

Pacific slope green-chairmen with whom the greenkeepers' plea for organized turf research has been discussed are convinced that the greenkeepers generally are operating their courses on the lowest possible budget compatible with good turf condition, but some greenkeepers hesitate to concede that there is the utmost economy in course operation. They base their doubts on the possibility of turf research pointing out substantial economies, especially in southern California, by developing a strain of fairway grass that will require less water, as just one of the opportunities for saving. The reluctance of the Southern California greenkeepers to say that they have attained the ultimate economy in high grade course maintenance is evidence of an ambitious and inquiring attitude that's a strong element in accounting for the high standing these men hold with club officials and members.

Among golf course equipment and supply men one hears that if research or anything else can effect economies without lowering the maintenance standard, first application of the saving should be devoted to an increase in course superintendents' salaries which have not gone up

commensurate with the increase in living costs in numerous areas along the Pacific slope.

The Pacific slope boasts that it has a generally higher standard of golf course architecture than that prevailing in other sections of the country. Now the greenkeepers of that part of the nation want the best grade of expert help in doing the research work required to have the turf on these fine courses of comparable excellence.

#### So. Cal. Supt's. Case

In setting forth its case to the UCLA the Golf Course Supts. Assn. of Southern California said:

"We come here with a request to have you consider in your postwar plans the extension of your activities in ornamental horticulture and floriculture, to include the establishment of a turf garden at UCLA.

"The purpose of this turf garden is to further the best interests of the taxpayers of this state. It would eliminate an enormous waste of money each year by determining the proper selection and maintenance of turf for airports, athletic

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#### CANTERBURY CONTOURING GIVES SPECTATOR BREAK

Third hole at Canterbury during 1946 Open. This shows how golf course architecture that gives spectators vantage points for witnessing play on or near greens contributes greatly to gallery enjoyment of the competition. With galleries now growing so large comparatively few can see strokes made, the qualifications of a "championship" course may have to consider spectator factors as well as golf testing elements. Marshaling of a stampeding golf gallery can't be done perfectly. The incident of Byron Nelson's caddie having to elbow through the gallery and kicking Nelson's ball for a stroke penalty that cost Nelson the National Open title is evidence of the impossibility of crowd control even by marshaling that was much above the average.

*O. J. Noer Photo*

