

actual experience how springy the surface is in play, whether or not an undulation should be modified, and how fast or slow the green really is.

It is quite true that there are seasons during which the greenkeeper is too busy to play eighteen holes of golf, or even nine. It is just as true that he should know from the actual playing of the game against the par of his course whether playing is enjoyable, owing to good conditions, or generally irritating, because he has a lot more to learn about greenkeeping.

There should be less argument about the "putting" quality of golf greens, and more about the fairness or unfairness of the hazards on the course and the response of the greens to driven shots, when the question comes up as to whether or not the greenkeeper should play golf.

The standard rules of golf as approved by the U. S. G. A. are as much as possible in favor of the man who is keeping the course. They are just enough in favor of the golfer to make him work to lower his score.

The greenkeeper should have as good knowledge of the rules of golf as the average golfer, and a better knowledge if possible. He should also be entirely familiar with the local rulings of his club, why they were made, and how they work out in play.

So-called "local rules" are those that apply to certain playing angles that are found on one course and not on another. Such rules are almost invariably necessary, as no golf course is standard as to either lay-out, contour, or special features and equipment. Therefore general rules must usually be augmented by specific local mandates, individual with each club.

There are many times when special work is being done on the course, such as drainage ditches half finished, greens being topdressed, fairways being cut, re-turfing in progress, and sometimes jobs of reconstruction on the way. Piles of sand or topdressing, golf course machinery and tools, to say nothing of extra workmen, are in evidence and to some degree retard the game for the players during these periods. At such times, the greenkeeper realizes that he should know his exact rights as a greenkeeper, and also the rights of playing members of the club. What constitutes his privilege to the placing of signs reading "Ground Under Repair" in relation to the rules of the game, is a matter that for his own protection he should know all about. In order to understand why it is

well to let some of the work wait while hurrying another job along; in order to distinguish the difference between necessary and unnecessary nuisances from both a playing and a greenkeeping viewpoint; for these reasons, and others that space refuses a place to enumerate, the greenkeeper should know how to play golf, and play a few holes straight "through the green" every once in a while.

Some greenkeepers know when a hazard looks well. Others know whether or not it looks well, play the course once or twice a month, or as often as they can, and judge the hazard by both its appearance and its features of play. When a greenkeeper can talk intelligently about the various features of his course, and the course speaks for itself as to its expert management; when there is an atmosphere among the membership that is ruffled only occasionally by adverse criticism, *that greenkeeper plays golf.*

There are some greenkeepers who carry telescopes to keep a check on distant workers. That's a good idea. It is also a good idea for him to lay down the telescope once every week or ten days and pick up a golf bag. He will find that by doing so he can more intelligently direct the work of the men he views through his telescope.

REDUCED PRICES ON HOFMANN FERTILIZER DISTRIBUTOR

Salem, O.—Price reductions on the Hofmann All-Purpose fertilizer distributors are announced by the maker, The Salem Tool Co. This price reduction, amounting in some cases to as much as 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ %, has been made possible through increased and simplified production. Design and construction have been greatly improved and a broad range of sizes been made available.

A special new feature of the Hofmann, on which application for patents has already been made, is a feed control arrangement which automatically stops the machine from feeding when the man stops pushing, thus eliminating any piling up of fertilizer in one spot.

AMHERST CONFERENCE AND EXHIBIT

MASSACHUSETTS Agricultural College annual course conference and maintenance exhibit will be held March 13, 14, and 15. This finale of the winter school will feature speakers of national prominence, motion pictures, question box and demonstrations.

This event is open to all interested in golf course maintenance and a record attendance is expected.