

## Meditations of a Peripatetic Golfer

A really first-class golf hole should be fair to every degree of skill.

One volume of Whitman's Poems is entitled "Soil Preparation and Grass Seed." We have a suspicion that some clubs are using this as the basis of their greenkeeping.

In selecting a site for a golf course SOIL is very important. Sandy loam is most desirable, then in order loam, sand, silt loam, clay loam, silt, clay, and last of all adobe. Gravel is always to be avoided.

Golf architecture designed to deceive the player defeats its own ends. At best it fools only the players new to the course.

Another lot of greens seeded to Google's Gorgeous Grass Goulash. Better try Mulligan's Marvelous Mixture. There is a sucker born every minute.

A backed-up green of 8,000 square feet for a mashie hole. It's a real dub that can miss such a target.

A millionaire's golf course with neither seats nor shade on the tees. Looks as if it must be managed by some one who "has it in" for the idle rich.

Some architects must think that a course with the holes closely contiguous adds to the thrills. Certainly it adds the spice of danger necessary to some sports.

"Humus"—that is, the commercial article—is like a paste diamond. It looks very beautiful but is actually worth very little.

Some greens we know are much like the golf player. The first year they are rotten, and after that grow steadily worse.

Every green on a new course, one of the built-up-at-the-back type. This is probably the best type of green, but there are others that deserve a place on every course, notably a few built on the natural surface.

"No," the manager said, "we have no turf problems, but our greens are rotten."

An exquisite sward of bird grass or rough-stalked bluegrass in the shade under the trees. This is the best of all shady lawn grasses.

A red fescue green two years old and still very cuppy. This is the common behavior of red fescue.

Some architects seem imbued with the idea that excellence in a golf course is proportional to its difficulty.

Watch your putting greens on a very rainy day; then you can tell which ones need better surface drainage.