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ner of last year's tournament was Ed Dudley, whose record for 72 holes was 288. Espinosa was runner up with 298.

Dutch Disease Threatens Golf Course Elms

THE DUTCH ELM disease which has recently been introduced into the United States now threatens to destroy the elm trees of the eastern coast in much the same manner as the chestnut bark disease a few years ago practically wiped out the chestnut trees along the eastern coast. Many golf courses possess fine old specimens of elm trees and it is probable that no tree has been more generally planted in recent years on golf courses than has the elm tree, not only in the East but throughout the Middle West. It is probable that many of the golf holes will have an entirely different aspect if this disease wipes out some of the elm trees that form the background for greens or ornament the tees and rough.

The Dutch elm disease was first found in Holland in 1920 where it worked havoc against the European elm. The disease then crossed the ocean presumably in elm logs shipped from Holland for the furniture industry. The disease was first observed in this country in Ohio just three years ago. In that section, however, it was quickly checked and had attacked only nine trees. Apparently no further damage has developed in that vicinity.

The disease has become permanently established, however, in the New York district which, by a strange coincidence, is the vicinity in which the chestnut bark disease started on its terrible campaign up and down the coast and along the Appalachian Mountains. Recent reports indicate that the elm trees in the immediate vicinity of New York are succumbing to this disease at the rate of 200 a day. Already it is reported that over 3,000 trees have been destroyed in the New York area. The greatest loss occurred in New Jersey, where it is estimated that 2500 elm trees have been killed to date.

The only check thus far developed for this disease is to chop down and burn the entire affected tree just as soon as the disease is positively identified.

The ravages of the Dutch elm disease have become so serious that Congress appropriated \$150,000 towards the work of checking the blight.

The disease is caused by a fungus known as *Graphium ulmi*. The fungus attacks the

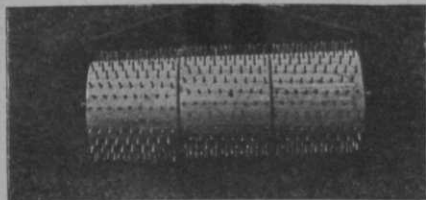
smaller twigs on which the leaves turn yellow and wither. Gradually whole branches of the tree are infected and wither. The leaves turn yellow and wither due to other causes and therefore this symptom is not sufficient. Parts of the affected tree are taken to a laboratory and studied to make sure that the fungus causing the disease is present. As soon as the fungus is recognized the tree is destroyed. The fungus has been found to be carried from an infected tree to healthy trees by a beetle which infests the bark of elm trees.

Unfortunately all of our native elm trees seem to be susceptible to this disease. There is an oriental variety imported from Asia which so far has not shown symptoms of the disease. However it has been found to harbor the fungus which causes the disease. Wherever the fungus has been found in such a tree it has been recommended that the tree be destroyed in order to prevent the beetles from carrying the fungus from this infected tree to a healthy native elm.

The United States Department of Agriculture scientists consider this elm tree disease as a pest with serious possibilities. However, it is too early to predict whether the damage from this disease may be of as great consequence as that which was experienced by the similar disease of chestnuts which completely wiped out the vast stand of chestnut trees in the East.

All clubs should be on the lookout for any wilting or yellowing of elm trees and report all suspicious cases to the Department of Agriculture officials. The control of this disease apparently is somewhat akin to the slogan "swat a fly and save a million." The prompt destruction of one elm on a course may prevent the infection of hundreds of others in the neighborhood.

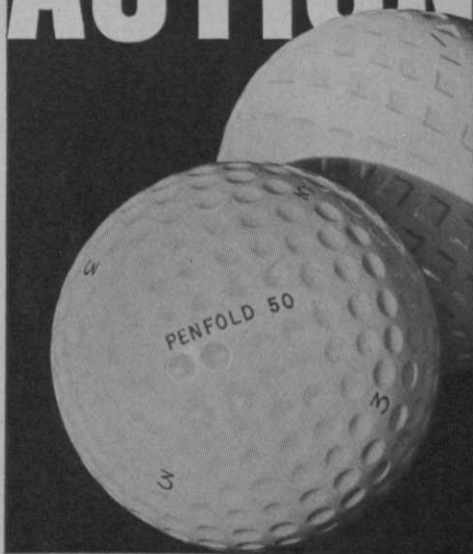
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