

Meditations of a Peripatetic Golfer

If you are going to build a new course, get an architect first of all.

Sweet vernal grass in the rough. Easily grown, and its odor is very agreeable.

If sand is expensive, there is no valid reason for a sand hazard on a course unless it can be seen. The effect is mainly mental. If a hollow can not be seen, make it of grass, really quite as effective as sand.

A thicket of privet or a row of junipers is excellent to safeguard a tee exposed to wild shots.

Why do architects persist in making built-up rectangular tees? They are unsightly at best and often costly to build. Besides, it is harder to grow good turf on a raised tee and more expensive to mow and to maintain.

Don't try to get good turf by seeding at a heavier rate than has been suggested by *The Bulletin*. Spend more effort on soil preparation.

There is no good reason why any green should exceed 8,000 square feet in size. If they are larger, the increased expense is out of all proportion to any real advantages.

We still wonder why golf clubs tolerate—

Exactly square or perfectly circular greens;
Hidden sand bunkers;
Chocolate drops.

The auto salesmen call a prospective buyer a "minute-man"—one born every minute, you know. Lots of the fellows who sell to golf clubs ought to use a similar term.

Some fellows, probably at one time cooks, still build putting greens in layer-cake fashion. Curious that Dame Nature gives no endorsement to this idea, isn't it?

Red fescue is probably so called because its usual results make the green committee "see red." Chewings' fescue is only a variety of red fescue—but it has the same effect.

On poorly drained or flat land, bunkers can well be replaced by sand wastes—that is, areas of sand on top of the grounds with scattered bunches of marram grass or of blue lyme grass. The grass tends to prevent blowing of the sand.

A golden-leafed maple, a bronze-leafed maple, or a copper birch planted here and there in a woodland border is very beautiful.

Fairways in perfect condition on ground that received little care in preparation. Putting greens on the same course wretched after great expense. Effort must be spent wisely to get good results.

The sign of the cross. A green divided into four quadrants by low cross ridges. Pious, perhaps, but not artistic.

A golfer is not unlike a wobbler on a bicycle. He shoots into what he is trying to avoid—mental hazard, some call it. Therefore, make bunkers visible.

How to build a tee. Don't do it unless absolutely necessary. Just keep mowed with the fairway mower a reasonably level piece of land.