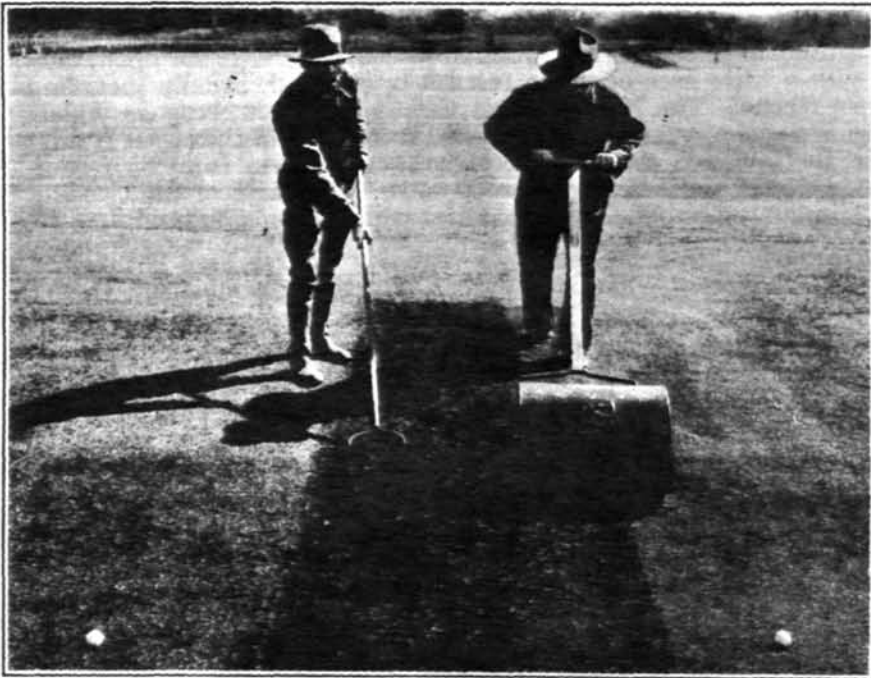


The better strains of creeping bent never form a "grain" because of the fact that under turf conditions their blades are so crowded together as to stand upright. But unless constant care is taken to keep the putting surface keen these desirable strains will become "fluffy," building up such a mat of turf that contact with the ground is lost and the putting surface becomes slow and untrue.

Daily close cutting and light topdressings applied at regular intervals throughout the playing season can not be dispensed with if greens of this type are to be kept firm and true.

At least once during the season, preferably in the early spring, the turf should be brushed or raked to bring the runners and long stems to the surface. After close mowing the operation should be repeated, this time the turf being raked and mowed at right angles to the line first taken.



The turf at the left of the photograph was a putting surface well above the average. That on the right has been raked and mowed as above described and was practically perfect even before being lightly topdressed.

The difference in texture of the turf to right and left can be distinctly seen.

Turf so treated is not injured even for a short time. On the contrary, it seems to be stimulated by this shallow cultivation. But if a thick dense mat has been allowed to form, a temporary setback is inevitable. It must be endured, however, if uniform, fast, true putting surfaces are desired.