

## Differing Views of Creepers

A center of strife and controversy is the slow player on a golf course, and arguments continue to buffet him like a hailstorm. This moot creature comes in for discussion again in two club publications in recent weeks, the *FAIRWAY* of the Winged Foot Golf Club, Mamaroneck, N. Y., and the *FOREWORD* of the St. Davids Golf Club, Wayne, Pa.

Winged Foot handles the subject with a mailed fist. We can almost see the author, his choler rising to the boiling point, his pen nearly ripping the paper with the force of his strokes as he pours out his indignation. Boxed under the title, "Listen, Mr. Slow Player—", the article follows:

"You are not popular around here.

"You are the subject of considerable vigorous words in the locker rooms.

"You will find it hard to get games if you don't reform. Already many men avoid you.

"You inflict unnecessary torture on the men in your match as well as on the sufferers who have to stand behind you while you fiddle around, choosing a club, while you take one, two, three or more practice swings before every shot, and while you loiter over a putt and make everybody else fidget.

"Another thing—how can you have the gall to re-try a putt when the match behind you is waiting to shoot to the green?

"We wouldn't say you deliberately make everybody in sight wait on your execrable manners, but you certainly are callous and indifferent to the comfort of your fellow members.

"Starting now, when you are out there making life miserable for everybody, the match behind you is going to demand that you step aside and pass it through. And if you refuse, or make a fuss about it, the players you have offended are authorized to cite you to the Board of Governors for conduct unbecoming a golfer, a member and a gentleman.



Cartoon courtesy of Tom Paprocki  
**Golf's Problem Child**

"If you are so obtuse that you don't know you indulge in this annoying habit, it will serve you right if another member tells you about it in any words he chooses, and the Club will back him up!"

### Another Slant

The tone of the St. Davids writer is different. Him we visualize as a mellow man, confronted with a vexing problem but not permitting it to affect his digestion. He seems to be a calm individual: were he a judge having to mete out justice, he would not do so without weighing carefully the circumstances that led to the crime.

The box in the *FORWARD* is under the title, "Please!!", in bold black letters. It is brief but says much:

"One of the few remaining privileges we have is to play a game of golf at a rate of speed to suit ourselves. Some of us desire to play slowly—others at a faster pace. However, a foursome must accommodate itself to its slowest member.

"Remember that the players behind have just as much right to play **FAST** as you have to play **SLOWLY**, and if you choose the latter method, do the proper

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ganizations for their personnel. For this latter group this possibility should be especially valuable at a time when every effort is being made to break up vital manufacturing operations into smaller units located at spots comparatively safe from atom bomb attacks.

Six-hole units should not be poor tests of golf ability or monotonous if, in the design, due consideration is given to hole-length variation and the device of multiple tees is used to the utmost. A suggested yardage table is appended:

**POSSIBLE MULTIPLE TEE LENGTH VARIATIONS**

HOLES ARRANGED IN ORDER OF LENGTH, NOT IN PLAYING SEQUENCE

<i>Yards Length Average</i>	<i>Yards Length Minimum</i>	<i>Par</i>	<i>Yards Length Maximum</i>	<i>Par</i>
130	100	3	160	3
190	160	3	220	3
330	300	4	360	4
390	360	4	420	4
450	420	4	480	5
530	490	5	570	5
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
2,020	1,830	23	2,210	24
x 3	x 3	x 3	x 3	x 3
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
6,060	5,490	69	6,630	72

If six-hole courses are accepted, the golfer whose age approaches 60 or 70, and who needs the relaxation and exhilaration six holes will bring, can find it without the fatigue and strain which 18 holes sometimes produce. The man who cannot escape the clutches of business before 4 or 5 o'clock can easily get in a full round of six holes just before or after dinner. One will no longer be required to take off half a day to enjoy golf and can, by thus playing at frequent intervals throughout the week, instead of week-ends only, improve his golfing ability beyond belief.

Occasionally the opportunity is presented to use limited areas in congested zones for golf. Witness the Mid-City Golf Course on 60 acres within 20 minutes of Chicago's loop. This course, built

on the unstable filled excavation of a huge clay pit, has not only transformed an unsightly dump into a park but has provided a valuable recreation ground for the dense population surrounding it. Almost half of its week-day play occurs in the evening after 5 o'clock, when the twilight golfers — few of whom get in over fifteen holes, many nine or less — take their daily workouts after hours of confinement.

At luncheon one day last summer in Chicago, Herb and Joe Graffis, of GOLF-DOM, Bob Harris, golf course architect, Ted Woolley and the writer agreed after a lengthy discussion that the idea of six-hole golf courses was a sound one, that it would enable many more people to enjoy the game, and that its adoption should be encouraged.

**DIFFERING VIEWS OF CREEPERS**

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thing and signal to the players behind you to come through."

We confess that this is a viewpoint that had escaped many of us in the uproar to speed up play. Regardless of how many are on one side or the other,

we salute the writer of the FORWARD box for at least reminding us that privileges are not confined to those who agree with us.

It all boils down to the principle upon which the Constitution of the United States is predicated: our liberties end at the point where they begin to encroach upon the liberties of our fellow men.