

MEDITATIONS OF A PERIPATETIC GOLFER

The word "green" in the phrase "The Green Committee" has relation to grass and its culture. In many cases, however, judging from some committees we have met, it truly has the other meaning, "calow."

A wise old saying is, "One year's seeding may mean seven years' weeding." And there are lots of putting-greens over seven years old where the weeding has not been well done. They were all probably seeded to "mixtures" guaranteed to give that beautiful velvety turf.

A golf course covered with snow! How beautiful that hemlock tree in the clump of trees, all but it bare and leafless!

A solid sheet of ice an inch thick covering a putting-green. Don't worry. It will do no harm if the drainage is good. If the drainage is bad it could never be a good green anyway.

A course with fairways so close that there is practically no rough, necessarily the case where there are 18 holes on 75 or 80 acres. 120 acres is about the minimum for a really good 18-hole course.

A lovely green framed in a semicircle of trees. A frame for the picture the green makes is never undesirable.

Beautiful, bubbling springs, each in attractive rock or concrete work. Much better than the old 19th hole of the bibulous age.

Bird boxes in the trees. Fine idea. Every golf club should have the spirit of the Audubon Society and encourage the birds.

A green covered with patches of veronica, selaginella and galingale sedge—all of them lovers of soggy soil. The plants can tell us a lot about soil conditions.

A sluggish creek with oozy mud at the bottom across a fairway, making a grave for hundreds of balls. Why not clean it out and cover the bottom with gravel and coarse sand?

Jim says blind holes are fine. They save the profanity that would be used if he could see where his ball landed.

A putting-green of *Poa annua*, beautiful in color and texture and perfectly true. In some places this grass is certainly a fine thing to have; besides, it is doubtful if you can get rid of it if you should want to.

Sheep's fescue on putting-greens. Ye gods! Somebody evidently bought Maginnis' Mysterious Mixture to seed his greens.

Grassy hollows about the greens instead of sand bunkers—much prettier and quite as difficult. Must we always try to imitate coast-dune conditions, regardless of expense, even when we are on black prairie soil?

Carpet-grass, where it is adapted, makes perfect fairways. A lot of our southern friends ought to become better acquainted with this grass.

Some genius has developed a new way to mark the location of a blind hole. He floats a toy balloon high enough from the top of a bamboo pole. Fine idea!

The farmer is a wise guy. See him hauling that manure to where it will be needed over the frozen ground. Green-keepers may well profit by his long experience and haul sand for bunkers, manure and compost for future top-dressings, and take care of similar drayage work when the hauling is easiest and does least damage to the course. Besides, it saves a lot of time for the busy season in spring.