into greens, including such well known pests as white grubs, the green June beetle, and the Japanese beetle. Digging wasps and bees also are on its bill-of-fare. Such miners in turf as wireworms, clover-root borers, and leather-jackets (larvae of crane-flies), and such grass eaters as leaf-hoppers, cutworms, and other caterpillars, and grasshoppers, also are devoured. Ants, nuisances everywhere but especially so on putting greens, are freely eaten by the kingbird, probably mostly on the wing when they are flying to new points of infestation.

The kingbird does well, as it also looks well, on the golf course, and should always be protected.

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The Most Prevalent Defect in American Golf Courses
By Maynard M. Metcalf

I do not know European golf courses, but have studied 86 in North America and 13 in South and Central America. Almost nowhere have I seen at all adequate provision of practice ground and proper facilities for the giving of lessons.

Practice ground of sufficient size and proper character for driving, for short and long approaching by run up, pitch and run, or dead-stop shots, for shots out of sand traps and out of rough and for putting should be provided in connection with every course which is designed to train good golfers; and ground for lessons with open-front rain shelters for instruction should also be provided.

Members will not practice enough if they have to use the course itself for this purpose. They feel that they are in the way and are a nuisance and they know it is irritating to themselves in practice to be constantly interrupted by players. For the training of good golfers practice is at least equally important with play. It should be encouraged by providing abundant room with opportunity for trying out all kinds of shots.

It isn't quite reasonable to deprive instructors and players of opportunity for lessons in rainy weather. High, open-front sheds can be built very cheaply and will enable the golf instructor to continue his work on mildly rainy days, a benefit to his own purse and a decided advantage to the players.

It seems strange that nearly all golf courses are lacking in practice ground, in ground for lessons, in teaching sheds, or usually in all three. Probably the provision of these facilities in our clubs would do more than anything else of similar cost to improve American golf.

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Variation from Standard Practice

"In the past three years I have used approximately 1,000 yards of topdressing; each year the amount has diminished materially as the putting surface improved. During the growing season I use about a yard of topdressing at each application. I do not go by any set rule as to how often I topdress for I know my soil condition and topdress when necessary. Some of my greens are topdressed nearly twice as often as others, occasionally going as long as seven weeks without showing the need of topdressing."—C. M. Melville, Greenkeeper, Southmoor Country Club, Chicago, Ill.
The foregoing quotation illustrates the fact that golf course main-
tenance can not be completely successful by blindly following rule of
thumb methods. While a cubic yard to each 5,000 square feet is an
excellent average there are conditions which make variation from it
advisable, the new green whose surface is not yet true probably
requiring more than that rate while the old green with well established
turf and a true putting surface will need less.

The careful greenkeeper realizes the need of varying his methods
to suit changing conditions. Not only is this true as applied to top-
dressing, but also to the use of chemicals, fertilizers, frequency of
mowing, and most often to watering. On the same course variations
in drainage, soil fertility, contour, and so forth lead the observant
greenkeeper to depart from what might be called his standard prac-
tice, but only after becoming convinced that special methods are
required.—Editors.

Mr. Howard F. Whitney, a former President of the United States
Golf Association, has been elected a member of the Rules of Golf Com-
mittee of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews. Mr. Whit-
ney is the first American golfer to become a member of this com-
mittee.

Those interested in golf course architecture, if only slightly, will
find The Links, by Robert Hunter (Charles Scribner's Sons) a notable
contribution to the literature on that subject as well as very easy
reading.

The following quotations from Mr. Hunter's book illustrate the
idea emphasized throughout that golf architecture should have two
aims, one utilitarian, the other artistic.

"In most of the best work of today ploughs and scrapers are used
to fashion and contour the ground so that it may be made to serve the
uses of the game. Proportion, symmetry, and uniformity are care-
fully worked out in the designs, and when the finished product appears
it so blends itself into the surrounding landscape that few can tell
where nature ends and art begins."

"Some indifferent holes have many hazards; and some of the best
have few. Nearly all great holes have a particular terrain which has
made their greatness possible."

"Now and then one finds a hole of real distinction which nature
herself has modelled, and to add anything artificial would be a crime.
That is, of course, rare, but he who can not see such natural features
and take full advantage of them is unfitted for work in this field."

"Placing The Hazards," is the title of the chapter which will prob-
ably be of greatest interest and value to the layman, although the
entire well illustrated volume might profitably be read by most Green
Committeemen.

Soil for topdressing.—If compost is not available, loamy soil, well
screened, can be used advantageously as a topdressing. It is gen-
erally advisable to mix some sand in the soil, in larger proportions
if the soil on the course is of a clayey nature, and in lesser proportions
if the soil is already sandy.