

than if they had been grooved. As a matter of fact, traps that are left smooth require a greater variety of shots than traps that are ridged or grooved. If the traps are left smooth, the player may be faced with any one of three shots; the ball may be lying perfectly clean, where it can be chipped out; it may be under the face of the bunker, when a cut shot would be required; or, as is very often the case, it may be resting in a footprint, where an explosion shot would be demanded. With the grooved or ridged type of treatment, it is invariably an explosion shot that is required, and variety is almost entirely eliminated. The British rarely, if ever, smooth or manipulate the sand traps, preferring to let the element of luck be the deciding factor. Nothing has been definitely decided as to how the bunkers will be conditioned at Scioto for the National Open Championship. In my own humble opinion, however, any hazard, no matter what its nature, if well placed is, regardless of conditioning, perfectly able to give a good account of itself.

Seed of Common Grasses Sold Under New Names

In THE BULLETIN for September, 1923 (page 234), the Green Section warned golf clubs against purchasing meadow fescue seed under the name "Turfing Fescue," which was then being offered under that name. Again in THE BULLETIN for January, 1924 (page 19), a warning was issued against purchasing seed of the same grass under the name "Herbae Prati." It is now learned that a Southern golf club has recently made a purchase of a seed mixture which is being marketed under a name perhaps still more attractive than "Turfing Fescue" or "Herbae Prati." An analysis of this new mixture made by the United States Department of Agriculture indicates that it consists of Italian rye-grass, timothy, and meadow-fescue. It is indeed true that each of these three grasses is a turf former. For certain purposes Italian rye-grass forms a suitable temporary golf turf. Turf of timothy and of meadow-fescue would be a disappointment on any golf course even for fairways. Moreover, from information received it would appear that the price at which this new mixture was sold was triple the actual market price of the several ingredients.

The Green Section for five years has been giving readers of THE BULLETIN full information on all of the known golf turf grasses which can grow in the United States and Canada. It has tested these and observed them to determine their relative merits. Botanists know of thousands of species of grasses, of which a dozen or so are adapted for use on golf courses, and many of these only under restricted conditions.

In the purchase of seed, as in the purchase of anything, quality is what you want, and not a trade-name. Buy pure seed and make your own mixtures.

Do the chairman of your green committee, and your greenkeeper, get The Bulletin? Frequently these men change, and we are not notified of the change, so that the new occupants of the positions do not see The Bulletin.