# **October Is A Golfer's Month**

Pros who have difficulty in convincing members that October in the Northern states is one of the best golfing months of the year need only cite weather facts and figures, mentioned below, to support their argument that many golfers are putting their clubs away far too early.

GOLFDOM recently checked U. S. Weather Bureau figures for October of 1954 and 1955 for the Midwest area and found that there were from 12 to 14 perfect playing days each year besides 6 to 8 days when it was decidedly not uncomfortable to play.

In 1954, there were 14 perfect days with six of these showing temperatures above normal. On six others it would have been possible for a fellow to get in his golf even though slightly hampered by a nor-

## Ad Spotlights Vandal Damage on Courses

Harley B. Kline, manager of the Iron Rock GC, Merchantville, N. J., after vandals had severely damaged his greens, inserted a full page advertisement in local

# A LETTER

FROM ONE GOLFER TO ANOTHER

BON ROCE GOLF CLUB PRODUCT AND MERCINATIVALE & B 1 PRODUCT AND CONTRACTOR AND CONTRACTOR

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# \$1000<sup>00</sup> REWARD For the arrest and conviction of the guilty party

HON BOCK DOLF CLUB

Reproduction of Kline's letter to Pres. Eisenhower asking that something be done to stop vandalism at the country's golf courses. mal October day's rainfall which actually is on the light side.

In 1955 there were 12 days when conditions were perfect for golf, and eight others when even timid souls wouldn't have hesitated in venturing onto the fairways.

During October the average maximuta temperature for 12 Midwestern states is around 66, ranging from 61 in Minneapolis to 72 in Topeka. Average rainfall for the month is around 21/2 ins., which compared to the average for the 11 other months, is on the dry side. Normally, there are only 5 or 6 days in October when it is unusually cold and 3 or 4 when it is too wet to play. And these often overlap.

Since weather moves from west to east, conditions that prevail in the Midwest during October are pretty nearly duplicated in the East and most of the Northeast.

newspapers, addressing the ad to the nation's No. 1 golfer, Ike.

The salutation of the advertisement may not have caught the President's eyes but it certainly got attention locally. Whether it gets effective action from law enforcement agencies remains to be seen. For some reason the police in many sections of the country appear to be almost futile in preventing course vandalism or apprehending vandals.

#### Greens are Targets

Iron Rock is among numerous courses in the Philadelphia district which have had costly and distressing damage, especially to greens. Rydal had a drinking fountain torn up and jammed into a green. Llanerch had a green saturated with gas then ignited. Spring Hill had 27 divots taken out of one green and the next night vandals saturated another green with ammonia. Springhaven had greens damaged and is fencing the course hoping to stop damage. Iron Rock had two greens damaged by sodium arsenite.

Kline, a clergyman who got into golf course operation because of his health, is militantly determined to arouse public interest in what apparently is a nationwide surge of juvenile vandalism and halt the depredation.

During the recent Central Plains Turf Foundation conference attention was called to General Statutes of Kansas, 1949, 21-2435, which is termed the "triple damage tree and property damage law" and which provides, in case of golf course and similar damage, "the party so offending shall pay to the party injured treble the value of the thing so injured, broken, destroyed or carried away, with costs, and shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be subject to a fine not exceeding \$500."

### **Green Construction**

#### (Continued from page 28)

rections. Some like to rake the seed slightly. Others prefer to seed and lightly topdress and roll lightly following top dressing. Light rolling is also suggested after raking seed in

ing is also suggested after raking seed in. A desirable method where a firm enough seed bed has been established is to seed in four directions. Each operation is preceded and followed by power disc spiking. The area seeded in all methods should be kept moist at all times, not wet, in a manner that will not disturb seed or wash the seeded surface until the seedlings are firmly established,

### Bringing New Greens Into Play

Greens established at proper planting or seeding dates can be forced into or be made ready for play at an earlier date by proper watering and a forced fertilizing program. After the seedlings have emerged they may be fertilized from once up to three times a week by using very light rates of urea or ammonium sulphate or nitrate, with potash and iron sulphate, may be used as required. These rates approximate 2 to 4 oz. of Nu-Green, 1 to 2 ozs. muriate of potash, ½ to 1 oz, iron sulphate, all per 1000 sq. ft. in 50 gal. of water per green.

Greensmowers should be set at  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. in height and should be very sharp. When grass reaches  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. in height mowing should start, removing the clippings. Mowing height should be very gradually brought down to desired height of cut for play. Frequency of cut is important. A very smooth surface for stolonizing and seeding is a first prerequisite and will have a great deal to do with the quality of the putting surface in years to come.

#### **On PGA Committee**

Jay Hebert and Jack Fleck are new members of the PGA tournament committee and Bob Toski is now the chairman of the committee. Hebert and Fleck replace Doug Ford and Jim Turnesa as committeemen and Toski succeeds Fred Hawkins. Holdover members of the committee are Warren Orlick, Harry Moffitt, pres. of the group, Harold Sargent and Hawkins.

### Tell Them You Saw It Advertised in Golfdom

PGA's teaching and education committee, headed by Emil Beck, Pt. Huron, Mich. pro, is making plans to accommodate 300 young pros at the Dunedin, Fla. Assistants' Training School to be held Jan. 7-11, 1957.

Assistants who qualify for the course will be given a minimum of 22 hours training in Club Fitting and Repairing, Employer-Employee relations, Pro Shop Merchandising and several other subjects. There is no charge for registration or enrollment in the school and housing arrangements now are being made for those expected to attend. Beck estimates that it will cost the assistant about \$75 a week for living costs after arrival in Dunedin.

Enrollment applications will be handled through home pros. Application blanks are now being distributed to pro shops throughout the country so that assistants can sign up.

Besides attending formal classes, assistants will get the opportunity to attend clinics and also play the PGA Dunedin course.

### **Turfgrass Conferences**

Following is a list of turfgrass conferences and field days scheduled for the fall months in various sections of U.S.:

Sept. 17-18 – Midwest Turf Field Days, Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind.

Sept. 25 - St. Louis Dist. Golf Assn. Field Day, Westwood CC, Clayton, Mo.

Sept. 25-27 - Florida Turf Conference, U. of Florida, Gainesville.

Sept. 26-27 - Northwest Turfgrass Conference, Washington State College, Pullman.

Sept. 28-29 – Utah-Idaho Conference, Idaho Falls (Ida.) GC.

Oct. 1-2 – Rocky Mountain Turfgrass Conference, Colorado A & M College, Ft. Collins.

Oct. 4-5 – New Mexico Turfgrass Conference, New Mexico A & M, State College.

Oct. 15-16 - Southern Calif. Turf Conference, U. of Calif., Los Angeles.

Oct. 17-19 – Central Plains Turfgrass Conference, Kansas State, Manhattan.

Nov. 12-16 — American Society of Agronomy meetings, Cincinnati, O.

Dec. 10-12 – Oklahoma Turfgrass Conference, Oklahoma A & M, Stillwater.