

golf balls to play this hole. The United States Golf Association should pass a stringent rule absolutely forbidding the use of any but a perfectly spherical ball. As it is, my masterpiece is made a sort of laughing stock.

Of all my courses I regard Haggis-by-the-Sea as the best and most varied. On this course I employed all of the construction devices which have made me notorious, besides using an idea that I felt sure would be popular. The commonest failing of all golfers is slicing. Therefore I built all the bunkers to penalize hooks and pulls, none to bother slices or shies. As I anticipated, all the slicers are boosters for the course, but the other fellows call it a "slice course." I always try to provide the greatest good to the greatest number of players, and to this I ascribe the large measure of my success.

I am also noted for my ability to make holes deceptive, one of the highest phases of the art, in my judgment. I like to make the easy way appear difficult and the difficult way seem easy. In this art blind or concealed bunkers are very effective. The player thinks he has made a fine shot—but finds his ball in a bunker. Blind greens are also very effective. Some pinheaded critic has said that such construction fools only the man new to the course—which indeed may be true; but it makes that fellow remember the course even if he does curse the architect. After all, there is not much difference between fame and infamy; the idea is, to be remembered. My traducer also intimates that no sane golfer will play one of my courses a second time—but who ever heard of a sane golfer?

I have acquired no little fame from my construction of bunkers, which I always build twice as deep as does any other architect. I like them about ten feet deep, with vertical banks. It is highly entertaining to watch the desperate golfer strive to get his ball out of one of these abysses. Unfortunately such performances can not be witnessed by ladies, as the language used by the golfer would shock them immeasurably. This type of bunker will always determine whether or not a man has the proper playing temperament. One of the kind who has not the right temperament said he took eleven strokes "in that — — bunker." The dashes are unprintable.

These brief comments will, I am sure, show to the sagacious that the strictures of my self-appointed critic are both fatuous and imbecile, not to say asinine. Artists, among whom are to be included the golf architects, are born, not made, and I regard it as presumptuous and insolent for any mere golfer to criticize their work. Any restrictions on the genius of artists are bound to lead to a made-in-the-factory type of golf courses. I am sure this danger will be appreciated by all true lovers of the sport.

Fertilizing Value of Waste Product from Cotton Mills

Mr. C. G. Holland, of the Danville Golf Club, Danville, Virginia, writes as follows:

"I am sending you under separate cover a sample of material we are planning to use extensively at the Danville Golf Club, Danville, Va. We can secure an abundance of this material from the local cotton mills at the expense of hauling it. It is what is known at our local cotton mills as 'picker seed,' and is a waste product derived from the cleaning of raw cotton before it is combed and spun. It consists principally of dirty cotton fiber, immature fibers, and all of the trash that comes out of a bale of cotton, being almost pure vegetable matter. We put it in a pile and wet it as thoroughly as we can with a hose. As you can imagine,

it requires a great quantity of water to wet it thoroughly. Two or three days after being wet it heats to such an extent that one can not hold his hand six inches from the surface of the pile, and in a few months it reaches the condition of the sample being sent you. It does not give off any vapor as barnyard manure does when it heats after being wet. It is full of the seed of weeds and coarse grasses, but the heating process thoroughly sterilizes it as to seed.

"We have used some of this material in an experimental way and found it very satisfactory. For instance, we planted Bermuda seed in a box of this material with a check box of good top soil. The seed planted in this material germinated ten days earlier than the seed in the top soil, and in six weeks it was four times as high as the seed planted in the top soil, and the germination seemed to be about 50 per cent better.

"We are preparing a large quantity of it for top-dressing our Bermuda greens, as it seems to us to be ideal for this purpose, it being almost entirely free of pebbles and after drying it breaks up very fine upon being rolled, and it will absorb quantities of water and hold the moisture almost indefinitely. We have a pile of this material screened, and during an exceedingly dry spell this summer it was found to be damp about one inch from the surface, the pile having been out in the sun a month without rain.

"This material can be had by a great many golf courses throughout the South and East near cotton mills, and it appears to us to be ideal for top-dressing purposes for putting greens. As it contains some fragments of cottonseed hulls it must have some fertilizing value aside from its humus content."

Golf courses in the cotton district will be very glad to obtain this information which Mr. Holland has so thoughtfully furnished.

Inexpensive tee boxes.—The Oberlin Golf Club has used for sand boxes at its tees, chimney flue lining tile 8 inches by 12 inches in cross section. These come 2 feet in length, and placed on end are of a convenient height. We purchased for 25 cents apiece tiles slightly broken at one end, which end we placed 6 inches into the ground. Painted white each with a maroon strip around the top, they make an attractive appearance. The sand does not dry out in the tile as it does in a wooden box. They seem better and much less expensive than ordinary sand boxes. We supply water at the tees by faucet and thus do away with water pails.—*Maynard M. Metcalf, Oberlin, Ohio.*

Rate of seeding.—In an advertising pamphlet put out by a seedsman appears the following: "It has been demonstrated so often that it is almost unnecessary to repeat it, that the way to get golfing turf quickly is to sow plenty of seed." He does not define what he means by "plenty." The article in the June, 1923, *BULLETIN* should be your guide as to kind of seeds to use and the proper rates of seeding. If you use more seed than there indicated, you are wasting money.

Vegetative propagation in Ontario.—The Toronto Golf Club, Long Branch, Ontario, Canada, informs us that they have planted out this year from a small nursery planted last year 1¼ acres of creeping bent in rows. This is going some.