

cutters for the purpose, and fill in with good clean turf taken from the turf nursery.

Clover is the most troublesome and difficult plant to get rid of. On newly sown greens the seedlings should be taken out by hand, but on established greens where it is intermingled with the grass plants, the only remedy is to apply highly nitrogenous fertilizer so as to help strengthen the grasses and have them get the best of the clover in time.

Long Holes

AS a rule, a championship course possesses several three-shot holes, and the bunkering of such a hole is the great consideration, for hazards must be placed to make it impossible for the green to be reached with any sort of a third after either the drive or the second shot has been badly hit. These three-shot holes are necessary to provide variety, but there seems no reason for the building of a hole of over 550 yards in length.

To be sure, a hole is just as long as it plays, and unusual turf conditions must be considered, but in considering the length of holes generally, and analyzing them, we must assume that the conditions are normal.

A glance over the plans of the seven championship courses of Great Britain reveals the fact that not one of them possesses a single hole which measures 550 yards, the longest being the seventeenth at Westward Ho! which is 542 yards. St. Andrews' possesses two holes of over 500 yards—the fifth of 553 yards and the fourteenth of 516 yards. The twelfth at Prestwick measures 508 yards, and the sixteenth at Holylake 510 yards. There is not a single hole which measures 500 yards at either Muirfield or Deal.

As a word of warning to constructors of courses, let one suggest that in building their three-shotters they do not figure on length alone, but rather have always in mind the lay of the land and

thoughts of bunkering schemes, which will give the shots their true values.

The Importance of Good Seed

THE suspension of field operations will provide an opportunity for looking closely into the question of the seed supply. Prominence has been given lately to the labor problem and the supply of manures, but little has been said about seed. Efficient labor and the use of suitable fertilizers will avail only so far as they are supported by a wise selection of seed. Unless this be pure, robust, and fertile, it does not matter much how much money is spent in labor and manures.

In the February *Journal* of the Board of Agriculture, Professor Biffen, of Cambridge, gives the results of a three years' inquiry into grass, clover, and mangold seed, but the principles apply to all kinds of seeds. The verdict on 676 samples examined was that "though seeds of the highest quality can be purchased, much of the seed offered for sale is of indifferent quality, while some of it is excessively bad." If the facts presented are typical, there is no need to look beyond the seed supply for an explanation of the poor returns yielded by large areas of both arable and grass land, and judging from the facts disclosed by Professor Biffen the supply of cheap seed is unlikely to diminish so long as farmers put price before merit.

The great defect of the seed trade is the method of distribution. Seed is sold in every market town in the country by tradesmen who have no special knowledge of the business and who probably know little concerning the origin or character of the seed they retail. The growing, harvesting and dressing of seed are skilled operations of the first importance; but if the buyer is to avail himself of the advantages offered by the exercise of such skill, he must procure his seed from trustworthy sources and have some sort of guarantee that the ar-