his profit and satisfaction. He is sure to come home full of praise for
the other course and loaded with figures. He is sure to say, "Why, our
course looks like a cow pasture alongside that one, and they only spend
two-thirds as much as we do." The Lord only knows what the true ex-
planation of the difference is, but it is certain that the thing would prac-
tically explain itself if the costs were kept on the same basis.

We are aiming at a cost system so simple and practical that it will be
applicable to every club and be workable by anyone who is fit to be a
greenkeeper. Suggestions and questions are solicited. We shall be pleased
to receive letters from greenkeepers giving their views and experiences.

The Club Members and the Green Committee

The chairman of the green committee of any club has a very dif-
ficult position to fill. He is the natural recipient of every complaint re-
garding the condition of the course, and it is rare, indeed, that he is
accorded any appreciation or thanks. The other members of the com-
mittee escape, perhaps because the chairman is the logical target. It
is probably true that ninety per cent of the complaints are made by
players who have little knowledge of golf course problems and perhaps
none in regard to the limitations under which the green committee is
working. Most commonly complaints are endured by the chairman;
but occasionally he is taunted to irascible retorts. We have often won-
dered whether it is not possible to guide the faculty of players to find
faults so that it will be an asset to the green committee and to the club.
Why not extend an earnest invitation to every member who plays to
point out faults and deficiencies, but with the proviso that every such
criticism must be accompanied by a constructive suggestion? Wisdom
may come out of the mouths even of babes. The effect on the members
should be to divert their attentions to the problems themselves and thus
soothe their irritated feelings. From the chairman they will learn of dif-
ficulties they had not known, which, in turn, should lead them to devise
ways and means to help his committee. In short, it should help build up
a morale among the players and make them a source of strength to
the green committee instead of a lot of carping critics. Incidentally it
will greatly broaden the knowledge of the players on a lot of things
about a golf course of which they had not dreamed. The plan suggested
will require more time than the much-heralded one of telling the players
to go to a decidedly warmer climate; but we believe in the end results
will more than justify the effort.

Here’s the sign to put up:

Every member of this club who uses the course is invited and urged by the
Chairman of the Green Committee to make complaints to him whenever he finds
anything unsatisfactory on the course. The complaint may be verbal or in writing.
This condition is, however, attached: the complainant must prepare a constructive
suggestion that will make for correction of the fault or for provision of the need.

Straining at the Gnat

R. A. Oakley

There is an unmistakable tendency nowadays to look upon the prices
asked for seed of the fine turf grasses as being excessively high. Especially
is this true in the case of the fine bent. The seeds of these grasses are