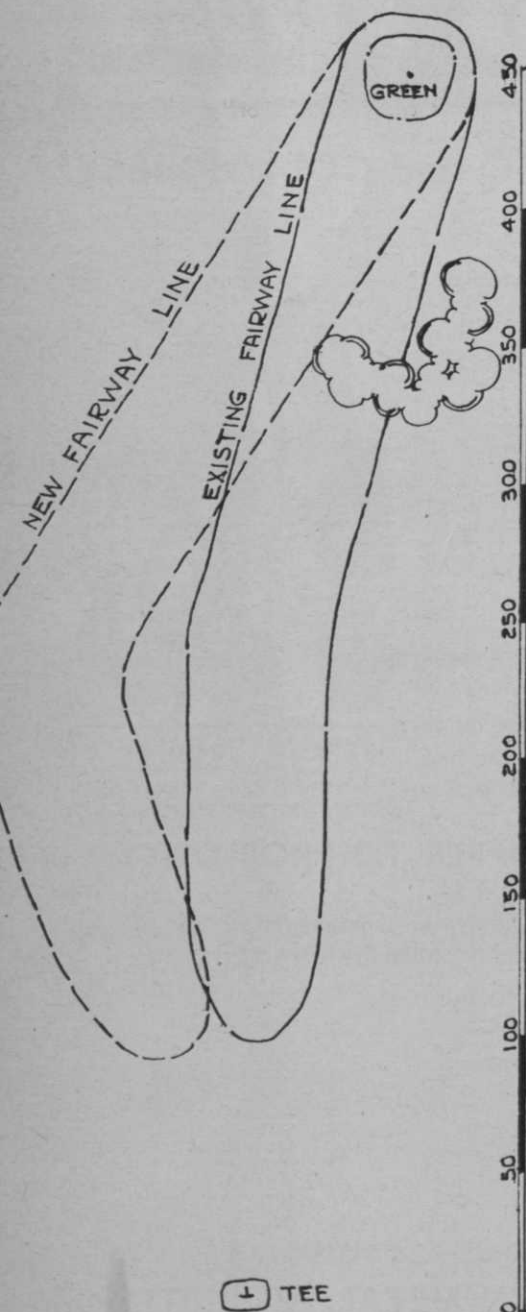


Unheeded Mowing Destroys Character of Holes

By

WILLIAM B. LANGFORD



IMPROVING VISIBILITY

Simple inexpensive changes or revisions of a mature golf course will frequently enhance playing pleasure, technical quality, and general appearance more than elaborate and costly alterations.

A few well placed shrubs or small trees can force play into the proper channel and do away with congestive interference. A little grading down of tees, to eliminate unnecessary climbing, harsh outline and hard uneven surface, and to permit cutting by power equipment, will often work wonders at little or no expense. An extra tee may easily introduce more variety and give more character to a drab hole than an ambitious hazard arrangement.

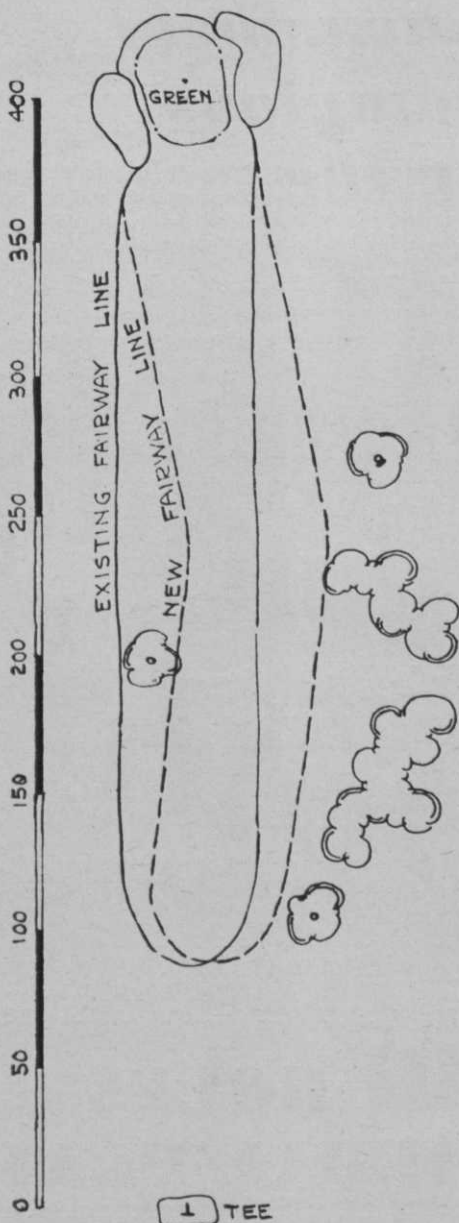
As a course ages it also undergoes many subtle alterations—trees and brush grow and intrude on the line of play, or die, and by their absence affect playing conditions.

Probably the most unnoticed yet often the most important change in an old hole comes from the slow variation that so frequently takes place in the mowed outline of green and fairway. Fairway boundaries may shift imperceptibly until in a few years a definite change has occurred, which sometimes destroys the architect's plan of the hole. These mutations arise from failure to exactly follow the original pattern, from reasons of expediency when new irrigation equipment is installed, or from a thousand and one obscure causes.

The rough is an important element in a golf course. Properly located it plays a major part in the strategy of each hole. When it creeps out of place, a good hole may even become a very poor one. Frequently, during the war years, the rough was almost eliminated to conserve our precious supply of balls. Now that happy

days are returning, the rough should return—TO THE RIGHT PLACE.

Many times a careful study of fairway outline can develop a new mowing plan



BYPASSING

POOR HAZARD

which will result in vast improvement and cost nothing. A fairway shift can relieve conflict with neighboring holes, bypass an uninteresting or unfair hazard, improve visibility or make better use of terrain, and can frequently be made at practically no cost except of time and gray matter.

It would be well worth while for most older courses to have a competent golf architect check their fairgreen outlines and correct them. He could do this in a day or two, so the professional fee would be small and the cost of executing his recommendations with club equipment would be negligible.

Green Section Action and Plans Discussed at Open

A revised, enlarged, and active USGA Green Section committee met in Cleveland prior to the Open Championship to discuss plans for future Green Section activities. Twenty were in attendance, including the USGA Executive committee. Members of the Executive committee were: Charles Littlefield, pres.; Francis Ouimet, tournament Chmn.; James Standish, Public Links; Totton P. Heffelfinger, Sectional Affairs; E. B. Leisenring; Isaac B. Grainger; Harold Pierce; Richard Tufts and Fielding Wallace, Chairman, Green Section committee. Others were: Marshall E. Farnham, Pres., Green-keeping Superintendents Assn.; A. L. Brandon, Sec.-Treas. of GSA, and Pres. Midwest Regional Turf Foundation; Ed Dudley, Pres. PGA; Fred V. Grau, Director, USGA Green Section; Franklin P. Miller, Cleveland; O. J. Noer, Milwaukee; Ed J. Foley, West Virginia; J. Porter Henry, St. Louis; Richard T. Garlington, Atlanta; William A. Knight, Biltmore Forest, North Carolina; H. B. Musser, State College, Pennsylvania.

Chairman Wallace announced that there will be two regular meetings of the committee each year; one in connection with the Open Championship, the other in conjunction with the USGA annual meeting in January, in New York.

The present Green Section budget of \$20,000 consumes most of the dues from the 800 member clubs. An expansion of the Green Section program will require more money. Chairman Wallace made an earnest plea for more members and more money to conduct the all-important Green Section activities.

Dr. Grau's financial report showed a rapidly increasing work load in the office,