

The GOLF COURSE

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BY

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R. O. SINCLAIRE, *Editor*

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WE think a timely question to discuss is the advisability of purchasing any golf course supplies required for next spring well in advance.

First of all we feel that this will mean a considerable saving to the customer because grass seed and other articles, Humus, etc., are quite likely to advance very shortly.

The price of one of the most popular makes of triple mower has already advanced \$50.00 and this is only an example of what is happening in the case of numerous other golf course implements.

Most fertilizers are continually advancing in price, and this applies also to sheep manure, barnyard manure, etc. At present we can quote you most advantageous prices on any requirements you may have and trust that we may hear from you.

On grass seed and Humus we are able to take orders now for delivery in the early spring at practically the same prices which have applied during the last six months.

Another reason why we feel that you should place your orders now is the

great uncertainty attached to the railroad situation. So far we have had little difficulty in making prompt and satisfactory shipments, but how long this will last is problematical. Embargoes are frequently being declared and a failure to have material on hand when it is vitally needed oftentimes costs a club dearly.

Though we realize that many of our customers will retrench as much as possible under the present war conditions, we feel that they will appreciate the necessity of maintaining the golf courses of the country in reasonably good shape. A failure to do this means much needless expense in the long run, for if a course is allowed to run down badly it will take years to re-establish proper turf conditions.

DURING the last few months we have been highly gratified to realize how much our publication, THE GOLF COURSE, is appreciated. Many letters coming from all parts of the country inquiring why THE GOLF COURSE had not been received lately have proven that the chairmen of green committees and others interested in golf course construction and maintenance have learned to look for THE GOLF COURSE regularly and have been guided by the articles we have published, both in regard to golf course architecture and questions pertaining to the establishment and maintenance of proper turf, which come up continually.

We wish again to thank all our friends for the interest they have shown in THE GOLF COURSE, which has more

(Continued on page 56)

shotters will place two in each nine, with the lengths varying from the controlled pitch of 100 yards or thereabout to the full drive which may be considered to measure 240 yards, possibly longer or shorter than this yardage as the character of the ground and turf may provide. A very closely guarded, small green, with trouble all the way, measuring 115 yards; a slightly larger green and not so closely bunkered for an iron of 175 yards; a 90-foot green to take a cleek or spoon of 200 yards, bunkered on the sides and somewhere along the line to catch half topped shots which might run the distance; and a big green, similarly trapped for the full shot with wood—furnish a rather attractive collection. Any one-shotter, which leaves an opening for a badly hit ball to find the green, is open to severe criticism. The type is do-or-die in its demands; even the most ordinary players delight to play one-shot holes of this kind. But it must not be inferred that the bunkering of these may not grade shots, rewarding adequately the daring. Hazards may be arranged in such a way that the most desirable putt awaits the player who courts the greatest danger. Naturally, to accomplish this, the greens must be irregular in shape, presenting the longest face to the shot which comes to it either from the right or left as conditions make evident.

The true line to any green may not be direct and sometimes this is true of holes of the one-shot type. Take for example the Redan, which has been copied on many American courses. It requires a good cleek or spoon to reach the green, which runs diagonally across a direct line between teeing ground and green. The correct line of play is not direct but rather to the right where a well placed ball is thrown in to the pin from the face of a gentle slope. I have observed many cunningly planned one-shotters and as I have said already I find my keenest delight in grappling with them. Strangely, my three cronies, Long, Wild and Short, unitedly agree with me for once.

Editorial

(Continued from page 54)

than repaid us for our endeavor to give authoritative information on the subjects discussed in our bulletin.

We sincerely regret the fact that it seems impracticable to issue *THE GOLF COURSE* regularly during the coming year, though we do hope to publish at least several numbers. This decision is forced upon us by the handicaps which the war has imposed. Several members of our active organization have already enlisted in the military or naval service and others expect to follow shortly.

This makes it practically impossible for us to devote attention to anything outside of actual routine business, and then again we can not depend on men outside our organization who have been welcome contributors, for most of these men also are compelled to think of other problems just now.

It is far from our intention to discontinue *THE GOLF COURSE* or even suspend its publication for any definite period, and the regular monthly issues will be resumed at the earliest possible moment. We trust this will come very soon.

We want to remind our many readers, who have shown such appreciation of *THE GOLF COURSE*, that any inquiries which they have to make pertaining to subjects generally discussed in the publication will be gladly answered by mail.

It is often possible also for us to send one of our experts to make a personal inspection of turf conditions, etc., and give recommendations as to the proper treatment and we welcome an opportunity of serving you in this way.