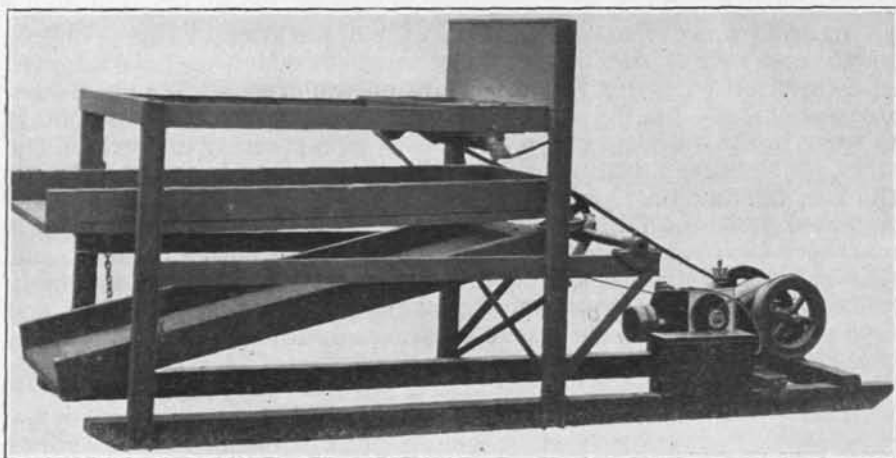


A Simple Combination Compost Grinder and Screen

The material is fed into the hopper at the top, in which any lumps of dirt are crushed by a breaker. From the hopper it is discharged onto two oscillating screens, the upper of $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch mesh and the lower



Compost grinder and screen

of $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch mesh. Should any stones get into the hopper too large to go through the breaker, no harm would be done, as the breaker is belt-driven, and only stoppage would result pending removal of the stones. The machine in the illustration is being driven by a lawn-mower engine.

Returfing divots.—The Peripatetic Golfer (THE BULLETIN, page 216, September, 1925) remarks: "It does not help to fill up divots with soil and seed; and besides, it is very expensive." A correspondent accordingly writes in to know how divots should be returfed. His fairways are "pock-marked with a multitude of divot holes." We have observed that an ordinary divot is covered with turf from the edges at least as quickly as it would be by putting in soil and seed. In most cases the grass that develops from the edges is more vigorous than seedlings, which are thus crowded out. It is therefore felt that filling up divots with soil and seed is a waste of time and money, and that better results are obtained with applications of fertilizer and water.

Testing Seed For Germination.—Ordinarily grass seed more than two years old should be tested carefully before any extensive seeding is done. It is an easy matter to test seed simply by means of a box of soil which can be kept moist. An ordinary test of this kind is about as satisfactory as one made in a laboratory. Red fescue seed loses its germinating power in a comparatively short time, and seed more than a year old is usually very inferior in germination. On the other hand, Kentucky bluegrass, as a rule, germinates better after it is a year old than it does immediately after it has been harvested, and it will hold its germination usually for at least two years. Bent seed five or six years old has been known to germinate satisfactorily.