Book Reviews


This book fills a long felt want for instruction in club drinking rooms. James is observant, funny and has been around. His "Tips on Putting" should be read aloud to those nuisances who back up traffic for four or five holes while they fool around before missing putts. "How to Play In the Wind" contains good but seldom printed advice on determining if any member of your foursome chews tobacco, and is especially useful when golfing with baseball players. The "Dictionary of Golf Terms" also is instructive. Among other definitions: "Cleek — water hazard on a Chinese golf course."


This booklet, describing 79 luxury resorts — 45 in continental U. S. and the rest in Caribbean area and Hawaii — and containing data on rates, availability of golf, etc., has information pros are expected to supply to members who are considering golfing trips.


John Stobbs is golf writer for The Observer of London. He writes this book as a supplement to pro instruction, giving just the ABCs of the "how" but a little more of the "why" than time permits the pro to give most beginners or other high-handicap golfers. It is a simple job of explaining the fundamentals. It sifts out elemental points that the 9- to 20-handicap golfers are inclined to forget as they go along into the fancier stages of golf education.


Hovanesian, who started in golf 40 years ago and has won several championships in the New Britain area, has made a hobby of studying psychology. He has applied his psychological studies to his own game and that of others and has come up with some helpful observations. He advocates mental as well as physical practice of golf and advances some suggestions for playing mental golf.


Casper gives the reader a bargain price lesson in golf on and around the green. Don Collett, pro at Coronado (Calif.) CC, worked with the 1959 National Open champion in putting this book together. There is a lot about the choice of a putter, the grip, the stance, reading the green, the touch and practice that hasn't appeared in previous books. On chipping and pitching Casper keeps the lessons simple and practical instead of trying to stretch them into many pages of type. What Casper has learned about shots out of sand and out of the rough are passed along to the reader. Bill is a golfer who has done very well by making the game as simple and as easy as possible.

Golf Lessons From The Pros. From Sports Illustrated. Published by Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, N. J.

Reprinted are the instruction tips by about 100 men and women professionals. They are good, sound and conventional advice. The illustrations are by Anthony Ravielli and that fellow is the greatest at his work. His drawings are technically correct and he has the knack of spotlighting the salient feature of the tip.

Golf in Europe, 1961. Edited by Horst T. Ostermann. Published by Golf in Europe, 14 Selmaustrasse, Zurich 1, Switzerland.

Every American golfer who intends to play courses on the continent will find this book a highly profitable investment. It is edited by Ostermann, editor of German Golf and an authority who knows European courses. It gives address, telephone number, location, description of course, data on guest privileges, green fee, pro's name and lesson fee, caddie fee, dates of season, and hotel information.

It covers 350 courses in 17 European countries. It is in English. The book doesn't cover courses in Britain and Eire. Those are listed in The Golfer's Handbook, 94 Hope St. Glasgow C2, Scotland, which is $5.