. The introduction of the steel shaft, matched sets of clubs and additional items began to divert the professional's attention from the workshop and focus it on his display room. Also, he became, with the times, more conscious of tax problems and the need for better records.



George Calderwood

Along with his progress in the field of merchandising, the professional also has played an important part in furthering the success of his club. He is often found in such roles as public-relations man and tournament supervisor, apart from teaching and junior-golf promotion. Problems in business administration have increased in proportion. While spreading the professional's time even more thinly, these things have added to the many matters of which he must keep track, thus making even more essential a set of records which not only will provide complete and accurate coverage but also will enable him to conserve as much time as possible.

While the PGA, ever alert to the needs of its members, offers countless other services, no service is more important to the PGA member than the Bookkeeping System. Bill Hall of Atlanta, Ga., PGA vice-president, is in charge of activities pertaining to the PGA Bookkeeping System and copies can be had through the Association's headquarters at 134 N. La Salle St., Chicago 2, Ill.

THE REFEREE

Decisions by the USGA and the R. and A. Rules of Golf Committees

Example of symbols: "USGA" indicates decision by the United States Golf Association. "R & A" indicates decision by the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews, Scotland. "52-1" means the first decision issued in 1952. "R. 37-7" refers to Section 7 of Rule 37 in the 1952 Rules of Golf.

Scoring Wrong-Ball Penalty

USGA 52-4. Def. 22,28; R.21-3,27-1a,3

Q1: In stroke play, there is two strokes' penalty for playing wrong ball. Are these penalty strokes added to the player's strokes which he had taken *before* he played the wrong ball or are they added to all the strokes played by player including the strokes played with wrong ball?

A1: As Rule 21-3 provides, the two penalty strokes are added to the player's score for the hole. The score for the hole is the score made with a ball properly in play; it does not include strokes made with a wrong ball.

Dropping Wrong Ball Played from Hazard

Q2: If a player play a wrong ball in a hazard and said wrong ball is buried in sand, and he discovers that he has played wrong ball after he is out of hazard, is the wrong ball so played then replaced in trap in the same buried condition it was in before being played, or is it dropped?

A2: The ball must be dropped by its owner when the player who moved it is an outside agency — see Definition 22 and Rule 27-1a,3.

Definition of Four-Ball Match

Q3: In Definition 28, under "Sides and Matches" there are listed the different kinds of matches, and a "Four-Ball" match is listed as a match in which two play their better ball against the better ball of two other players. Nowhere among these definitions is there given any name for the most popular and almost universal form of play — a match with four balls where two players on one side, each playing one ball, play two players on the other side playing two balls, and scoring all *four* balls, not just the better of *two*. These four balls are scored sometimes as "best and worst" on one side against best and worst on the other side or "low and aggregate" on each side, but in either case *all four* balls are considered in the scoring. I would say that 90% of the four-ball matches, at least in the Mid-West, score all four balls and this is the only fair way where handicaps are not comparable. Don't you think there should be some name for the most popular game of all, in the Rule book?

A3: There are many methods of scoring points when four balls are played, but they all are four-ball matches for purposes of applying the Rules. It should be remembered that the

Rules of Golf are essentially a code by which to conduct play fairly. It is not considered to be their function to set forth the numerous schemes of point-scoring which are used in the various kinds of matches.

Questions by: FRED L. RIGGIN, SR.
PORT HURON, MICH.

Dropping Ball in Water Hazard

USGA 52-6. R.30, 33-2; LR

Q: In studying the 1952 Rules of Golf I find that I made a decision not in accordance with your Rules; and yet with equity and local conditions I feel my decision was right. Please give me your answer so that, if necessary, I can change my ruling.

Our course has a water hazard which varies from 100 yards to 250 yards in width. Depending on conditions there may be much, little or no water in it. With little or no water in the hazard, players take the short way to the hole, and if they do not get across the hazard are willing to accept the lie in the hazard for their second shot. It sometimes happens, however, that a ball fails by a few yards of getting out and ends up in water.

I ruled in this case that a player could drop back *any distance* he desired on the line of flight of the ball, with a one-stroke penalty.

Under Rule 33-2, the player does not have this option; he must either drop behind the hazard or go back to the tee, both of which are up to 250 yards away. It seems as though a player should have the privilege of dropping in the hazard with a one-stroke penalty as well as out of the hazard with one-stroke penalty. On our course a playable lie may frequently be found from a few yards to a hundred yards of where the ball lies. I don't believe Rule 33-2 was written with water hazards such as ours in mind.

Question by:

BRIG. GEN. STANLEY E. RIDDERHOF
USMC RET.

NEWPORT BEACH, CAL.

A: We understand that you permitted a ball to be dropped *in* the water hazard under penalty of one stroke, in relief of a ball already in the water hazard. This is not permitted by Rule 33-2.

The Rules prior to 1952 permitted a ball to be dropped, under penalty of one stroke, "in the hazard, keeping the spot at which the ball entered the water between himself and the hole." Recourse to that option was so very rare as to render it virtually useless.

The water hazard Rule is not intended to require that a player necessarily lose distance as well as a penalty stroke. Therefore, you would not breach the principles of the Rule if you were to adopt a local rule permitting a ball to be dropped in the water hazard, under penalty of one stroke, in relief of a ball already in the hazard. However, it should be specified that the ball should be dropped so as to keep the point where the original ball lay between the player and the hole; the "line of flight" would be an indeterminate and improper line along which to drop.

Attention is called to the fact that a provisional ball may be played for a ball which may be in a water hazard. See Rule 30, but particularly see Rule 30-3.

Stile Is Obstruction

USGA 52-8. D.20, R.31

Q: I would like to know if a stile attached to a boundary fence is an artificial obstruction or is it part of the boundary fence.

Question by: LARRY M. LAMBERGER, PRO.
PORTLAND GOLF CLUB
PORTLAND, OREGON

A: A stile is an obstruction under Definition 20. Relief from obstructions is provided for in Rule 31.

A boundary fence is not an obstruction. To reduce the possibility of inequities, the local committee could, by local rule, classify a stile as not an obstruction and thus give it the same status as the fence to which it is attached.

Bending Tree in Taking Stance

USGA 52-9. R. 17-3

Q: In match play A's ball comes to rest about 16 inches from a young tree, 3 or 4 feet in height, some 15 or 20 yards from the green. In taking his stance A finds it expedient to stand between the ball and the tree—the tree at his rear. Being crowded for space and in order to attain more swinging freedom, he also finds it expedient to press backward against the tree, and in consequence the tree is bent several degrees from its normal position.

Opponent B objects to this procedure on the theory that A in shifting backward and bending the tree is acquiring a more favorable stance for himself in an unfair manner, and that it is a violation of Rule 7 (3) of the 1951 Rules, which Rule states in effect that the player may not bend anything growing except to "fairly" take his stance.

B bases his argument upon the meaning of the word "fairly", which word he interprets as a restrictive term—that A is permitted to bend the tree but must do it in a "fair" manner, and not in an "unfair" manner. B claims that it is an unfair advantage for A to shift his feet and body rearward, exerting firm pressure on the tree and thereby gaining this more favorable position with relation to the lie of the ball.

A claims that he is clearly within his rights under the above Rule in bending the impediment to whatever degree he deems necessary to a satisfactory stance that will enable him to play his shot direct to the pin; and that he is not required to calculate and predetermine just what degree of tree pressure is either "fair" or "unfair" before he executes the shot—that there is no measuring stick that will tell him the dividing line between mild pressure that is fair and pronounced pressure that is unfair.

Hence this query: Does any special significance attach to this word "fairly"? Does it carry any hidden implication or restriction that pertains to the above situation?

Question by: C. R. L. CRENSHAW
LOS ANGELES, CAL.

A: No.

The language of Rule 17-3 in the 1952 code is slightly different from that of Rule 7 (3) in the 1951 code, but the intent is the same. Rule 17-3 provides:

"A player shall not improve, or allow to be improved, his line of play or the position or lie of his ball by moving, bending or breaking anything fixed or growing, except:—

"a. As may occur in the course of fairly taking his stance; or

"b. In making the stroke or the backward movement of his club for the stroke.

"The club may be grounded only lightly and must not be pressed on the ground."

The basic object of the Rule is to prohibit improving the position of the ball.

In the course of taking a reasonable stance, for example, the player might bend growing objects, such as tall grass, and as a consequence the line of play might be affected. The Rule excuses this provided it occurs as an incident in the course of taking the stance.

The player is entitled to take his stance fairly. The word "fairly" should be read in a normal sense. To put it in other words, the player may take a stance which is as reasonable as could be expected in the light of the ball's situation. This is no guarantee that he is to have a perfect stance; if that were so, the Rules might permit players to carry axes and sickles and to cut down bushes, grass and trees which happened to interfere with a perfect stance.

In short, the quality of the stance is bound to be affected by the general situation, and the player must accommodate himself to that general situation. He may not bend and twist it to suit his convenience.

Therefore, the term "fairly taking his stance" is a relative term, not an absolute one. The player is always limited by the main object of the Rule, which is to avoid improving the position of the ball except as may be done incidentally.

In the circumstances described, A could have taken his stance fairly without bending the young tree. A should be considered to have violated Rule 17-3 and to have lost the hole.

Replacing Ball in Bunker

USGA 52-12, R.23-2,33-1, 1e

Q: The identification of a ball buried in a bunker baffles me. If my opponent lifts a buried ball from the bunker to identify it as his and replaces it on the same spot but atop the sand which, of course, has closed up the hole, what recourse have I?

Question by: JOHN B. BOYLE
CINCINNATI, OHIO

A: When a ball is lifted for identification, Rule 23-2 requires that it be replaced on the spot from which it was lifted. This means that it must be replaced in its original lie. Rule 33-1 prohibits improving the lie of a ball in a hazard; however, if the ball be covered by sand, Rule 33-1e permits removing enough sand to enable the player to see the top of the ball.

Tree Basin Recommendations

USGA 52-13, D.13, 14; R.29-2, 32,33-2; LR

Q1: Please refer to Q. and A. No. 50-10 R. 7(4),LR. The Rules of Golf Committee published its approved methods for relief under local rules for tree-basins in the April 1950 issue of the USGA JOURNAL.

Are the then approved methods effective for 1952?

Will you please check the local rule that follows to see that the policy of the governing authority of the country is complied with, and if it meets the approval of the Rules of Golf Committee:

"Local Rule—Ball coming to rest within two club-lengths of any tree having a tree-basin may be lifted and dropped within two club-lengths from the trunk of the tree, in any direction, no nearer the hole. Penalty—one stroke."

A1: Regarding tree basins, former recommendations are now superseded by following:

It is preferable that no relief be given other than as contained in unplayable ball Rule 29-2.

However, if local committee considers any other relief is advisable, USGA recommends following:

First, if tree basins or conditions they create are temporary, define areas as ground under repair—see Definition 13 and Rule 32.

Second, if conditions are permanent, define areas as water hazards—see Definition 14 and Rule 33-2.

Roads — No Relief

Q2: Attached is a drawing of the 11th fairway, across which is constructed a concrete road, approximately 170 yards from the tee.

According to our interpretation of Definitions 14a and 20 in the 1952 Rules of Golf, a road is deemed to be part of the course and the ball, therefore, must be played as it lies.

Is our interpretation correct?

If the answer is yes, will you please let me know whether the Rules of Golf Committee would recommend relief be provided by local rule and what such relief should be?

There are dirt shoulders adjacent to the edge of the concrete road which could render the ball unplayable.

A2: Roads are not hazards or obstructions and Rules of Golf do not give free relief therefrom. Rules of Golf Committee does not recommend local rule providing free relief. Suggest improve dirt shoulders and meanwhile define unplayable areas as ground under repair.

Questions by: ALBIN MARTINSON
SACRAMENTO, CAL.

Ball Moving at Address

R & A 52-3, Def. 1, 30. R. 25-1, 27-1d

Q: The answer to a question written to Golf Illustrated recently (Dec. 27, 1951, p. 349) concerning playing a moving ball has caused much discussion in this club. Some members maintain that whereas there is no penalty under Rule 25-1, there is a penalty under Rule 27-1d. Others accept the writer's answer that there is no penalty so long as the player keeps swinging. I can find no decision on the old Rule 13 which formerly applied. Will you kindly settle this point as soon as possible in order that peace may once again reign supreme within our portals.

Question by: GORLESTON GOLF CLUB
GORLESTON, ENGLAND

A: 1. If a player's ball when in play moves at any time after he has addressed it (see Definition 1), whether or not he has begun the stroke (see Definition 30) or the backward movement of his club for the stroke, he incurs a penalty of one stroke under Rule 27-1d. To this there is no exception. It should be noted that a ball is not in play on the teeing ground until the player has made a stroke at it.

2. If the movement referred to in paragraph 1 above occurs before the player begins the stroke or the backward movement of his club for the stroke, he must delay making his stroke until the ball has come to rest, otherwise he is guilty of a second infringement, i. e., playing while his ball is moving (see Rule 25-1); for this he incurs the additional penalty of two strokes in stroke play, in match play he loses the hole.

3. If the movement referred to in paragraph 1 above only begins after the player has begun his stroke or the backward movement for his stroke, he is considered to be unable to check his swing and so to avoid playing a moving ball; in these circumstances there is no penalty other than that referred to in paragraph 1.

Burrowing Animal

R & A 52-4, R. 31-2,32-1,8,37-7

Q. 1: Is a worm a burrowing animal within the meaning of Rule 32-1c? As we are troubled here with worm casts this point has, therefore, an important application and has been raised by many members. My Committee holds the

view that, basically, there are only two forms of life, animal and plant. If this view be accepted, and there is no tenable argument against it, a worm is clearly an animal. Equally clear, it is a burrowing animal. The consequence appears to be that, if on the putting green a worm cast intervene between a ball and the hole, the player has the right under Rule 32-1c to lift and place without penalty to obtain a clear line to the hole. My Committee feels that this construction cannot have been intended but is driven to the conclusion that it cannot be avoided. May I please have your views on the point?

A. 1: As Rule 32-1 mentions a bird and a reptile as well as an animal, the term animal cannot be taken to include the entire animal kingdom; it should be interpreted as covering only the mammalia, a group to which the worm does not belong.

(A worm and its cast are loose impediments under Def. 17—USGA)

Immovable Obstruction

Q. 2: Is the presence of an "immovable obstruction", such as, for example, a stone wall (not being a boundary wall), interference with a player's stroke within the meaning of Rule 31-2 when its position is such that it merely prevents his playing in the direction of the hole but does not in any way prevent his playing a shot sideways? This also has an important application to the condition prevailing here as we have a number of stone walls (not boundary walls) and stone buildings in the middle of our course.

A. 2: Yes.

Ball on Natural Floor

Q. 3: Is a player entitled to relief under Rule 31-2 when his ball lies "in" but not "on" or "touching" an "immovable obstruction"? There is a stone barn right in the middle of a fairway on this course. It has two open sides and two stone-built sides; it has a perfectly natural floor, partly of soil and partly of grass. The stone-built sides are at right angles to the line of the hole and are of such a length as to offer a complete obstruction to play anywhere near the line of the hole. The natural and grammatical construction of this rule seems to be that a player whose ball comes to rest **inside** the barn is not entitled to the relief afforded by this rule. My Committee is all the more concerned about this point as under the 1949 Rules relating to "obstructions" reference was made to a ball lying "in" an "immovable" obstruction; this word "in" has been omitted from the 1952 Rules.

A. 3: As the floor of a barn is part of a barn which is an immovable obstruction, a player whose ball lies on the floor is entitled to relief under Rule 31-2. The composition of the floor is immaterial.

Should an actual, not hypothetical, case occur in which the omission of the word "in" gives rise to difficulty, it should be reported to the Rules of Golf Committee.

Re-Taking Putt

Q. 4: Is it illegal to re-take a putt after holing out? I am asked to point out that Rules 8 and 37-3 are specifically, by note, related to each other. Rule 8 refers to "practice" during the play of a competition and Rule 37-3 to "practice" prior to the start of a competition. Clearly the latter does not apply to the point in question, and it is the submission of my Committee that the former does not apply either, as it refers in specific words to "practice" **during the play of a hole**. Clearly, a hole is not being played when the player has already holed out. We are thus compelled to rely on Rule 37-7 which prescribes a penalty for "undue delay". However, the wording is that "a player may not **delay play** by practicing". The operative words appear to be "delay play", and if this is so, there is nothing to prevent the re-taking of a putt if there are no players immediately behind and if there are players waiting on the next teeing ground. This point has been raised by a number of our members, as a national daily newspaper has recently stated that it is illegal to re-take a putt.

A. 4: Between play of two holes practice putts and chip shots around the tee are not prohibited by Rule 8, which deals with practice during play of hole. However, such practice might constitute delay in play under Rule 37-7.

Questions by: WIGAN GOLF CLUB
WIGAN, ENGLAND

Local Rule Unnecessary

R & A 52-7. R. 33-4

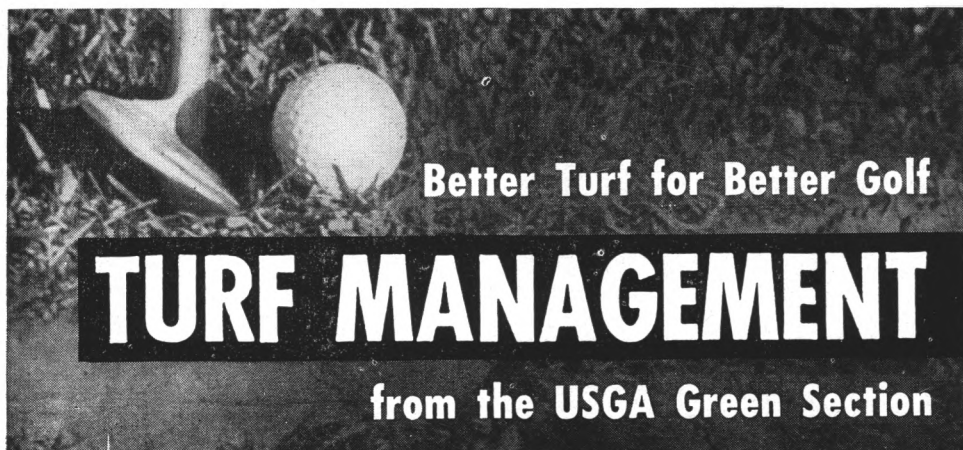
Q: We have in our local rules the following: "A ball lost in or near the river shall be deemed to be in the river." This has always been in force since the opening of the course, because of the winding nature of the river and the bushes and clumps of trees along the banks. Without the use of forward caddies at least five points on the course, it is impossible to tell whether a ball has gone in the river or not. We should be greatly obliged if you will inform us whether we may keep this local rule.

Question by: UPMINSTER GOLF CLUB
UPMINSTER, ENGLAND

A: Rule 33-4 allows a player who is doubtful as to whether his ball is in a water hazard to play a provisional ball under Rule 30.

Note 1 to Rule 33-4 gives a player guidance as to procedure in the case you quote.

In view of this, the Rules of Golf Committee do not consider the retention of your local rule necessary but instead suggest that the area of the water hazard might be extended to cover the bushes, trees, etc., on its bank.



Better Turf for Better Golf

TURF MANAGEMENT

from the USGA Green Section

Correspondence pertaining to Green Section matters should be addressed to:
USGA Green Section, Room 331, Administration Building, Plant Industry Station, Beltsville, Md.

Physical Condition of Putting-Green Soils and Other Environmental Factors Affecting Greens

By RICHARD RICHARDSON DAVIS
PURDUE UNIVERSITY, WEST LAFAYETTE, IND.

The grasses on putting greens from which samples were taken are growing in very different environments from course to course. The type and quality of management also differs from course to course. The poorest green of one course is poor for one reason or several reasons, while the poorest green on another course may be poor for other reasons. The quality of greens is due to several factors. No one test can be made and conclusions as to the quality of the green drawn from this test. "Best" and "poorest" are relative terms, and the poorest green on one course may be better than the best green on another course.

The percolation of water through soil cores from the best and poorest greens did not show a statistical difference. There was a tendency for the best greens to have a higher percolation rate than the poorest greens. The extreme variation in percolation through samples from the same green would necessitate taking more than duplicate samples to confirm this difference.

Aeration porosity is thought to be a critical factor in putting greens. There is

a strikingly smaller quantity of large pores in the upper part of the green than in the lower portions. This is undoubtedly due to compaction. The large pore space is squeezed out. The effects of compaction on large or aeration pore space apparently do not extend below a depth of about $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Any machine that would loosen the soil to this depth would be beneficial, providing a good soil condition exists below.

Coarse sand increases the large or aeration pore space of soils, and for this reason it is an important constituent of soil mixture for putting greens. It is true that the water-holding capacity of a soil is lowered with additions of coarse sand; however, it is thought that water-holding capacity can be sacrificed economically for an increase in aeration porosity. Green soils used in this study with 40 per cent to 50 per cent of sand larger than 0.25 mm. do not appear to be over-supplied with coarse sand.

When large pore space is measured in 2-inch sections, no difference is apparent in the best and poorest greens. However, when large pore space is measured in a

soil core 8 7/16 inches long, the best greens show a higher porosity than do the poorest greens. This illustrates the necessity of studying as large a section of the profile as possible.

There was a close positive correlation of organic matter and total pore space; however, a negative relationship existed between organic matter and large pore space. The poorest greens were higher in both organic matter and total pore space than the best greens. No advantage was apparent in greens with a high organic-matter content as total pore space was sufficiently high in greens with a low-organic-matter content. Caution should be used in adding organic materials to soil mixtures for putting greens. Greens apparently offer an unfavorable environment for beneficial soil microorganisms, and added organic materials remain largely inactive. The high water-holding capacity of organic materials is likely to cause water-logging, particularly where these materials are concentrated.

The moisture content of the green soils, when sampled, was near the wet-plowing limit of cultivated soils, the moisture tension being very close to a pF of 2. It is thought that this degree of wetness is close to that which is commonly maintained in greens. A soil so high in moisture would be easy to compact. This moisture content is probably higher than optimum for the growth of plants. Better water management would give better turf and at less expense.

There was a close negative relationship between organic matter and volume weight. Volume weight is not a good measure of compaction for this reason and perhaps for other reasons. The reduction in large pore space is thought to be a better measure of compaction.

The soils of the greens were generally sandy loams, although they were often poorly mixed. A difference in particle sizes of the best and poorest greens was not apparent. Perhaps the poorest greens of some courses resulted from poor texture while other reasons were responsible for other poorest greens. Definite conclusions as to the best texture for soil

mixtures for putting greens cannot be drawn from this study. However, it is thought that an ordinary loam topsoil, with coarse sand added until about 50 per cent of the resulting mixture is coarse sand, would make a satisfactory soil.

Textural layers are very common in greens. Moisture curves of soil cores are generally very erratic; however, cores from the poorest greens usually have more erratic curves than have cores from the

COMING EVENTS

April 23-24: Turf Conference and Field Day, Southeastern Turf Research Center, Tifton, Ga. G. W. Burton and B. P. Robinson.

June 9: Field Day, Central Plains Turf Foundation, Boys Town, Neb. L. E. Lambert and Harold W. Glissmann.

June 16: Field Day, Oklahoma Turf Association, Oklahoma A. & M. College, Stillwater, Okla. Roy A. Chessmore.

August 17-23: Sixth International Grasslands Congress, Pennsylvania State College, State College, Pa. W. M. Myers, General Chairman, Plant Industry Station, Beltsville, Md.

August 20-21: Field Day, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, R. I. J. A. DeFrance.

September 3-4: Pennsylvania Field Day, Pennsylvania State College, State College, Pa. H. B. Musser.

September: Field Day, Greater Cincinnati Golfers League and Cincinnati Golf Course Superintendents. (Date during week of September 22 and place to be announced.)

October 22-24: Third Turf Conference, Central Plains Turf Foundation and Kansas State College, Manhattan, Kan. William F. Pickett and L. E. Lambert.

December 1-3: Texas Turf Conference, Texas A. & M. College, College Station, Texas. James R. Watson.
1953

January 6-7: Turf Conference, Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents and University of Maryland, Lord Baltimore Hotel, Baltimore, Md. E. N. Cory, Chairman.

February: 24th National Turf Conference and Show of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, Ambassador Hotel, Atlantic City, N. J. A. M. Brown, Box 106, St. Charles, Ill.

February 16-19: Turf Conference, Pennsylvania State College and Pennsylvania Turf Advisory Committee, State College, Pa. H. B. Musser.

best greens. The soil should be well mixed and free of layers. Moisture movement both up and down is hindered in layered soils.

The grasses of the best greens have a better root system than have those of the poorest greens. No conclusions could be drawn as to the effect of soil layers on the distribution of roots.

As a rule, the best greens are in more favorable locations than the poorest greens. In most instances air circulation is believed to be better around the best greens. More trees are found around the poorest greens, and tree roots are prevalent in these greens. If landscaping of a golf course makes it necessary to put trees near greens, the trees should be open types. Steps should be taken to see that all roots from trees are blocked from the green. Tree roots give the grass on greens much competition for water and minerals and make the control of these factors more critical.

The soil reaction is generally more alkaline or less acid than the optimum reaction for the growth of bent grass. Alkaline conditions are thought to be due to alkaline sand in topdressing materials and alkaline water for irrigation. The pH is higher in an area 4 to 8 inches

from the surface than in an area 1 inch to 4 inches from the surface. It is also higher in the best greens than in the poorest greens. If a green is alkaline, acid fertilizers and acid topdressing should be used where possible.

Phosphorus is very high and potassium is low in most greens. This condition is probably due to the use of mixed fertilizer with a high ratio of phosphorus and relatively low ratio of potassium, as well as leaching and replacement reactions affecting the potassium supply. The phosphorus and potassium contents of the greens are positively correlated. Both phosphorus and potassium are higher near the surface than they are 4 inches to 8 inches down. Both are also higher in the poorest greens than in the best greens, probably because more fertilizer is applied to the poorest green in an effort to stimulate unhealthy turf. If mixed fertilizers are to be used on greens, one with a high ratio of potassium to phosphorus should be used. Perhaps a better solution is to use unmixed fertilizers as needed according to past experience or the results of soil and tissue tests.

The USGA Journal of June 1949 reported results of study of cores of soil from best and poorest greens.

Permeability of Various Grades of Sand and Peat and Mixtures of These With Soil and Vermiculite

By WILLIAM L. GARMAN

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF SOILS, CORNELL UNIVERSITY, ITHACA, N. Y.

A review of the literature reveals that very little information is available on the permeability of mixtures of materials which are used in the construction of special-use areas such as golf greens. Since such areas are subjected to extreme conditions of management and use, information is needed on the effect of compaction on the permeability of materials that are used in their construction and maintenance.

During August, 1948, a preliminary survey was made on 10 golf courses in Oklahoma to obtain information on the physical characteristics of greens that

have been in use for many years. The mechanical analyses of the samples collected showed that the average clay composition of the surface 6-inch layer was 5 per cent. Many of the greens contained less than 3 per cent of clay. Under these conditions it was not surprising to find occasional chlorosis, poor growth and moisture deficient areas.

Various soil-sand-organic mixtures have been suggested as being available for the growth of grass on greens, but little experimental information has been reported to verify these suggestions.

Since favorable air and water move-

ment through the soil is required for the growth of good turf, it was the purpose of this study to make permeability measurements under varying degrees of compaction on materials that are commonly used in green construction.

There are three materials which reduce water movement in special use mixtures. These are silt, clay and peat. Thus a soil which contains a high percentage of silt may reduce the permeability of a mixture in a manner similar to that of too much clay or peat. Since the silt fraction does not possess base exchange properties which are important to a mixture used for turf production, a soil moderate in clay and low in silt would be preferred. When available, a soil which contains 20 to 35 per cent of clay and more sand than silt should be selected for use in such mixtures.

The results reported herein show that a mixture containing equal volumes of sand, soil and peat does not possess adequate permeability after compaction at high moisture levels. Vermiculite, when substituted for peat, showed higher permeability under this type of compaction. No justification could be seen for using either peat or vermiculite in excess of 20 per cent of the total volume of a mixture. A mixture with a clay content of between 5 and 10 per cent should prove favorable to withstand hard usage under wet compaction. The mixture which contained 8.2 weight per cent of clay and 20 volume per cent of peat maintained favorable permeability in resistance to severe treatment. It is believed that such a material should prove satisfactory for the growth of good turf under a wide range of conditions. If vermiculite is used, there appears to be little justification for making a mixture which contains more than 9 per cent of clay.

Even though nothing has been said here about the subgrade of a green, it is important to remember that the most ideal surface mixture will prove unsatisfactory without good subsurface drainage. It has been shown that too frequently those in charge of special use areas try to alter the surface mixture to

alleviate a condition which exists in the subsurface zone.

In summary:

(1) Permeability measurements show that coarse silt particles restrict water movement to less than 0.9 inch per hour when in layers 2 inches or more in depth.

(2) Peat when compacted at field capacity becomes almost impervious when in layers 6 inches in depth.

(3) In soil-sand mixtures, those containing 5, 10 and 15 per cent of clay restrict water movement to 4.1, 0.35 and less than 0.1 inches per hour.

(4) A mixture of equal volumes of sand, soil and peat had a permeability of 0.2 inch per hour when compacted at near field capacity. This was not considered adequate.

(5) A soil-sand-peat mixture containing 20 volume per cent peat and 8.2 weight per cent clay had a permeability rate of four times that of the 1-1-1 volume ratio mixture. This rate (0.8 inch per hour) is thought to be satisfactory and desirable for such special use areas.

(6) A vermiculite-soil-sand mixture (1-1-1 ratio) showed higher permeability and more resistance to compaction than a peat-soil-sand mixture (1-1-1 ratio).

Contribution of the Department of Agronomy, Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station, Stillwater, Okla. This work was supported in part by grants from the Oklahoma Turf Association, USGA Green Section, Oklahoma Section of the Professional Golfers' Association of America and the Oklahoma Golf Association. Dr. Garman presented this full paper at the American Society of Agronomy meetings, Turf Section, held in August, 1951, at State College, Pa. The sections headed "Experimental" and "Results and Observations" are omitted here for brevity. These data are of interest particularly to research personnel.

"TURF MANAGEMENT" IN DEMAND

Many folks are sending in \$6 to get a copy of "Turf Management", a publication of the United States Golf Association, by H. Burton Musser (McGraw-Hill Book Co., Inc.). Copies are available at the USGA office, 40 East 38th Street, New York 16, N. Y.; the USGA Green Section, Room 331 Administration Building, Plant Industry Station, Beltsville, Md., or through your bookstore.

Effect of Porous Soil Amendments on Water Retention Characteristics of Soils

By ROBERT M. HAGAN AND JOHN R. STOCKTON

For the past several years porous mineral materials such as vermiculite, pumice and expanded perlite have been used to a large extent as a plant rooting media and in packaging plants for shipment. Within the last year or two, they have been offered for sale as amendments or conditioners to improve the physical properties of soils. A few are advertised extensively and some extravagant claims are made for them. Among the advantages claimed for the use of these inorganic materials as general soil conditioners are that they "lighten" the soil, making tillage easier, improve soil aeration, retain nutrient elements and hold water. They have been shown to be helpful where they are used in very large proportions, as in rooting cuttings. However, it is questionable whether appreciable benefits are obtained when they are introduced in smaller proportions, as would generally be necessary under field conditions. This study deals only with the effect of general soil amendments on the water relations of soil.

Considerable interest has developed in the possibility of using inorganic soil amendments under turf, especially golf-course putting greens. Were it possible to extend appreciably the interval between irrigations on putting greens, the cost of incorporating these materials might be justified easily. Too, the fact that these inorganic materials are relatively inert should afford the advantage of being effective over a long period of time, as compared with organic substances. Inorganic soil amendments have no chemical effect on the soil and probably little influence on the aggregation of soil particles; they merely dilute the soil without altering its inherent structure. Any improvement in the water relations of soils arising from their use will depend directly upon their influence on root growth and water infiltration rates. The effectiveness of a given material will de-

pend upon its specific physical properties, particularly its porosity.

Pumice is a natural glass foam of volcanic origin. Its porous structure was developed by the rapid expansion of entrapped gases when the material was erupted. The pores are often tubular and many are of small diameter; its porosity is about 65 per cent of the apparent volume. Approximately one half of these pores can be filled with water, while the remaining pores are sealed or have dead ends which entrap air, preventing the entrance of water. As yet it is not known whether plant roots could enter the finer pores of this material or whether the rate of de-watering would be sufficiently fast to be of importance to plants.

Scorea is a basic, vesicular lava in which relatively large pores have formed by the expansion of gases before the material hardened. Most of the pores are separated by thick walls and are interconnected.

Expanded perlite is often called synthetic pumice. It is made by a process which expands natural perlite (a variety of obsidian) to produce many enlarged bubbles. The physical properties of perlites depend both on the raw obsidian used and on the processing. Two expanded perlites on the market today are Soil Air and Sponge Rok. Most of the expanded perlite now produced is used for light weight concrete aggregate where it is prized because of its very low moisture and gas absorption. However, it is possible that by suitable processing expanded perlites of quite different characteristics can be produced. Expanded perlites are very fragile and unless great care is exercised in mixing, much of the material is crushed to a fine dust.

Vermiculite has a very unique accordion-like structure with spaces between plates which are penetrated easily by water. It retains more water than the other materials studied; its mechanical

strength is low and, if kept wet, it may soon slake down to a pasty mass.

Other products, including slate pellets and haydite, have not as yet been examined.

The usefulness of these numerous materials for water retention in soils is dependent largely upon the nature of their porosity. Total porosity is meaningless. What is needed is a measure of the open and interconnected pores, also information on the size distribution of pores, inasmuch as water will not completely fill very small pores unless air is removed under a high vacuum prior to wetting. A newly developed mercury injection apparatus is being used to determine pore size distribution.

To evaluate the influence of amendments on the water relations of soils, consideration must be given to their effect on field capacity, wilting point and total available soil moisture. Measurements were undertaken of the field capacities and wilting points for two soils mixed with several amendments. Data are now available for only two expanded perlites (Soil Air and Sponge Rok) and for vermiculite, as each reacted with Yolo loamy sand and Yolo clay.

The water retention data suggest tentatively that the coarser particles of Soil Air and Sponge Rok have many blind pores. When mixed with a sandy loam soil even in amounts up to 50 per cent by volume, they do little to alter the field capacity, wilting point or available moisture capacity. Most sandy soils are quite permeable to water and permit deep root growth. Therefore, it would seem that the use of expanded perlites would not extend appreciably the irrigation interval on sandy soils. When added to clay soils, these materials may have little effect on the total available water per unit depth of soil, but they may cause deeper rooting and improve infiltration rates. When added in the amounts now recommended, that is up to 20 per cent volume, it appears that perlites would have little influence on the water relations of plants on many soils. Possible indirect benefits

arising from the use of such mineral amendments should be examined.

In contrast, the use of vermiculite in sandy soils would appear to offer a means for enlarging the available water capacity and lengthening the periods between irrigations. Its use in clay soils for this purpose would be less effective. In such soils, its value would probably depend largely upon its influence on rooting depth and infiltration rates. Unfortunately, when kept moist, vermiculite may slake down into a pasty material, causing poor-drainage problems in high vermiculite-soil mixtures. This property would seem to restrict its usefulness for improving the water relations of turf soils.

It is hoped that these findings may be helpful in interpreting results of plot

NEW GREEN SECTION SERVICE SUBSCRIBERS

- Armstrong, T. J., Toronto, Ont., Canada
 Artefactos De Papel, S. A., Monterrey, Mexico
 Baker, O. S., Miami, Fla.
 Bentley-Milorganite Co., Seattle, Wash.
 Binding Stevens Seed Co., Tulsa, Okla.
 Buckner Manufacturing Co., Chicago, Ill.
 Calvert Distilling Co. (The), Baltimore, Md.
 Carter, H. V., Co., Inc., San Francisco, Cal.
 Catholic Cemeteries (The), Hillside, Ill.
 Cleary, W. A., Corp., New Brunswick, N. J.
 Dickinson, Albert, Co. (The), Chicago, Ill.
 Dixie Lawn Supply Co., Inc., Louisville, Ky.
 Dunning (Bob)-Jones, Inc., Tulsa, Okla.
 Evergreen Cemeteries Association, Jacksonville, Fla.
 Foxcroft School, Middleburg, Va.
 Hart, Chas. C., Seed Co. (The), Wethersfield, Conn.
 Jacklin Seed Co., Dishman, Wash.
 Mitchell Brothers, Inc., Danvers, Mass.
 National Capital Toro, Inc., Silver Spring, Md.
 National Memorial Park, Inc., Falls Church, Va.
 Nelson, L. R., Manufacturing Co., Inc., Peoria, Ill.
 New York City, Department of Parks, New York, N. Y.
 Penn's Manor Products, Cornwells Heights, Pa.
 Philadelphia Association of Golf Course Superintendents, Havertown, Pa.
 Reed, William A., & Son, Inc., Baltimore, Md.
 Roseman Mower Corp., Evanston, Ill.
 St. Louis, Division of Parks and Recreation, St. Louis, Mo.
 Schmedemann, C. R., Implement Co., Manhattan, Kan.
 Standard Manufacturing Co., Cedar Falls, Iowa
 Toro Equipment Co., Inc., White Plains, N. Y.
 Turf Equipment, Inc., Kansas City, Mo.
 United Seeds, Inc., Omaha, Neb.
 Vanderbilt, R. T., Co., Inc., New York, N. Y.
 Vaughan's Seed Co., Chicago, Ill.
 Warren's Turf Nursery, Palos Park, Ill.

work. Some plots have been established in Los Angeles by Stoutemyer and Gallagher using pumice, scorea, expanded perlite and vermiculite. Additional plots are planned. Anderson, in Missoula, Mont., has plots with vermiculite. The plots are essential for investigating such things as the resistance of these amendments to crushing under service conditions, their effect on rooting depth and their influence on the growth and general appearance of the grass.

The other materials now available, especially pumice, will be studied. A better understanding of the pore structure of these products should aid in the selection of the most promising materials for field tests. In the last analysis, the usefulness of these materials will have to be verified under typical field conditions before their value can be ascertained.

Contribution of the Division of Irrigation, University of California, Davis, Cal. This paper was presented by Dr. Hagan at the American Society of Agronomy meetings, Turf Section,

held in August, 1951, at State College, Pa. In the accompanying letter Dr. Hagan writes about the project at Davis, supported in part by a research grant from the USGA Green Section: "Plots of Merion bluegrass have been established to study irrigation practices required for the maintenance of acceptable turf. There are three irrigation treatments, wet (when $\frac{1}{3}$ of total available water used), medium (when $\frac{2}{3}$ of total available water used) and dry (when approximately all the available water has been used and grass just begins to show wilting). These irrigation treatments will be carried out under two heights of clipping ($\frac{1}{2}$ and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches) and under two or three levels of nitrogen fertilization. Observations or data will be obtained on the influence of these irrigation treatments (at the two clipping heights and fertility levels) on the general appearance of the turf, growth, summer dormancy of bluegrass, turf density, weed encroachment, disease incidence (particularly brownpatch), root distribution and water requirements. Another study is in progress to determine the depth of rooting, the water requirements and the relative drought resistance of Alta vs. K-31 fescue, Merion vs. Kentucky bluegrass, Illahee vs. F-74 fescue and chewing (Penn State) fescue, U-3 vs. common bermuda, and Z-52 vs. Zoysia matrella. We may include Poa annua in this study."

EXCERPTS FROM TYPICAL ADVISORY SERVICE REPORTS

In the USGA JOURNAL, June 1950, an announcement was made concerning the enlarged scope of Green Section activities through Advisory Service visits to our USGA Member Clubs and Green Section Service Subscribers. The value of such visits is considerably enhanced by an official report which accompanies each inspection tour. These reports have proven valuable to superintendents and club officials in evaluating their programs and in formulating plans for further turf improvement. The cost of an Advisory Service visit to our members is \$50 a day of service, plus traveling and living expenses. Non-members may obtain this service at a cost of \$100 a day plus traveling and living expenses. Many of our member clubs avail themselves of this service during one trip of a Green Section representative, and thus pro-rate traveling and living expenses. Where two or more clubs are visited in one day, the Advisory Fee is \$25 to each club.

The following excerpts taken from our report files are typical examples of this

service. These recommendations may or may not pertain to your conditions.

Tees

"Most of the tees are much too small. The smaller ones could be enlarged to about three times their present size. It is suggested that the enlargement of these tees be done in such a way that there will be no steep slopes or abrupt changes in grade. Long, easy slopes can be maintained with power equipment whereas steep slopes require expensive hand maintenance . . ."

"Tees in general need aerifying more than anything else. This will allow water to penetrate and it will help in obtaining penetration of fertilizer down into the root zone, which will produce a more firm, deeper-rooted turf . . ."

"The plan for the sunny one-shot tees is to resod half of these tees at a time with U-3 Bermuda. The procedure will be to strip the U-3 sod as thin as possible. Thin sod always lays better, knits quicker, and, of course, the nursery area recovers much faster . . ."

"I would strongly urge that a generous nursery of C-115 creeping bent be selected with the view toward using this fast-growing, disease-resistant, drought-tolerant bent for sprigging or plugging into weak spots on the tees . . ."

Greens

"The dollarspot condition on the greens has been more severe because of the matted surface which has built up on the older greens. The disease is protected in this matted grass and fungicides cannot reach it effectively. The only alternative is to remove the surface mat of grass by raking and mowing. It will cause the greens to lose their pleasant appearance for a few days but this is inevitable. If the greens could be aerified and fertilized at the same time they are brushed, raked and mowed, they would be in much better shape . . ."

"It is obvious that the hand watering program this year has produced remarkable results. The moisture content of the greens is quite uniform and that is something that did not happen when the greens were being watered with set sprinklers . . ."

"The unsatisfactory greens, for best results, should be stripped, rebuilt, drainage installed, pre-mixed soil brought back, and new finished sod replaced . . ."

"There is very little to be done about the greens at the present time because they are so very, very good. They are maintained exactly as I envision championship greens . . ."

"The topdressing mixture should approach two parts sharp concrete sand, one part topsoil, and one part humus. If the soil is treated with 13 pounds of Cyanamid to each cubic yard, and stock-piled during the winter months, you will not be planting weed seeds every time you topdress . . ."

"The use of hydrated lime during the brownpatch season has shown merit. It is applied in the evening at 1 to 2 pounds to 1,000 square feet when brownpatch is persistent . . ."

Fairways

"Instead of purchasing and seeding large quantities of Colonial bent it may be better to invest that money in extra fertilizer or in extra labor in aerify-

ing . . ."

"According to all indications, the grass that will give you the best results at the present time is Merion (B-27) bluegrass . . . The Z-52 zoysia has performed extremely well. This could very well be the ideal fairway grass for you, especially when combined with Merion bluegrass..."

"It is evident that considerable chickweed will be present in the fairways this fall and winter. One suggestion to eliminate this is the use of sodium arsenite. This may be sprayed at the rate of 1 or 2 pounds to the acre in 50 gallons of water with a wetting agent added, applied every ten days during the fall, starting as soon as good growing weather is here and the nights are cool and the soil is moist. This treatment will materially reduce *Poa annua* and should scarcely affect any of the other grasses . . ."

"The crabgrass can be held in check by attaching combs to the fairway mowers . . ."

"If it meets with the members' approval, immediate economy can be brought about by eliminating the close trim on the sides of bunkers . . ."

Miscellaneous

"Considerable discussion developed around the subject of Green Chairmen. The Green Section consistently has suggested to its member clubs that the practice of retaining a good green committee chairman as long as possible is one that is recommended as being favorable not only to the superintendent's best efforts but to the welfare of the golf course . . ."

"I have not said anything about mowing roughs, maintaining sand traps, etc. These things should be no problem as long as your able superintendent is provided with the labor and equipment that he needs. He is to be complimented on the excellent condition of the golf course and the grounds . . ."

"Your Green Chairman and Superintendent have attended five turf conferences and field days during the past year. Through such attendance your golf club is kept abreast of the times and new developments in the field of turf management. The cost of such trips is returned many times over and is one of the wisest investments a club can make . . ."

IT'S YOUR HONOR

On Wisconsin!

To THE USGA:

The winter times in northern climes
Are long and cold and dreary.
The very thought of playing golf
Makes every golfer weary.
Then just about the Ides of March
When life stirs in the kernel,
'Tis like a breath of spring to get
The USGA JOURNAL.

WILLIAM N. BEVERIDGE
MILWAUKEE, WIS.

"Golf House" Fund

To THE USGA:

Enclosed find a small token of appreciation for "Golf House" Fund.

I wish to express my appreciation to the USGA for making the game of golf what it is today.

CHARLEY PENNA, PROFESSIONAL
BEVERLY COUNTRY CLUB
CHICAGO, ILL.

The New Rules

To THE USGA:

The committees of the United States Golf Association and Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews have performed a fine piece of work in unifying and simplifying the Rules of Golf and deserve the thanks and praise of every person who likes and plays the game.

I am glad the penalty stroke for out of bounds, etc., was retained and its remission by local rules is forbidden. The advice and restrictions on making local rules are also sound.

OSCAR FURUSET, PRESIDENT EMERITUS
OREGON GOLF ASSOCIATION
PORTLAND, ORE.

To THE USGA:

The USGA and those officials who have worked so diligently to produce these uniform Rules are certainly to be commended most highly. The game, and particularly the average golfer, will be enhanced. It is a pleasure to have this occasion to express both my admiration and appreciation.

M. K. JEFFORDS, JR., SEC.-TREAS.
SOUTHERN GOLF ASSOCIATION
ORANGEBURG, S. C.

To THE USGA:

The 1952 Rules book has been adopted by our players (in Southern California public links affairs) without protest or exception. The ladies, too, all of them, are using it and like it.

Sectional variances in uniform application will turn the clock back 25 years. Your lead should be followed by *all* golf associations throughout the country, and any and all differences of opinion should be submitted to the proper committee for consideration and decision. I'm for the new Rules and your authority to make and change them.

HARRY WINTERS
INGLEWOOD, CALIF.

Endorsement

To THE USGA:

As Chairman of the Tournament Committee of the Metropolis Country Club, I believe it wise that all members of the Committee subscribe to the USGA Journal and Turf Management, and I am therefore enclosing subscription applications and my check to cover. I feel very strongly on the subject of your magazine, to which I am a subscriber, as I derive much information and enjoyment from reading it. I happen also to be a student of the Rules and strongly endorse the principle of eliminating all local rules as far as possible and playing the game by the book. I know of no other game that is played by so many people where such a large percentage is generally ignorant of the Rules of the game they are playing. I do not think any golfer would sit down to play cards, or engage in any other sport or activity, without knowing what it is all about. However, I think you are doing a good job of educating players and with time feel that the work and labor to which you have devoted so much time and effort will manifest itself as more golfers learn how good a game it can be by merely playing it as it should be played.

NORMAN G. MEYERS
WHITE PLAINS, N. Y.

Editor's Note: The USGA Journal invites comments on matters relating to the welfare of the game and will publish them as space permits.

