

IT'S YOUR HONOR

RADIOACTIVE BALL

TO THE USGA:

Your article in the June issue with regard to a radioactive golf ball is of particular interest to me. Your item reports an invention said to insure the locating of the ball when lost. Since I hold a patent application filed early this year on just such an invention, I feel in a position to clarify the facts involved.

To begin with, the quantity of radioactivity necessary to the ball of my design would be 75 microcuries. This amount is infinitely small and were it to be multiplied 180 times (as in the case of 15 dozen balls), the total degree of radioactivity would still be harmless to humans or animals in close proximity. (This can readily be corroborated by the Atomic Energy Commission).

Furthermore, the amount involved being so infinitesimal, standard characteristics of present-day golf balls such as size, weight, impact velocity, etc., would remain totally and completely unaffected. The radioactive life of the proposed ball would be three and a half to four years.

With regard to the detector instrument, it would be slightly under a pound in weight, attachable to the golf bag, sturdy in construction, so constituted as to have a life of at least 10 years, capable of locating the ball from anywhere within a radius of 18 feet and would sell for approximately the cost of a new club.

Needless to say, the advantages of such an arrangement are numerous, an end to the continuous irritation of hunting the ball which manages somehow to tuck itself just out of sight, an end to the penalty stroke necessary each time one gives up the search, a definite speeding up of the over-all game and, of course, the saving of that dollar time and time again.

Trusting that you will see fit to publish this explanation of mine, I remain,

WARREN H. WESSON
NEW YORK CITY

BOUQUET

TO THE USGA:

I enclose my check covering renewal of the USGA JOURNAL. . . I cannot see how anyone with a spark of interest in the great game of golf could do without it.

CHRIS REN
NUTLEY, N. J.

GREENKEEPER'S VIEWPOINT

TO THE USGA:

I am greenkeeper at Barton Hills Country Club. Our club is a USGA affiliate; therefore, a copy of the USGA JOURNAL comes to me regularly. I enjoy it and express gratitude in your furtherance of greenkeeping along with the golfing end of the game. This brings our work to the attention of members and readers.

ANDREW BERTONI
ANN ARBOR, MICH.

ONE FOR THE BOOK

TO THE USGA:

Again and again I hear the boys say, "It's a great book now. Remember how we used to struggle back and forth through the old Golf Rules, trying to get straightened out? Now it's a gimme. No trouble at all."

Thought you'd like to know that the boys out in the meadows working with their mallets feel this way about the book.

Here's a play that came up at St. Davids recently. Our 12th is a pretty smart par 4—takes a long carry with that second shot to get up on the shelf and stay there. Anyhow, this fellow hooks his drive back of a tree. Has to slap his second shot crosswise to get on the fairway without gaining any distance towards the hole.

Now he's up for his third strike and again it's a hook, way down in the valley, off to the left, out of sight around the bend down by the brook. Maybe out of bounds.

Sooo-o, he hits a provisional ball . . . and HOLES OUT! Yes, he carries to the shelf, gets a nice hop, bings the stick and STICKS. When the boys search for the original ball, they find it also stuck, wedged in the wire fence marking the boundary. So what is it?

Well, with the old Rule book, they'd be fighting yet, all over town. How about a decision on this one in your next number of the JOURNAL?

Speaking of golf books, new and improved, the JOURNAL belongs in the same bracket with the Rule Book. Maybe the golf ball is not any faster than 20 years ago, but the golf BOOKS. . . ARE!

BILL BRANDT
CONSHOHOCKEN, PA.

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

