Closeup of a typical semi-sod slab.

Semi-sod and ordinary sprigs after three weeks growth. Area below pencil was planted by semi-sod method.

Increases Turf "Take"

Semi-sod, because of its already developed root system, advances growth by an estimated two weeks. It sends out runners sooner and thereby covers faster. Over twice as much grass lives when semi-sod is used than when sprigs alone are used. In areas where "gully-washers" are encountered, it is sometimes necessary to replant greens which have been sprigged in the usual manner, but not when semi-sod is used. Most seed beds contain high organic content for moisture and nutrient absorption and to make the greens hold a shot during the first year. Watering is heavy to keep sprigs from drying out. So conditions are ripe for fungus attack on weak-rooted sprigs. The semi-sod sprigs are much more capable of resisting attack, as was actually proved in the San Antonio CC planting. Sometimes planting of new or remodeled greens is delayed until the growing season for Tifgreen is nearly over. Here two weeks can make a difference between a good base turf for winter or nothing but a spotted mess.

The nice part of it is that your nursery plot comes right back. Just top dress heavily, fertilize, and get ready for another cutting in about three weeks.

Joseph S. Finger is a course architect and consulting engineer who makes his headquarters in Bellaire, Tex.

British Golf Society Offers Play Privileges to U.S. Golfers

Residents of U.S., who may be planning visits to Great Britain, are invited to become overseas members of the Golf Society of Great Britain. A small fee of five guineas (about $15) is charged for three years and persons who subscribe become honorary members of 14 distinguished British golf clubs with full social and playing rights. The Society was founded in 1955 as a non-profit organization with the purpose of encouraging the social side of the game on an international scale.

Last year the Golf Society made a contribution to the World Amateur tournament and it has given financial support to Walker Cup and Curtis Cup Teams.

British golf clubs that participate in the Golf Society program include Broadstone, Prince's, Gleneagles and Turnberry.

Subscriptions can be sent to, or information obtained from Lt. Gen. Sir Geoffrey Howard, Chmn., Golf Society of Great Britain, Sandilands, Sandwich Bay, Kent, Eng.

Renner with USGA

Robert C. (Bob) Renner, formerly tournament director for the ladies PGA, was named a tournament executive by the USGA, taking over his new post Sept. 1. He will work, primarily on preparations for eight national championships and four international team events sponsored by the association. Renner, onetime assistant sports editor of a Ft. Wayne, Ind., newspaper, makes his home in Pontiac, Mich.