

20 samples of fertilizer are handled through this service for the clubs annually. Of course the Green Section hasn't the necessary facilities for doing all this work at the office in Washington, but fortunately there is available, for such work outside, properly equipped laboratories and the services of competent men, and regardless of whether or not the work is done in the Green Section's office, the clubs get the service they request without having to bother further than writing the Green Section, stating what they want and sending in the sample. Much of this work, especially with soils and fertilizers, is done in the United States Department of Agriculture laboratories, while most of the work with fine grass seeds is done by a competent and reliable commercial seed analyst. This phase of the Service Branch alone has saved large sums of money for the clubs that have taken advantage of it inasmuch as it has put them wise to the quality and desirability of seeds, fertilizers, and other materials offered for sale.

The personal service involves the visiting of golf courses by representatives of the Green Section, for the purpose of advising or offering suggestions concerning the problems with which the clubs are confronted. About thirty-five courses were visited during the year 1926 by representatives of the Green Section and these visits were made usually at the request of the chairman of the green committee or some other official of the club. This is an important phase of the Green Section work because it offers opportunities to gain information as well as to render service. The demand for such service has been much greater than the Green Section has been able to supply owing to the limit in its personnel, and indications are that this demand will continue to increase as the work of the Green Section becomes better known.

This report only covers roughly the work of the Green Section, but I hope that this is sufficient to give a general idea of what is being done through the office in Washington.

Some U. S. Golf Association Decisions on the Rules of Golf

In a match play event, after approaching a green, both players find their balls in casual water on the green with a direct stymie resulting. What is the correct action here?

Decision.—We will call the contestants A and B, A being farthest from the hole. A was entitled to lift and replace his ball in accordance with Rule 27 (3). Rule 6 directs that a ball must be played wherever it lies, or the hole be given up, except as otherwise provided for in the Rules. Rule 27 (3) is an exception to Rule 6. As each player has the right to lift in his turn, the stymie could not recur, A's ball being played to the hole from the new position before B's ball is placed in its new position. It is important to note that a ball lifted in accordance with Rule 27 (3) may not be placed on any spot not nearer to the hole, but must be placed on the nearest position to the spot from which it was lifted which affords a putt to the hole without casual water intervening.

One of the players in the President's Cup Tournament in the first flight defaulted and then went into the Consolation, which he won. Some of the members of the club feel that if a player once defaults, he

is out of the tournament and can not enter into another class. Is there a definite ruling covering this?

Decision.—When a player has defaulted in a tournament in which he has qualified, he is not eligible to play in the Consolation or beaten eight division.

After driving a player finds his ball at rest in a pile of brush and leaves left by the groundkeeper near a tree on the right side of the course and nearly out of bounds. He drops the ball according to rule over his shoulder immediately back and within one club's length of the brush pile. The contour of the ground was such that the ball rolled down the hill to the left 8 or 10 feet. Should he play the ball from where it rests or should he place it within a club's length of the brush pile, and in the same relative position as originally found?

Decision.—Rule 8 governs dropping ball. The ball must be played if it did not roll in a hazard unless there was not space to drop it. If there was not space Rule 27, Section 5, applies.

Rules of Golf Translated Into Spanish

The United States Golf Association has just received from the Mexico Golf Association a booklet wherein the entire Rules of Golf have been set up in Spanish. Harry Wright, President of the Mexico Association, advises that the translation has been carefully made, is up to date and entailed a lot of hard work. On account of the growing interest in the game below the Rio Grande these rules in Spanish should be of great interest to the Spanish speaking players and help materially to a better understanding of the fine points in playing the ancient and honorable game. An interesting feature of the book is a picture showing that golf was played for the first time in Mexico at San Pedro de los Pinos in 1899. Also a picture of Willie Smith, one of the famous family of golfing Smiths, who was professional for many years at the Mexico City Country Club and is well remembered by the veteran golfers of Mexico. The Mexico Golf Association was formed in April, 1926, and its membership comprises the leading clubs of the country, namely: Chapultepec Heights, Guadalajara, Monterey, El Oro, Pachuca and Mexico City. The Mexico Association has modeled its constitution and activities along the lines of the U. S. G. A.

That the Green Section is becoming international in its influence is again illustrated by this letter recently received from the Secretary of the Magyar Golf Club of Budapest, Hungary.

Green Section of the United States Golf Association.

Gentlemen: The undersigned Magyar Golf Club of Budapest, Hungary, would be greatly obliged if you would send us your Bulletins on greenkeeping and constructing, not only the present publications but all up till today.

When we can't get them without payment, please let us know on what terms are you ready to send us them?

Thanking you in advance for the kindness,

Cordially yours,
(Signed) BELA DE SZLAVY, *Hon. Sec.*