

Meditations of a Peripatetic Golfer

A green built by putting four inches of very sandy soil mixed with commercial humus on top of a cinder layer 6 to 9 inches thick. No wonder the grass refused to grow.

Too much manure can be as unsatisfactory as none at all.

It does not take much ability to lay out a mediocre golf course. To design one of great merit requires skill of the highest degree.

About five per cent of the people think; the other ninety-five per cent tend to believe everything they read. People with things to sell, advertise to reach the ninety-five per cent. Too many golf course managers are in the ninety-five per cent class.

Should Chewings' fescue be planted in September or in April? It really makes little difference. The results are usually disappointing anyway.

Sand on a clay course should be synonymous with danger. Therefore make it visible. Such a hazard which is not visible loses ninety per cent of its effectiveness.

It is wonderful how much abuse grass can withstand. If this were not true many golf courses would be bare.

"Ten Commandments of Golf Architecture"

(Said to have been found in the tomb of Tutankhamen.)

Thou shalt not

- build blind holes;
- build undrained greens;
- make putting swards too large or too small;
- construct invisible bunkers;
- make rectangular tees;
- build more than one water-hole on a course;
- follow models slavishly;
- build 3-shotters just to get yardage;
- strive to penalize the duffer nor make the way easy for the crack;
- build holes that spoil the beauty of the landscape.

New Year's Resolutions for Greens Chairmen and Greenkeepers:

- I shall write to the Green Section when I am in doubt.
- I shall provide ample compost beds.
- I will have a grass nursery of the best strain for my course.
- I shall see that the cups are changed daily.
- I will keep all machines in the best of condition.
- I will see that drainage everywhere on the course is ample.
- I will not buy seed mixtures.