We advise golf clubs without hesitancy to make full use of humus of suitable kind in the preparation of soils lacking humus and in the making of their compost piles. The best form of humus is, without question, well-rotted barnyard manure, while mushroom soil, woods earth, and similar materials are also forms of humus of high value. All the forms of commercial humus we have seen possess none of the characteristics of these latter desirable materials.

Some U. S. Golf Association Decisions on the Rules of Golf

A player drives from the tee into a marsh. The ball is visible in the mud, and the player elects to "play it out." He carries into the marsh a board, root, or stone (from outside the hazard), places it, and makes the shot with one foot on it. He claims he has such a right.

Decision.—Rule 15 covers this point. The player must be deemed to have committed an act contrary to the spirit of this rule in taking his stance. A player is not entitled to change the playing condition of the course, and in this case he has done so and must be penalized under the Rules.

A player claims that under Rule 11 he is entitled to lift a ball from a wheel track (not freshly made) in the fairway, basing his contention on the "hole made by the greenkeeper" clause in this rule. There is no vehicular traffic on the course other than that of the greens force, and no special rule has been made for such a case.

Decision.—In the absence of a local rule, a player is not entitled to lift under Rule 11. It is the plain duty of the committee in charge to designate this situation either as "ground under repair" or, if warranted, a "permanent hazard."

A player tees his ball on the teeing ground. In taking a limbering-up or practice swing he knocks the ball 30 to 40 feet. He states it was an accident and insists that there shall be no penalty. From a careful study of Definition 13 and Rule 2, and the consideration that golf is a game of integrity, it is felt that in a case such as this the player's word must be accepted.

Decision.—Rule 2 must be considered to cover this point. The Rules Committee of the United States Golf Association are under the impression that the player in this case must have gone beyond the interpretation of "addressing the ball" in knocking it 30 or 40 feet, and therefore must consider that he put the ball in play and that it should be counted as a stroke.

Superiority of stolons of new growth for vegetative planting.—It has been demonstrated that old stolons of creeping bent do not produce nearly as large a proportion of buds or new plants as do stolons of new growth. Moreover, nursery rows a year old make little growth the second year. It is much more satisfactory to start a new nursery each fall than to carry over old rows. If, however, old stolons are available, they should be planted much more thickly than is advised for new stolons.