the University Farm, was induced to take up the work along with his other duties. Samples of many strains of bent grass were secured, and the work was started. The Twin City Section held one of their fall meetings at the University Farm, to observe the work and inspect the grasses. The results were so pronounced and the future so promising that the Twin City Section pledged its support, and Senator Brooks was instructed to advise Dr. Piper that we would contribute $500 to carry on the work under the direction of the United States Golf Association Green Section, and this was announced by Senator Brooks at the United States Golf Association Green Section's annual meeting in Chicago in January, 1926.

We believe that, from a purely educational standpoint, the Twin City Section has contributed as much, if not more, exact information to the clubs tributary to the Section, and with less cost, than has any local section in the country. The great interest in the work and the organization has never lagged from the start, and increases as time goes by and more practical knowledge is gained.

While we are not unmindful of what Dr. Piper, Dr. Oakley and Prof. Carrier contributed to the success of this work, there are a few individuals that deserve a great deal of credit for organizing the Section and pushing the work to a successful conclusion, and to these men we all feel deeply grateful. They are Senator W. F. Brooks and Messrs. J. A. Hunter, Charles Van Ness, E. M. Barrows and Charles Erickson. The efforts of these gentlemen, together with the helpful suggestions from Washington and the monthly BULLETIN, were the foundation on which we have built up a strong and practical organization for the upbuilding of golf courses along more economical and satisfactory lines.

Peat and Humus

Notwithstanding the frequent references which have appeared in THE BULLETIN to the harmful effects that have followed the use of peat in the preparation of the soil bed for turf and as an ingredient of compost, numerous inquiries are still received with regard to the use of humus on the golf course. These inquiries appear to be prompted by the fact that the fertilizing value of peat is highly exploited and that its supply is relatively abundant and it is easily marketed. While it is true that in some sections of the country excellent crops of vegetables can be produced on peaty lands, and that peat is a form of humus, and that humus in some form is necessary for the growth of nearly all kinds of vegetation, including grass, it does not follow that peat will benefit the turf grasses. Indeed, experiments have shown that, on the contrary, peat is decidedly deleterious to the growth of turf grasses. To clarify the matter it is perhaps necessary that the difference between humus as it occurs naturally and commercialized humus be clearly understood. Humus, strictly speaking, is organic matter undergoing a process of decay. Peat is really pickled organic matter, in which the decay is practically nil. It is undecayed humus which has been started upon a transition into coal. It has the color and much of the texture of a rich black loam; but it will not decay, nor will it furnish any food available for plant growth.

We advise golf clubs without hesitancy to make full use of humus of suitable kind in the preparation of soils lacking humus and in the making of their compost piles. The best form of humus is, without question, well-rotted barnyard manure, while mushroom soil, woods earth, and similar materials are also forms of humus of high value. All the forms of commercial humus we have seen possess none of the characteristics of these latter desirable materials.

Some U. S. Golf Association Decisions on the Rules of Golf

A player drives from the tee into a marsh. The ball is visible in the mud, and the player elects to "play it out." He carries into the marsh a board, root, or stone (from outside the hazard), places it, and makes the shot with one foot on it. He claims he has such a right.

Decision.—Rule 15 covers this point. The player must be deemed to have committed an act contrary to the spirit of this rule in taking his stance. A player is not entitled to change the playing condition of the course, and in this case he has done so and must be penalized under the Rules.

A player claims that under Rule 11 he is entitled to lift a ball from a wheel track (not freshly made) in the fairway, basing his contention on the "hole made by the greenkeeper" clause in this rule. There is no vehicular traffic on the course other than that of the greens force, and no special rule has been made for such a case.

Decision.—In the absence of a local rule, a player is not entitled to lift under Rule 11. It is the plain duty of the committee in charge to designate this situation either as "ground under repair" or, if warranted, a "permanent hazard."

A player tees his ball on the teeing ground. In taking a limbering-up or practice swing he knocks the ball 30 to 40 feet. He states it was an accident and insists that there shall be no penalty. From a careful study of Definition 13 and Rule 2, and the consideration that golf is a game of integrity, it is felt that in a case such as this the player's word must be accepted.

Decision.—Rule 2 must be considered to cover this point. The Rules Committee of the United States Golf Association are under the impression that the player in this case must have gone beyond the interpretation of "addressing the ball" in knocking it 30 or 40 feet, and therefore must consider that he put the ball in play and that it should be counted as a stroke.

Superiority of stolons of new growth for vegetative planting.—It has been demonstrated that old stolons of creeping bent do not produce nearly as large a proportion of buds or new plants as do stolons of new growth. Moreover, nursery rows a year old make little growth the second year. It is much more satisfactory to start a new nursery each fall than to carry over old rows. If, however, old stolons are available, they should be planted much more thickly than is advised for new stolons.