Meditations of a Peripatetic Golfer

One of the best ways to combat weeds in the putting green is to keep the turf dense and vigorous.

Before the craze for having the longest hole in golfdom leads to further insanity, we propose a prize for the shortest hole. There are no limits as to length prescribed in the Rules of Golf. For the shortest hole, however, it is suggested that the only club to be used on the tee be a wooden toothpick.

Any good thing, including both materials and methods, may be used to excess, with resultant harm. "Temperance in all things" is a maxim which applies to greenkeeping.

A famous architect says, "The attempt to reproduce a well-known hole with hopelessly different materials is the most futile nonsense in golf architecture." It is hard to make a replica of a water hole where there is no water. The principle of any type of hole can, however, be applied in many different ways to details.

The type of golf course construction has much to do with the cost of its upkeep. Construction which calls for much hand-labor in mowing always adds to the expense.

Because certain fertilizers give the highest hay yields, it does not at all follow that the same fertilizers are best for growing turf.

The trade still harps on the value of "commercial humus" for golf courses. We repeat that one ton of well-rotted manure or mushroom soil is easily worth five tons of commercial humus for growing turf. Frequently the discrepancy is far greater, as commercial humus is often positively harmful.

Any poor or mediocre hole is too long or too short as you may please. Length has little to do with the playing qualities of a hole.

In your compost, the humus materials should probably never exceed 25 per cent of the total mass.

How to beat the Hole-in-One Club. Build short holes, say six inches to six feet in length. There is nothing in the Rules to the contrary.

Good humus and "commercial humus" are very different things.

What do you think of a club which fired its manager because he sought and followed the advice of the Green Section? Incredible, but true.