

game can help solve a troublesome problem on a particular course. In his own words :

"The complaint was that, in spite of heavy watering, greens would not hold a shot. The bent grass was suffering from too much water as a result. I was playing low-handicap golf then so, to test a theory, I hit a number of balls to greens from 80 yards out. Sure enough, they wouldn't hold, but the answer was in the fairway grass, not the greens.

Feather-bed

"The non-golfing superintendent, to keep the fairways 'lookin' purty', kept the thick Bermuda cut at $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The ball sat on top of a 'mattress' so that no one could impart control to the ball with the club face. The 'balloon ball' floated to the green and kept right on rolling off the back. By lowering the fairway cut to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch, we gave controlled shots back to the golfers, the greens held better and were healthier with less water."

Normally, in this country, you're only likely to get a "flier", as our pros. call it,

from thick wet grass in the rough. What causes it is a matter of fairly complicated golfing ballistics: but in essence it's a matter of backspin being reduced by the fact that the ball is not struck-off against a firm surface, "squeezed against the turf" as the old-fashioned jargon used to put it. You can, in fact, get much the same sort of result—a kind of "flier" if not what Grau calls a "balloon ball"—off thin, loose, sandy turf on seaside courses. But Grau's does make an interesting illustration of how a tricky problem, making everyone scratch their heads at a course, may really be a quite different problem shown its effects in such a way as to disguise its real cause.

It's also an example, of course, of how the playing quality of a course has to be examined as a whole, and understood as a whole—which only a practising enthusiast for the game is ever likely to be able to do.

Which brings us back to where Fred V. Grau kicked off. Playing the course is part of the Greenkeepers' job; and any club that doesn't recognise this ought to have its brains examined.

PRESIDENT'S GOLF PLEA

Gosforth Golf Club's Annual Dinner last night was, as ever, a relaxed social event at which gay quips and entertainment were the keynotes (*writes Ken McKenzie*).

Yet with such a distinguished gathering of members and guests, matters of moment did arise, and county President Mr. Charles N. Storey, of Whitley Bay, took the opportunity to make some heartfelt remarks.

He gave everyone pleasure by commenting, as had Gosforth Captain, Mr. W. G. H. Beaman, on the fine Bridle Path services of Mr. Tom Oliver, who has been greenkeeping at Gosforth for 44 years—and last night looked one of the fittest men present.

"It is one of my ambitions that the status and importance of highly skilled greenkeepers, in these days when specialised knowledge and experience on a course are so important, should be elevated," he said, to warm applause.

(*Newcastle Journal*)

HURLINGHAM SHOW

T. Parker & Sons'

"Guessing Height of Pole" Competition

The winners are as hereunder:—

Wednesday, 30th September.

Winner: S. G. Ledger, Esq., East Berks. Golf Club, Crowthorne, Berks.

Gussed height: 29 ft. $3\frac{3}{4}$ in.

Correct height: 29 ft. $3\frac{1}{4}$ in.

Thursday, 1st October.

Winner: R. Fenwick, Esq., Appleby Frodingham Ltd., Steel Works, Scunthorpe, Lincs.

Gussed height: 34 ft. 3 in.

Correct height: 34 ft. $2\frac{1}{2}$ in.

SITUATIONS VACANT

WORKING HEAD GREENKEEPER required immediately for SWINDON GOLF CLUB (18 Holes). Swindon 7 miles. Marlborough 5 miles. Wages by arrangement. Bungalow available. Apply with full particulars to: Secretary, Swindon Golf Club, Ogbourne St. George, Marlborough, Wilts.

REPRESENTATIVE/SALES ENGINEER.

Lawn mower organisation has interesting vacancy, North London. Good wages, bonus and pension scheme. Box No. 600