

important and valuable function of the Green Section of the USGA.

Could such a close knit organization for the creation of a sound set of basic principles of turf culture be developed?

In the first place, would the state experiment stations accept responsibility for their share of the job? The answer is complicated by a number of things. Theoretically, they should do so. Certainly turf production is an agricultural problem whether it is grown for use as a pasture, a lawn or a golf course green. Practically, research work requires money and state experiment station budgets are, almost universally, very modest.

Must Compete With Other Interests

When the turf interests ask the experiment station to investigate their problems they immediately find themselves in direct competition for service with every agricultural interest in the state. For example, the poultrymen discover that a virulent chicken disease is seriously affecting their business. Immediately, they urge the experiment station to make an effort to discover a remedy.

Or again, there is tardy recognition of the fact that the fertile top soil of our farms is disappearing through a combination of factors that may be controlled by certain changes in cropping and land utilization. It becomes necessary for the experiment station to set up an extensive program of research to develop soil saving principles. And so it goes. Most of the agricultural interests long ago learned the power of their organized voice in getting attention for their particular headaches.

In the few states where investigation of fine turf problems is under way this has been recognized. The research program is functioning primarily because the turf interests, usually represented almost entirely by the greenkeeping superintendents, have insisted that it be done. Not only that, but they have watched the progress being made and have contributed many vital suggestions on the conduct of the work. Coupled with this has been a sustained enthusiasm on the part of every one concerned for the thing they are trying to do—founded on a clear conviction that it is important and necessary.

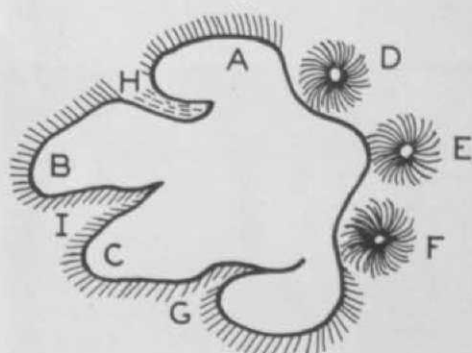
Thus, here and there, have been established series of front line trenches. They are functioning, mainly independently, in trying to meet local problems. As their resources and equipment permit they are

doing what they can to contribute to the wider general questions of turf culture. But they will not and cannot do a first class job for the country as a whole unless their numbers are multiplied and their findings properly correlated to develop a sound body of facts that have general application. This requires not only concerted effort on a national scale but a centralized agency which can direct the effort and sift the information.

But, whatever the method, the fact remains that there is a definite need for more action. It goes without saying that interest in a critical analysis of the problems can not forever live on its own fat. We can have short courses and educational sections of national conventions just so long. Eventually they will die of starvation unless a more solid diet can be provided for them. Solution of research problems is not an overnight job and the few who are interested in it can not possibly keep the plates full at every meal time.

HOW TO BUILD A GREEN

WILLIAM WATSON, noted golf course architect, presents in the diagram below, the second in an exclusive GOLF-DOM series of 'hints on better green construction'. Green diagrammed in June GOLF-DOM was designed as a more or less level one, on level ground. Green below illustrates a raised (built-up) green, constructed on level ground.



Raised green built on level ground.

Scale: 1" = 71.5 ft.

KEY

- A.B.C Highpoints on left side of green
- D.E.F. Series of undulating mounds to fit with green. Left side of green built up with irregular, but gentle slopes.
- G.H.I. Low cuts in contour at termination of shallow drainage swales. This makes a beautiful green, and is suitable for a long par 3 or long par 4 hole. It should be raised high enough to avoid water-logging in wet weather.