Ah, California!

A correspondent in California relays the information that the USGA leaflets on “Protection of Persons against Lightning on Golf Courses” serve as little more than causes for merriment in sunny California. The official “advice under such conditions, of course, is to take shelter. “In this particular section of California,” our correspondent writes, “lightning is such a rarity that on the few occasions when it does occur, the natives come out from shelter to see it.”

Other Side of Etiquette

The Etiquette of the Game incorporated in the Rules of Golf is concerned with the relation of players to each other in the interests of making the game enjoyable for all. An informal addendum to these rules has been prepared by James E. Thomas, Farmington Country Club, Charlottesville, Va., and forwarded by the Lancaster (N. Y.) Country Club.

This addendum has the same basic purpose as Etiquette—to increase enjoyment. However, its rules concern only the relation of players to the course on which they play. It is designed to save the tees and greens and to spare the hazards.

Since this is a particularly able formulation of rules which should concern every green committee chairman and guide every player, we quote Mr. Thomas’s code herewith:

1. Carefully replace all divots.
2. Do not throw ball wrappings, old score cards and other scrap paper on the course. Use waste receptacles.
3. Walk carefully on greens and pick up your feet.
4. Do not throw cigarettes and cigar butts on the tees or greens. They often make damaging scars.
5. Carefully lift ball marks on the greens.
6. Smooth footprints in all traps and do not climb bunker sides.
7. Walk carefully around the cup when sinking that short one. Lift the ball out of the cup, instead of using your putter to snake it out.
8. Do not scratch the green to mark spot of ball. Use a small coin or marker.
9. Handle flagsticks carefully. Lift and lay the flag on the green instead of dropping same. It should not be used as a rest post, or as a punch.
10. Observe tee markers. Tee in legitimate area between markers.
11. Use a tee for playing that short hole; it will mean a smaller divot and will not interfere with your shot.
12. Do not kink hose to control sprinkler operation. It ruptures the hose fabric, and hose is a scarce article.

A Bit of Nostalgia

It was nice and nostalgic when 150 friends of James D. Standish, Jr., gathered recently at the Country Club of Detroit to show their appreciation for his contributions to golf on the occasion of his retirement from long service as President of the Detroit District Golf Association.

Among them were six of the 32 qualifiers in the 1915 Amateur Championship—Robert A. Gardner, Chicago, the winner; Sherman, Utica, N. Y., a semi-finalist; Howard B. Lee, Joseph B. Schlotman and Lewis L. Bredin, all of Detroit, in addition to Mr. Standish. In the Championship 33 years ago Mr. Standish defeated two former Champions in successive rounds, William C. Fownes, Jr., and Francis Ouimet.

Mr. Gardner is still winning; his 75 was low gross on Standish Day.

Mr. Standish has held perhaps as many non-paying golf offices as anyone else, dating from his presidency of the Intercollegiate Golf Association in 1912-13. He originated the USGA Public Links Championship and is currently a USGA Vice-President and Chairman of the Green Section Committee.
Cleveland Caddie Scholarships

The Cleveland District Golf Association, which devotes 73 per cent of its revenue to its Caddie Scholarship Fund, reports that five caddies are now receiving a college education through its funds and that seventeen caddies previously have been helped. J. H. Rutherford of Westwood is president of the CDGA.

Not Too Drab

Jimmy Demaret on the last day of the Open wore a little green cap, white tee shirt, quite red trousers, red-and-green-checked socks, and green alligator-skin shoes.

Americans Abroad

Curtis Cup Match—USGA team of women amateur golfers defeated British Isles, 6½ to 2½, at Birkdale, England.

British Ladies' Championship—Miss Louise Suggs, Atlanta, defeated Miss Jean Donald, Scotland, in final, 1 up.

British Amateur Championship—Frank Stranahan, Toledo, defeated Charles Stowe, England, in final, 5 and 4.

Width of Fairways

In reply to an inquiry as to the proper width of fairways, the USGA has quoted the following from its Golf Championship Manual, which it issues to clubs holding USGA competitions for guidance in preparing their courses:

"The normal width of a fairway should be approximately 50 yards; the fairway may be bottle-necked to require a very accurate drive between 275 and 32.5 yards from the tee (200 to 250 for women's competitions). The fairway should be cut at five-eighths inch (for clover, one-half inch).

"In establishing a fairway width of approximately 50 yards, it is often necessary to permit margins of the fairway to grow into rough. When this is done, such new rough is usually more severe than the old rough, as fairway grass is more lush. Care should be taken to prevent having extremely more difficult lies one yard off the fairway than fifteen yards off. Such unfairness can be tempered by cutting such new rough somewhat lower than old rough."
New Books

Two books which contribute in serious fashion to the literature of the rules and history of golf were published recently.

The first is "The Rules of Golf, Revised," edited by Francis Ouimet (Garden City Publishing Co., Inc., Garden City, N.Y., $1). Its object is to increase knowledge of the USGA Rules of Golf by illustrating each with sketches by Art Krenz.

"Too many times, unfortunately, both rules and golf etiquette are violated," Mr. Ouimet writes, "because the players, if they have read the regulations at all, have done so in a perfunctory fashion ... practically saying, 'To heck with the other fellow; I'm out here to enjoy myself.' That attitude is neither good for themselves nor the game, and it is, of course, very unfair to others who are more meticulous of their observance of the rules and the etiquette."

The method of attack is to take the literal wording of each Rule, illustrate it with right-and-wrong sketches, and append an editorial note where appropriate. It is an attractive presentation, and the visual interpretations should be easily absorbed.


Grantland Rice has written the dedication to the late William D. Richardson, first editor of the Guide; Bing Crosby has written the foreword, and Fielding Wallace has contributed an article on the USGA.

Among several new features this year are special articles summarizing highlights, oddities, scoring records, "firsts," etc., in previous USGA Open and Amateur and PGA Championships. It's the sort of book you can hardly do without in locker-room arguments.

SPORTSMAN'S CORNER

Ted Bishop

In the semi-final round of the 1947 John G. Anderson Memorial Four-Ball Tournament at the Winged Foot Golf Club in New York, Ted Bishop and Ed Wyner, of Boston, became involved in an extra-hole match with Arthur Lynch and John Smith, of New York.

As darkness settled, the four had reached the 22nd green. Bishop's ball lay 40 feet away in 4. Despite darkness which made the hole almost impossible to see, he holed the putt for a par 5.

Lynch was left with a ten-foot putt for a birdie 4 to win the match and putted three feet past the hole. Before he could putt again for the half, however, Bishop knocked his ball away. "I wouldn't want to win a match under these conditions," he said. "Let's finish it tomorrow morning."

When they met again early the next morning to play the 23rd hole, Lynch and Smith won to enter the final.

(Alice in Blunderland

If you read the last issue of the USGA Journal, you might have had trouble deciding what Horace Rawlins' winning score was in the first Open Championship in 1895. On page 8 it was noted that he scored 91-82-173, and that was right; but on the front cover (of all places) he was credited with 137 for 36 holes, which was an example not of how age improves things but of our carelessness.

(The USCA Journal will welcome nominations for the Sportsman's Corner in future issues. The calibre of the player does not matter.)