

BETTER CHECK UP: IS YOUR LOCKER-ROOM A STY?

By
HERB
GRAFFIS

YOUR clubhouse is only as good as your locker-room. And about half the golf clubs have so much opportunity for vast improvement, at little expense, in the locker-rooms that club officials ought to resolve to do something drastic about this major fault before the 1938 season dawns.

In most cases the locker-room is the social center of the club, yet in far too many cases it is dark, damp and ill-kept. Some shortcomings of locker-rooms are architectural. They're cramped, poorly-ventilated and gloomy. Without 110-proof spiritual uplift the membership would become morbid and chronically complaining, directly as the result of the dismal atmosphere of the place where in the clubhouse golf is begun and ended.

Note how the leading clubs keep their locker-rooms. Walls are light. Floors are immaculate. Insides of lockers are dusted—an especially important point now that so many men are wearing white clothes in the summer. Floor runners are clean and in perfect repair. There is a goodly array of toilet articles in the bath and lavatory rooms. Combs and brushes are kept clean. Bath sandals—either wood, paper or rubber—are supplied. Towels and sandals are kept picked up. Drink trays are not left lying about. Wastebaskets, cuspidors and ash receptacles are supplied. Paint is freely used; and paint of a cheerful color. Lighting fixtures have adequate light instead of dull yellow gleams. Attendants have clean uniforms.

What a Contrast!

Contrast those points of first class locker-room operation with the locker-rooms at other clubs and first of all you'll note that the difference between good locker-rooms and sloppy, unattractive locker-rooms is not one that can be alibied by lack of cash. In many cases, especially at clubs outside metropolitan districts, less than \$200 would transform sties into locker-rooms of attractive character.

At the base of the locker-room defects seems to be neglect. There is too general a tendency, outside of the top ranking clubs, to hire almost anyone as a locker-room attendant and then devote no time at all to the training and supervision of that

employee. The experienced locker-room attendant has a hard enough time handling his duties because his job is one with heavy rush periods, requiring foresighted organization. The attendant who hasn't "been around" and seen what is done at the better clubs, simply hasn't a chance.

It must be remembered that the inexperienced locker-room attendant doesn't come from a place in the social scale that has permitted him many opportunities to observe details of ritzy club operation. So, in that matter, blame attaches to the club officials and manager for failure to educate the attendant and to supervise the work until maintenance of a high standard of cleanliness, speed and thoroughness becomes a habit.

It Costs So Little to Tidy Things Up

In the bath departments and toilets a visitor too often sees conditions of unpardonable and amazing neglect. Duck boards in showers are so greasy they are positively dangerous as well as extremely unsanitary. It wouldn't cost much to have those boards cleaned and painted with waterproof paint. It isn't a prohibitive expense in most cases to have sponge rubber or other rubber mats put into the shower stalls.

Then there are the shower heads. In club after club one finds worn out, outmoded or clogged nozzles attempting to deliver satisfactory bathing facilities. Too often the members themselves fail to realize how inadequate their showers are.

Cost of new shower heads is negligible, and any attendant with a pipe wrench can do the installing.

Likewise, it is puzzling to understand why our golfers put up with the sort of shower regulators one meets—regulators that alternately scald and freeze the bather, or that have to be adjusted like the combination on a safe to achieve the proper water temperature. If the shower

is "the best part of the game," surely it is smart club operation to go the limit in providing shower comfort.

The showers themselves should be cleaned often. During the winter there should be a general overhauling of showers, lavatories and toilets. Paint and antiseptics should be applied lavishly. Why architects have muffed the problem of golf club shower departments so badly no one can answer, but it is a certainty that in the majority of the nation's country club shower rooms there is need of installing ventilating fans. As the rooms now are there is a soggy, steamy atmosphere in the rooms that almost immediately offsets the comfort and benefit of the shower. This humidity sweeps out into the adjacent locker-room, making it decidedly unpleasant.

Towel supplies in many locker-rooms are left pretty much on a catch-as-catch-can basis. There are not nearly enough of the antiseptic footbath trays in shower departments. The prevalence and seriousness of athlete's foot disease surely warrants preventive facilities in each good club's bath department. Paper bath slippers, for example, should always be supplied. Even though the members all have their own slippers, the comfort of guests must be met.

Cracked mirrors, or mirror frames with the paint flaked off, are seen in the lavatories of many clubs that boast of the class of their membership. Talcum powder, safety razors with replacement blades available, shaving cream, sunburn preventives and remedies, hair tonic, after shaving preparations, liniment, antiseptics, etc., don't cost much but they do a tremendous job in making the club lavatory look like the club belongs to gentlemen.

Brighten Up the Dungeon

Locker-room benches and chairs should be kept in attractive condition even though they do get hard use. A carpet sweeper or vacuum cleaner run along at least the floor runners a few times when the afternoon rush is in progress will do a lot to keep the place looking clean and to preserve the floor covering.

At many clubs there is great need for architectural revision that will provide more windows. The solid glass blocks now being widely used in building provide the answer to numerous locker-room demands for more light and cheerfulness. Bright-colored drapes sometimes help dress up a locker-room. Somebody, years ago, must

have had the idea a locker-room should be finished in drab colors so it would conceal dirt. That hunch has been responsible for the dungeon-look that makes so many locker-rooms actually depressing. What really is needed is bright colors to make dirt easy to find and remove.

The lockers themselves have gone through a marvelous development as a result of the work of the locker manufacturers, and not because of any general encouragement from clubs. Clubs will bargain and drive down to the last cent on locker purchases. One of the biggest bargains now available in clubhouse equipment is modern lockers. Prospects are for a decided hike in locker prices so the club that contemplates getting modernized in this respect had better do its shopping right now.

In some of the older and smaller clubhouses where there still are wood lockers with wire-netting fronts, it is amazing to see how badly repairs and paint are needed. There are plenty of reasons for a brightening-up when painting of these antique lockers is done, but it seems that some guy with a brush is merely told to go ahead, and club officials invariably overlook opportunities to make the lockers and locker-rooms cheerful and distinctive.

Bars, due to the enthusiasm with which repeal was welcomed at golf clubs, generally are the most modern features of the locker-room area. However, there are plenty of make-shifts that are wasteful, untidy and inadequate. That part of the equipment can stand an expert appraisal at the end of the season so any of its shortcomings can be corrected.

If you want to surprise and delight your membership when 1938 comes around, devote plenty of time and expert attention to your locker, shower, lavatory, toilet and bar arrangements in trying to bring them up closer to the standards of the leading metropolitan clubs. Most of the time in such an improvement campaign you can get by with more use of brains and judgment than of high finance, so the enterprise is one that need not cramp your budget.

Club Workers Have Their Day—Mohawk CC (Chicago district) devotes one late-season Monday a year to an employees' party. All employees, except caddies, take part in the golf events and an evening dinner for which outside service is engaged. A Mohawk waitress, making her golf debut last year, scored 278!



Hoblit has developed some juvenile stars in this year's kid class.

PROS SHOULD INVENTORY THEMSELVES

By EDWARD HOBLIT
Pro, Bloomington (Ill.) CC

AT the close of a year many businessmen take inventory. It is an idea the pro can apply to himself. In the pro business there are not the big stores, the expensive locations, the large and varied stocks of merchandise and the big payrolls of many other businesses. In the pro business the biggest and most important asset is the pro himself, so it is up to the pro to inventory himself to see how his business stands. He might as well do it now while the lessons of the 1937 season are fresh with him.

We hear fellows complain about the pro business. If they look into the matter intelligently they can determine whether the trouble is with the business so they'd better get out and locate in a new business, or if the trouble is with them and can be corrected by thinking and working.

Those of us who listen to our members tell of their business affairs know that there are troubles in every business. No businessman can avoid trouble in trying to make a profit. Maybe we weaken our position by dwelling too much on the general troubles in our business instead of trying to improve ourselves individually so we can handle the tough problems of our jobs.

What are we doing for ourselves individually is the most important question in pro golf today. Are we studying our own

business enough? The greenkeepers with their short courses at state colleges and their educational meetings give us a good idea of what we have to do to score par in the educational line.

I've been in golf since the age of 12 when I started as a caddie. As caddie-master, assistant pro, pro-greenkeeper and professional—and as a club member—I have looked at the pro's job and have decided that it affords a good career for a young man, but it's a dead-end for the fellow who thinks that it's an easy living and a place where one can get by with the minimum of unpleasant effort, study and self-denial. No one is going to help the pro who isn't doing all he can to help himself.

My first ambition in golf came when I was a high-school student in Lincoln, Ill. Bill Schwartz was pro there and I wanted to hit a drive like Bill did. I later learned that hitting the ball wasn't all there is to golf. George Ebbert took me into the shop and I began to learn that the member, not the pro, is the most important person at a golf club. George told me to always

remember that. As caddie-master and later as assistant pro and pro-greenkeeper I was constantly reminded that there's no place like a golf club to tactfully act like "the customer is always right" whether the statement is true or not.

Every pro has members who are difficult to deal with and who make unreasonable demands, usually through lack of knowledge rather than through meanness alone. Learning that early does a lot to help a young man make a success of a pro job. The knack of anticipating possible shortcomings and complaints in pro department service has to be developed. Older pros have told me of many cases where pro jobs were lost because pros got bull-headed about some matter that could have been handled to everyone's satisfaction by a pro who had the right attitude toward his job.

Realizing that a pro job is a responsibility and not an opportunity to show-off, I think is another important point the pro must check up on when he makes an inventory of himself.

People talk about Walter Hagen being a great showman, but when I recall how he acted when I had the profitable pleasure of playing an exhibition match with him, I will put Hagen's feeling of responsibility toward golf away ahead of his showmanship. He knew I had stage fright and he put me at my ease. He taught me how to do a better job of teaching by making the students feel comfortable. The courtesy and friendliness the Haig showed me never has been forgotten and the other great players who have something of Walter's fine manner toward the younger pro are doing more than they realize to help golf.

Pro's First Duty Is to Aid Golf

The pro's job is to help golf. If he doesn't do that first he is in a poor position to help himself. I believe that one of the best jobs pros are doing to set themselves in right is the work of junior instruction. From my own experience I will say that no pro needs to fear giving "free" instruction to junior classes because he feels that proper value won't be placed on such instruction by pupils and their parents or because he thinks he should be paid for what is really valuable time and hard work. If the pro doesn't get big cash returns eventually out of his junior classes, whether free or at nominal charge, then the pro needs to study his manner and

method of handling these classes and revise his work.

What I am to do with the juniors is to get them started off right. I teach them the proper grip, stance and to keep their heads in place. Most of the rest must come to them by imitation or intuition. You can't go into detail with the youngsters. They won't know what you're talking about. Show them, and they'll get it right away.

One of my 13-year-old class pupils, Betty Jane Cline, has scored a 39 on the par 34 Highland Park course and plays Bloomington CC (par 35) consistently in the low forties. She has gone on to Sandy Armour, a great fellow and a fine teacher, and all of us expect a lot from her if she continues her present interest in golf. One of our 10-year-old boys, Peter Elliott, has played a 39 on our course in competition, and always is in the low forties. Our other youngsters for the most part have developed so that their parents have taken a great interest in individual lessons for themselves. The kid classes were the greatest adult individual lesson advertising and sales idea I ever had.

The widespread success of progressive pros in the juvenile class lesson work has shown us all what is to be gained by looking ahead. We have a great business future in golf if we study ourselves and educate ourselves to deserve command of the situation, and don't waste our time passing the buck for unavoidable troubles in the golf business to someone else.

Pro Skeeters—Michigan pros are planning a skeet tournament at Kent CC, Grand Rapids, during the late fall. Pros are beginning to go strong for the sport as a fall and winter proposition. Some of them have done very well in shell sales to members.

Winter Tourney Dates

- November 16-19—Mid-South Professional Tournament (best ball and individual), Pinehurst, N. C.
- December 10-13—Miami Biltmore Open, \$10,000.
- January 7-10—Los Angeles Open, \$8,000.
- January 15 and 16—Santa Monica Open, \$4,000.
- January 21-23—Pasadena Open, \$3,000.
- January 28-30—Oakland Open, \$5,000.
- February 4-6—Sacramento Open, \$3,000.
- February 11-13—San Francisco Open, \$5,000.
- February 19-20—Bing Crosby Open, \$3,000
- Rancho Santa Fe Links.
- March 23-25—North and South Open Championship, 72 holes, Pinehurst, N. C.
- March 31 to April 2—Masters Tournament, Augusta Golf Club, Augusta, Ga., \$5,000.

BY O. J. NOER

Fertilization of Greens and Related Practices

MANURE compost in the topdressing, and an occasional dressing of bone meal, comprised greens fertilization in olden days. Sulphate of ammonia was the first concentrated fertilizer to receive serious consideration. Its use started about fifteen years ago and gathered momentum until a climax was reached in 1928. Following that disastrous year, sulphate of ammonia was not entirely abandoned, but quantities were reduced materially, other fertilizers received justified consideration, and lime was restored to favor.

Today leaf sturdiness is emphasized more than vivid green color; and turf density is considered more important than soil acidity in weed control.

NITROGEN KEY TO STURDY GRASS: Manipulation of nitrogen is the key to sturdy turf, for it is the growth producing element. In excess, nitrogen causes development of soft, succulent grass, which is ready prey to disease and insects. Contrary to general belief, these evil effects are not overcome entirely by so-called balancing with phosphate and potash.

The opposite extreme, namely complete abandonment of nitrogen fertilization, does not avoid midsummer difficulties, for without adequate nitrogen, turf deteriorates and serious clover and weed invasion then follows.

The secret of sturdy turf is to confine major nitrogen feeding to spring and early fall, and to decrease gradually the spring rate as summer approaches. Summer rates should barely maintain growth and color. Likewise, in extreme northern sections, fall feeding should be completed by mid-September at the latest, so grass can harden-off before winter.

All greens do not need nitrogen at the same rate. In shady spots growth is naturally less robust so less nitrogen is needed. Vegetative bents, which tend to fluff, require less nitrogen than the seeded bents.

KIND OF NITROGEN: Since nitrogen in nitrate form is not recommended for fine turf, choice of a nitrogenous fertilizer is limited to the organics and the various compounds of ammonia.

The true organics include such materials as bone meal, Milorganite, cottonseed meal, blood, tankage, etc. Their use on greens is justified to insure a more continuous and uniform rate of growth. This occurs because soil processes gradually release the nitrogen over extended periods. Materials which contain only a small amount of water soluble organic nitrogen, and release the insoluble nitrogen slow-

ly are best. In this respect, Milorganite and cottonseed meal are superior to the higher nitrogen containing tankages and dried blood.

Ammonium sulphate and the various ammonium phosphates are the principal commercial sources of ammonia nitrogen. Being water soluble, they deepen color almost immediately, but effects are not long lasting. Both tend to suppress clover, but if used continuously, ammonia compounds eventually increase soil acidity and then lose their efficiency. This can be overcome by the moderate use of lime.

NEED FOR PHOSPHORUS AND POTASSIUM: Removal of clippings tends to reduce the soil supply of available nutrients, particularly phosphorus and potassium, so replenishment of these elements is more essential on greens than on fairways. Where needed, applications of phosphate or potash fertilizer can be confined to two a year, one in early spring and the other in early fall. When the topdressing contains manure or spent mushroom soil, additional potassium is seldom needed because it is abundant in both materials.

SUGGESTED FERTILIZER PROGRAM: Due to the many factors involved, it is impossible to propose a rigid program of green's fertilization. However, the following scheme has been very successful on many greens.

INDICATED RATES ARE POUNDS PER 1000 SQUARE FEET:

In early spring and in early September, greens receive 8 to 15 pounds of 20% superphosphate. When potassium is needed also, 50% muriate of potash is applied at 3 to 4 pounds, along with the phosphate.

Both organic and inorganic forms of nitrogen are used. Organics (such as Milorganite) are applied in early spring and early fall at 15 to 30 pounds. When needed, an additional application at half this rate is made in late May or early June. If topdressing contains appreciable manure, the lower rate is approached, otherwise the full quantity is used. To start growth in early spring from 1 to 3 pounds sulphate of ammonia may be used also. Midsummer feeding consists of ammonium sulphate at light rates only, approximately 1 to 3 pounds.

FERTILIZATION OF NEW GREENS: Best practice is to use 15 to 25 pounds superphosphate, and 20 to 50 pounds organic fertilizer (such as Milorganite) per 1000 sq. ft. Both should be applied prior to seeding and worked into the surface soil. This will insure rapid cov-

feed with **MILORGANITE**
THE ORGANIC-NITROGEN TURF FERTILIZER

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erage with uniform turf. Heavy rates of soluble fertilizer should be avoided.

FERTILIZATION BEFORE SODDING GREENS: Apply superphosphate under the sod, but always wait until sod is laid before applying nitrogen, otherwise root injury may occur. With this modification of procedure, rates recommended for new greens can be used.

GREENS SOMETIMES NEED LIME: Although lime is often needed, indiscriminate liming is not good practice. Unless tests show marked acidity, general liming should await trial application on limited test areas.

Lime is best applied in late fall or early spring. It is safe to use ground limestone up to 50 pounds or more per 1000 sq. ft. but hydrated lime beyond 20 pounds per 1000 sq. ft. is unwise at any one time. Even then it should be watered-in to prevent burning. Allow 10 to 14 days to elapse between use of lime and application of any fertilizer containing ammonia compounds.

WATER PRACTICES IMPORTANT: Troubles from overwatering usually occur in midsummer. Very often golfers are responsible for this reprehensible practice. When a green refuses to hold a pitched ball, they know by experience that the trouble can be overcome by more generous use of water. In most instances, the underlying cause is too heavy soil. Rather than more generous watering, the permanent cure is to build a suitable layer of soil by top-dressing.

Both quantity of water used and time of sprinkling are important. If water can be squeezed from soil pressed between the fingers several hours after watering, the evidence clearly points to overwatering. In this connection greens in shade need less water than those out in the open. There are sound reasons for advocating early morning sprinkling. With night watering grass remains damp throughout the night, a condition which favors fungus diseases. Early morning watering actually dries the grass by destroying droplets of dew and thereby tends to lessen disease.

Periodic thorough watering is better than light sprinkling daily, but if roots are extremely shallow, the axiom does not always apply in very hot weather. By mid-afternoon, because of serious wilting, turf turns blue and burns in foot prints. Immediate light syringing to restore soil moisture, prevents extensive turf loss.

In summer, handwatering may be necessary on heavily contoured greens to prevent loss on elevations from insufficient moisture, and to overcome the damage from too much water in low spots. Water can be directed to high

points, and surface run-off will take care of depressions.

On elevated greens, outside banks and slopes should be kept moist at all times. Otherwise it is not easy to hold grass along the outside edge of the closely cut greens area. Some use a battery of cricket sprinklers in the daytime for this purpose.

Occasionally soil becomes powder dry in localized areas. Turf first takes on a bluish, metallic color, and finally turns brown. Sprinkling is of no avail, because dry soil does not absorb applied water. Deep forking followed by several thorough drenchings is the proper treatment.

SUN SCALD: In this type of injury grass collapses rather suddenly. It is accompanied by foul smelling soil, and a green scum of algae may overspread the area. Scum is the result and not the cause of sun scald, as some think. Algae are present in all soils, but they need sunlight, so on greens their development is checked unless grass thins sufficiently to expose soil surfaces.

A water-logged soil is the real cause of sun scald, although excessive nitrogen accentuates turf injury. Spiking and forking to accelerate surface evaporation are the first essentials to recovery. Sometimes it is possible to check the algae by spraying with hydrated lime at light rates. Fertilization is warranted only after new roots begin to form.

Despite the fact that Washington and Metropolitan bents are among the best hot weather grasses, troubles are not uncommon. The cause is not always clearly understood. Conditions at the time of injury resemble those producing sun-scald, but the actual cause is somewhat different. When these grasses are allowed to develop a deep fluffy mat of grass, applied topdressing buries leaves and stems instead of making contact with the soil. Fermentation of these buried layers of highly decomposable vegetable matter causes turf loss. To avert trouble, development of a deep mat must be avoided. This involves thorough cross-raking, followed by close cutting in the spring, as well as occasional brushing in summer. Likewise, the use of front rollers on greens mowers should be avoided.

This concludes the ABC of Turf Culture, by O. J. Noer, agronomist and turf consultant for the Milwaukee Sewerage Commission. If you do not have the entire series, a bound volume will be sent to you on request—including, also, four interesting "Case Histories" based on Soil and Situation Surveys of golf fairways and greens by Mr. Noer. Address:

THE SEWERAGE COMMISSION MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

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Plans Well Under Way for February Greens Meet

NATIONAL Ass'n. of Greenkeepers will hold its 12th annual convention and equipment show at Hotel Netherland Plaza, Cincinnati, O., Feb. 15-18. The equipment show will be a three day affair ending Feb. 17.

Frank W. Ermer, chmn. of the show committee, Box 2257, Brooklyn Sta., Cleveland, O., reports that half the space for the show is already sold but that the remainder includes some preferred locations. Ermer forecasts that the 1938 show will establish a new high for attendance and for sales. He declares, "The central location of Cincinnati, the excellent hotel accommodations at moderate costs and the tremendous need for equipment and supplies needed to restore maintenance operations to the pre-depression standard, assure a big and busy meeting. Improved financial status of clubs will be reflected at the convention." He urges that prospective exhibitors promptly advise him concerning space requirements.

Program plans are in formative stage. The 1937 program featured experts never before heard at NAGA national conference and made a strong point of connecting greenkeeping with the government's department of agricultural work.

Early discussions of the 1938 educational conference program indicate that widespread turf troubles during the hard 1937 season have revealed many subjects for concerted study, and that the labor and wages problem is becoming of such alarming character as to call for general attention of the NAGA members.

Mass. State Winter School Will Begin January 3

THE twelfth winter school for greenkeepers at the Mass. State College will open January 3, and will continue through March 14. This institution offered the first course for greenkeepers and the longest and most complete. It is still the longest and is said to be the most complete. Other institutions in this country and in England and Scotland are now offering course of from 2 days to six weeks in length.

Subjects offered are: Landscape appreciation, entomology, drainage, managerial problems, soils, fertilizers, botany, water systems, equipment and supplies, turf culture (including weeds, diseases and pests), cost keeping and analysis, daily forum.

Managerial problems, equipment and supplies, turf culture, cost keeping and analysis and daily forum are under the direct supervision of L. S. Dickinson, widely known greenkeeping authority. Besides Dickinson and the Mass. State College staff members, there will be on the greenkeeping staff Carleton E. Treat, greenkeeper at the Montclair CC.

The course is limited to 25. Tuition is \$10.00; registration, \$5.00; health fee \$1.50. Room and board is estimated at \$10 to \$12 per week.

Each year a few of the members bring their wives so that there develops quite a social group. Amherst offers many attractions in the form of concerts, libraries, etc.

The fourth course for advanced students will open Jan. 3 also, but will be divided into two sessions of 5 weeks each. This course is open only to those who have taken the regular winter school at this college. As there are now some 240 who have passed through the M. S. C. mill the demand for this course is very great.

Enrollment has started in both courses and it is advised that any one desiring to take the course, should register at once. Full details may be obtained from Director R. H. Verbeck, Short Course Office, M. S. C., Amherst, Mass. or Prof. L. S. Dickinson, Stockbridge Hall, Amherst, Mass.

February 14-19 Announced as Dates for Rutgers U. Short Course

RUTGERS University college of agriculture presents its 1938 short course in turf management Feb. 14-19 at New Brunswick, N. J. Tuition to residents of New Jersey is free. The Rutgers short courses always draw a good attendance of leading greenkeepers and have contributed greatly to the high grade of the state's course conditioning.

Lectures, supplemented by classroom discussions and by laboratory and field demonstrations, pack plenty of practical information into the six-day course. National authorities on greenkeeping matters are members of the Rutgers faculty.

Complete details may be secured from Prof. Frank G. Helyar, Director of Resident Instruction, New Brunswick, N. J.

Party Aids Greens Budget—One of the largest parties of the year at Modinah CC (Chicago district) is the Golf and Grounds party, with proceeds applied to the maintenance budget. Guest fee is \$2 which includes green fee and a hot buffet dinner, vaudeville and dancing.



THE COST OF FENCING

First class golf fence varies in cost (according to height, weight of frame and fabric, and local erecting costs), from 35c to 40c per foot for low fencing to \$1.75 per foot for high back-stop fencing.

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FENCE—BEST DEFENSE AGAINST GRIPES

How fencing will remove many of golf's aggravating grievances

By W. H. BLEECKER

Page Fence Ass'n.

THIS is a brief saga on the gripes of golf that result when a course is not properly fenced. Some of the knowledge I have accumulated at first hand as I cut and spanked my way from tee to green. More of it has been furnished me by our association members who, being fence minded, noticed certain subconscious gripes that fencing would have eliminated.

Both public fee courses and exclusive clubs have furnished the locale of the gripes recounted here. But as "pigs is pigs," so golf is golf. And private club golfers are recruited largely from public fee ranks. So the higher the cost of playing golf, the fewer grievances expected—grievances not inherent to the game itself. The normal gripes of golf are plenty, Allah knows.

Now let us take a look at some of the burning memories occasioned by emotional and physical hazards added to normal golf by the lack of proper golf course fencing and screening.

Gripe 1 Ball Hawks

Golfer A told that the woods to the right of a certain fairway shelters gamins who pounce upon and make away with many balls driven to its fringe. The only protective measure is to dispatch caddies a drive's length ahead to safeguard the balls. Some players of this course are sure that balls lost to the "wood sprites" on hole 4 have been offered back to them "re-sale," by an innocent-looking old fellow across the fence at Hole 11. Only a suspicion, of course, but one providing a double gripe. "Buy your own stolen ball back for a quarter, mister" is the general idea. A proper fence at the boundary beyond the woods would keep the gamins out and prevent this nuisance.



Gripe 2 Duck on a Tee!

Golfer B stood addressing his ball for a right hearty smack off the 16th tee. A whizzing shape, a whirring sound! Instinct caused him to duck—and quickly.

Fortunately, too! For a hard-driven ball cometed through the space his head had recently quitted.

It developed that this 16th tee was situated in a most tempting line of flight between the 14th tee and green. The player driving from the 14th tee, attempting to hook a short cut around a tree, had bee-lined the 16th tee—and Golfer B.

Golfer B reached the locker-room shaken and jittery. A recounting of his experience to those assembled at the 19th Hole brought out other similar experiences, which had been laughed or shaken off. But this time a combined protest was made to the club management. Now the 16th tee is properly sheltered by a protective screen and there's no need to duck while driving.

Gripe 3 Mongrel Mashie

This gripe of Golfer C is somewhat similar to that of Golfer B. Having hit his second shot to the short grass just off the green, he took mashie and putter in hand and dispatched his caddie to the next tee. After using his mashie to chip on, he laid it down and proceeded to putt out.

Engrossed with his putting gripes, the mashie was forgotten near the green until C was ready for his second shot on the next hole. Back went the caddie—and then C—then the whole entourage—to locate a mashie that had simply vanished. No one was playing up behind so there was no one in sight to accuse.

A nearby boundary fence, adjoining some brush, provided the only clue. An ordinary makeshift affair, its wires had been pushed far enough apart, next a post, to admit a horse, almost. Conclusion: Gamin eyes from the copse had

spotted the forgotten mashie, and quicker than four clicks off a tee that mashie had been trundled through the hole in the fence forever. So Golfer C purchased a "mongrel" mashie at the pro-shop—(couldn't wait to fill his lovely matched set)—and gripes to himself whenever a mashie shot goes wrong. He may match another 5-iron with his set some day, but he'll never forget the injustice, the mental agony, the muffed mashie shots and the nine bucks that hole in the fence cost him.

Gripe 4 Parked Cars Cleaned

Golfer D and cohorts had parked their cars in the club lot near the clubhouse. The day was hot—oh, very hot!—and car windows were left ajar to keep inside heat from melting the mechanisms. When the homebound hegira filed out of the buffet sometime after dark it was discovered the cars had been cleaned of everything loose inside them. Losses ranged from rare pre-war tiger's milk to electric razors—spare spats to birthday gift pull-overs.

That parking lot is now surrounded by an unclimbable mesh fence and sealed by a no-admission-to-strangers steel gate. Golfers with minds on the game can't think of everything—and frequently don't. Let a fence do the work where it can.

Gripe 5 Free Golfers

Golfer E cited a custom that prevailed on a certain municipal golf course until the gripes of paid-up golfers led to an impassable fence installation.

One of those far-flung, woodey courses, the back nine meandered far from the starter's view—and that of the ticket taker at the fifth tee.

What could be simpler? "Free" golfers watched their chance, seeped in and skittered around on the last 13 holes as opportunity provided, took their exercise as they found it and enriched the municipal coffers no whit. Too bad, boys, but now you'll have to pay as you play! There's no getting through the new fence.

Gripe 6 Tore \$5.00 Pants

Golfer F remarked on the futility of salvaging 75c at a cost of five bucks. He was tempted, he said, by the apparent

negotiability of a barbed-wire topped "sheep fence" through which his ball had bunched.

Bending the sheep-wire down carefully, and dishing his back cautiously under the barbs, he seemed to be making a successful passage until he attempted to finish into the clear with a last triumphant lunge.

Right then and there the barbs bit his \$5.00 pants in a vulnerable spot and the ventilation was terrific—to say nothing of leaving a scar which Golfer F says he'll carry to his grave.



Golfer F concludes that "no boundary golf fence should offer the illusion that it is vulnerable to passage over, under or through—either to loiterers outside or golfers wearing \$5.00 pants inside. No 75c ball is worth such pants and such gripes."

Gripe 7 Crossing the Road

Golfer G thinks he's lucky to be alive to tell the tale. His tee shot sliced out of bounds across a concrete highway into wayside grass. Only a bushy ditch—no fence—separated fairway and highway.

The ball was too good to lose. So Golfer "G" marked with his eyes the spot where it vanished, shot another ball off the tee, and headed straight for it. Down through the bushy ditch he went and out onto the concrete, his eyes fixed immovably upon the spot where that first ball should be lying.

Honk! Scre-e-e-ech! Yell! Swerve! Jump-for-dear-life!—and a mile a minute-going car fanned Golfer G breathless as it whistled past.

Golfer G allows as how that fairway should be fenced away from the public highway—so that no golfer "marking the spot" with fixed attention and unwavering stare may provide newspaper illustrated material for a diagrammed "X marks the spot where his body was found." He's probably right.

Gripe 8 Dog Costs Carry-Over

Golfer H, we believe, will nurse this \$3.00 gripe for years. Not because the dough mattered so much, but because H lost the thrill of bagging a long-sought carry-over with a cinch putt after he'd been a soft touch for the other boys all day. Get the picture?