

job. It is difficult for us to think that it is their fault if your game is bad. It is true they are boys, and may seem at times inattentive or make mistakes, which probably is very different from what you did when you were young, but you must remember that the right to make mistakes has had national leadership for the past eight years. Under the circumstances, don't blame the boys too much for the chances are most of them are doing their best. So let your criticism be constructive.

We would suggest that you call the attention of your children to the fact

that the use of shoes with heels on the tennis court is absolutely prohibited. This is done for the purpose of preserving the courts, and not for foot-comfort.

It is the golfers who determine the pleasure of the game at the Minikahda Club. If you give consideration to others, have some regard for the course, respect the rules of the game and of the course, it will be much more pleasant for all concerned, including

THE GROUNDS COMMITTEE

July, 1941

What I've Learned About Crested Wheat Grass

By HARRY VEGIARD

IN late summer 1939, Max Voorhees, greenkeeper of the Midvale GC, East Rochester, N. Y., walked into my laboratory and asked, "What do you know about crested wheat grass?" I truthfully told him, "Not a thing except the name, *Agropyron Cristatum*, and a little information on germination." I also told him that I could have quite helpful information in about 10 days.

The Midvale GC has about 12 acres of high sandy soil fairways, in which the wind was always making deep pockets around the stools of sheep's fescue. Voorhees was desperate.

Through the assistance of W. H. Wright, Dept. of Agriculture, Ottawa, Canada, and Dr. R. H. Porter, Dept. of Agriculture, Ames, Iowa, I received a lot of information and generous samples from Manitoba, Canada, and Minnesota.

These samples were germinated for root structure, leaf structure and speed of growth under ultra violet light tubes. Both samples gave very rapid germination possibilities. The root structures were identical. The leaf structure of the Minnesota showed a marked difference in darker coloring and a more rapid growth.

Voorhees and I decided on the Minnesota grown seed, and he gambled on a purchase of 500 lbs.

Voorhees' method of planting the 500

lbs. of seed is described in the following paragraphs.

Using a double disk harrow, set so as to just crease the soil, he harrowed the plots two ways. This method split the stools of sheep's fescue and forced them partly into the pockets. The crested wheat grass seed was then broadcast without special regard to the weight of seed per acre. Filling his manure spreaders with a specially prepared sludge compost, he sprinkled a fairly heavy covering over the seeded area, after which he soaked the entire surface in order to fill in the pockets, break up the heavier sludge lumps and thoroughly wet the soil.

A few weeks later, about the middle of September, 1939, the seed had made a very strong catch and gave good promise of being strong enough to withstand a hard winter season. The knolls are unprotected and get the full benefit of the frosty west winds in winter and hot dry winds in summer.

In the middle of May of the spring of

Kaddie Karts are beginning to get a big play at private clubs from members' kids who don't want to lug their own bags and can't put the bite on Pop for caddie fees. The Karts, greenkeepers observe, keep these kids from throwing their bags on the greens.

1940, the crested wheat grass showed a fine healthy stand of single spikelets, nicely set in all places where the pockets had been, 3 to 5 plants to each pocket. This spring the knolls were allowed to grow until the seed stalks were from 6 to 7 inches tall. The fairways were then mowed and the seed stalks of the crested wheat grass caused very little resistance in comparison to the sheep's fescue, and showed that one cutting had clipped them completely.

On June 1st, 1941, the inspection showed that the single spikelets of 1940 had already begun to give a good strong stool. The leaves are quite narrow and springy, similar to the fescue but not so wiry. The color is lighter than the fescue but not so very noticeable. All the pockets were filled in and the wind was unable to dig out the sand. The wild white Dutch' clover had come back heavy and the fairways, in all directions, are a perfect picture.

Voorhees had planted young trees of Conservation American red cedar, three to four deep, along the windward side of all the high fairways and expects to have a good windbreak in a few years.

He made the following summary: the crested wheat grass will meet the sandy soil requirements if given proper planting. It requires little moisture, as shown by our very dry, warm spring—less than 1 inch of rain fell in 3 months on high land. It should be sowed early in the fall and not cut shorter than one and one-eighth inches. It cuts easily and gives a fine springy base for teeing up the ball.

It is the opinion of greenkeepers of both Midvale and Monroe golf clubs that the crested wheat grass will make a very good lie for the ball on these high, dry, sandy knolls. The tough, wiry, up-standing spikes of the crested wheat grass mixed with the sheep's fescue, prevents forming of pockets.

Crested wheat grass plots are at the Oak Hill CC, Rochester, N. Y., under the care of E. J. Michael, greenkeeper, and at the Monroe GC, Pittsford, N. Y., under the care of J. J. Canaughton, green supt. Both these plots have separate plantings of Manitoba and Minnesota grown crested wheat grass seed. They both show a strong rugged quality to withstand severe winter weather and a fast early spring growth. The Minnesota planting is considerably darker in both plantings, but otherwise, there is very little difference.

'Craig Wood' Title of New Screen Short

A NEW RKO Pathe Sportscope on Craig Wood had its premier at Buffalo, July 21.

Jean Bauer accompanies Craig on part of his journey around the Winged Foot course as the cameras catch him using various clubs from tee to green. Included in the array of spectacular shots made by Craig is one from deep grass and another from the water. On a 172-yard one-shotter the ball strikes the flag. Slow motion is used frequently for a study of the star's swing.

Craig's exhibition at Buffalo, home of Dunlop Tire and Rubber Co., makers of golf equipment which the champion represents, was followed by the premier of the short, "Craig Wood," at the Century Theatre. Craig was introduced by Mayor Thomas Holling of Buffalo.

Lake Placid, N. Y., Craig's home town, declared a half holiday on July 23rd to honor the local boy who made good. "Craig Wood" was shown at the Palace Theatre, with Wood making a personal appearance there. Craig was born in Lake Placid on November 18, 1901.

"Craig Wood" will be generally distributed by RKO Radio Pictures beginning in early August.

Suggests Caddies Aid In Weed Removal

MAYBE there's something to this hunch written to GOLFDOM:

"Many fairways, particularly just short of the greens, have far too many dandelions and other weeds, and many golf clubs, both public and otherwise, lack the financial background to care for this defect.

"It seems to me that these golf clubs, making it possible for caddies to make money, could reasonably ask each caddie to remove one weed from each fairway on each round; giving each boy a paper bag when he starts out and a cheap knife if necessary to remove weed and root. The caddie could check out with his bag.

"In this way weeds could be kept under control much better than they now are."