

GOLFER AND NICOTINE TRAVEL
HAND IN HAND

THE golfer and his tobacco have been likened to two inseparable friends that never tire of the company of each other. Tobacco has been called the golfer's moral crutch, and when the match goes all the wrong way, it is a great solace to seek the shelter of a neighbour's bush or bunker, and hold court with the "great god Nicotine." It soothes the ruffled mind at being soundly if unexpectedly beaten, and each inhalation of the smoke seems to act as a gentle, soothing sedative to the jangling nerves.

As the Highland Fiddle sang when presented with a rich new tartan plaid, "this is no my plaid, bonny though the colors be," so the golfer, deprived of his tobacco, feels an aching void in his enjoyment of the game on the links, while the best form he can show in playing against a better-equipped opponent is grudgingly recognized as being hardly an adequate recompense for having to endure the sacrifice.

Is tobacco injurious to the golfer when engaged in a round of the links? Does it diminish the keenness of the eye or shock the sureness of the hand? These questions are scarcely to be answered in the abstract, for each smoker is able to bear his own testimony as to the effects of the tobacco on his nerves and his general system of play. But there are theorists who point out in numerous accents the primrose path of dalliance into which the smoker descends and how hurtful the practice must eventually become.

However true these warnings may be, they are at least not very new. No modern has penned a more vigorous argument against the use of tobacco in all its forms than that learned and querulous golfer, James VI. Did not that royal monarch describe the use of tobacco as being a branch of the sin of drunkenness, while he deplored that the sweetness of man's breath would be willfully corrupted by this stinking smoke? Yet the world at large has smoked quite a lot of tobacco since that Kingly fulmination was uttered, and it is at least doubtful whether golfers and others who persist in the practice are so much the worse for it.

SMOKING ON THE LINKS

There is, however, one aspect of the smoking quest which a fairly long observation of life on the links seems to have established. It is that the pipe is more easily managed than either of the other forms of smoking. The smoke does not get into the eyes; it is less liable to be blown down the throat, and into the nostrils by sudden gusts of wind. The respiration of the player controls the intake and the output better with the pipe than with the cigar or cigarette. The shots can be played better, it is claimed, with the pipe in the mouth than with the cigarette or the cigar.

The case of Walter T. Travis is used as a proof of the rule, rather than the exception. Travis invariably has a big black cigar in his mouth when on the links, but this is cited as an example of rare ability, or, rather, of special immunity from the ills which are suffered by other golfers who attempt to emulate his example. It is also said that Travis keeps the long black cigar between his lips more as a foil to the nervous tension than a real soothing enjoyment for the love alone of the weed. Probably without his cigar when playing Travis would feel like the schoolboy mentioned by Sir Walter Scott.

This boy could only repeat his lessons satisfactorily when he was enabled to fumble a button on his jacket. When some of his companions maliciously cut off the button one day, the poor boy, for lack of the familiar consoling influence of his button, broke down hopelessly under the interrogations of the master. So, it is suggested, this might be the case with "the old man."

CHAMPIONS WHO USE TOBACCO

But Harold H. Hilton must also be an exception, for he smokes a chain of cigarettes all the way around. As the bleached bones of Napoleon's soldiers marked long afterwards the disastrous retreat from Moscow, so the charred ends of Hilton's cigarettes, scattered at intervals between the tee and the putting green, indicate the fervor not only with which he enjoyed his smoke, but serve as a rough index to his general line of play. It is a kind of smoker's trail by following which Hilton could be tracked down. The two players in question seem to present evidence on the other side against the impression entertained by theorists who write against the use of tobacco as being injurious to the eyesight.

Yet one cannot help being struck by the general non-smoking practice of the better known professionals. It is among the younger element that one sees the cigarette most in use in the course of play, and when it takes place the practice seems times jarr on the spectator's idea of the things of things. It indicates, so it is stated, a less serious purpose on the part of the young professionals than should be the case, and what, after all, is an easy nonchalance on the part of the amateur, with no particular object to gain by his match, becomes a kind of swagger in the young professionals, who probably aspire now or hereafter to notch their names in the columns of golfing fame.

It is impossible, though, to dogmatize on the subject as to whether pipe or cigarette smoking injures the eyesight among players on the links. A good deal is

gained by the fact that the smoking takes place in the open air instead of in crowded, hot rooms. Experience shows, however, that the practice undoubtedly affects the heart, and while every one will judge what is the rule for his well-being, the final word is to be uttered for the benefit of golfers while playing the game is the memorable warning, "Don't!"—*New York Evening Post.*

CANADIAN CROP REPORTS

Ottawa, July 12, 1917.—A press bulletin issued by the Census and Statistics Office to-day gives (1) the usual second or revised estimate of the areas sown to spring grains; (2) an estimate of the areas under later sown crops; (3) the condition of all field crops at June 30 and (4) estimates of the number of farm live stock in Canada at the same date, the whole being based upon the returns of crop correspondents.

AREAS SOWN TO FIELD CROPS

For wheat, oats, hay and clover the areas now reported are somewhat higher than the figures of a month ago when the seeding had not been completed; but for other crops, including barley, rye, peas and mixed grains, they are less. For wheat the acreage sown is now placed at 13,549,650 acres, as compared with 14,807,090 acres, the area sown and with 12,900,590 acres, the area harvested in 1916. Thus the area sown to wheat, while 9 p. c. less than the area sown for 1916, is 5 p. c. more than the area harvested for 1916. Of the total area under wheat 800,250 acres were sown last fall and 12,740,400 acres were sown this spring. In the three prairie provinces the total area sown to wheat is 12,604,550 acres, comprising 2,448,850 acres in Manitoba, 7,689,700 acres in Saskatchewan and 2,466,000 acres in Alberta. The acreages for all Canada now estimated as sown to other early grain crops, as compared with the harvested areas of 1916, are as follows: Oats 11,806,000 against 9,875,246; barley 1,819,900 against 1,681,180; rye 153,900 against 147,170; peas 151,830 against 150,280 and mixed grains 409,140 against 397,770. Hay and clover are estimated to occupy 7,824,000 acres as compared with 7,892,932 acres, and alfalfa 85,500 acres as compared with 89,472 acres. For later sown cereals and hood crops the estimated areas, as compared with the areas harvested last year, are as follows: Buckwheat 336,400 acres as against 341,500 acres; flax 605,750 acres against 605,700 acres; corn for husking 173,600 acres against 173,000 acres; beans 43,000 acres against 32,500 acres; turnips, etc. 152,100 acres against 156,250; sugar beets 14,000 acres against 15,000 acres and corn for fodder 310,465 acres against 297,100 acres. Every province shows an increase in the area planted to potatoes, and the total area under this crop is estimated at 502,400 acres as compared with 448,800 acres, the area harvested in 1916, an increase of nearly 12 p. c. The acreage under potatoes for 1917 is larger than in any previous year, and is 18,400 acres larger than the previous record of 484,000 acres in 1912.

CONDITION OF GRAIN AND HAY CROPS

In the three Atlantic provinces conditions at the end of June were generally satisfactory, nearly all grain crops being reported as over 90 p. c. of the standard representing a full crop in Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia and between 85 and 90 p. c. in New Brunswick. Quebec also shows a condition of about 80 p. c. and over. In Ontario fall wheat has still the low condition of 67 p. c. but spring wheat is as high as 83. In the prairie provinces the late spring, followed by cold and dry weather, has kept all crops backward; but prospects at the end of June were reported to be improving, as beneficial rains had fallen over considerable areas. In Manitoba and Saskatchewan the percentage condition of wheat and oats at June 30 was 76 and 78, these figures being lower than in any of the last seven years at the same date. For Alberta spring wheat and oats on June 30 were 85 p. c. of the standard; and a telegram from the Alberta Department of Agriculture reports that conditions during the past week have been very favourable throughout the whole province, frequent showers and warm weather having made rapid growth in crops.

The Peace River district reports crops to be one week ahead of last year with prospects of a bumper harvest. Comparing the figures for all Canada from percentage of the standard or full crop to a scale in which 100 represents the average condition on June 30 of the past nine years, 1909-1916, the condition becomes for wheat, oats, rye and barley as follows: Fall wheat 85, spring wheat 83, wheat 85, oats 85, rye 94 and barley 97. That is to say, if conditions between June 30 and the date of harvest be not abnormal, the anticipated yield per acre is 14 per cent. below average for fall wheat, 5 per cent. below for spring wheat, all wheat and oats 6 per cent. below for rye and 3 per cent. below for barley. Hay, clover and alfalfa show good promise, excepting in Manitoba, where the condition is as low as 52 per cent. of the standard.

ESTIMATED NUMBERS OF FARM LIVE STOCK

It is estimated from the reports of crop correspondents that the numbers of farm live stock in Canada on June 30 were as follows: Horses, 3,036,254; milch cows, 2,642,709; other cattle, 3,325,013; sheep, 2,009,717; and swine 2,513,826. This is an increase over last year for all descriptions, excepting swine, which are less by over 300,000. The decline in numbers of sheep, which has been annually continuous since 1913, appears to be arrested, the increase shown this year being over 44,000.

KEEP THE POTATOES GREEN
AND GROWING

(Experimental Farms Note.)

Many are growing potatoes in Canada this year, for the first time and, as a result of the greatly increased number of growers the crop will probably be greatly increased. But to insure a good crop there must be an abundance of moisture in the soil and the tops must be protected from insects and disease.

CULTIVATION.—The soil should be kept cultivated with the cultivator or hoe until the tops are sufficiently shaded the ground. As most of the tubers develop in the three or four inches of soil nearest the surface, and as the tubers will not develop well in dry soil, quite shallow cultivation is desirable at this season of the year. In soil which is dry there may be good development of tops but there will be few tubers. The roots in such cases have gone down deep into the soil to obtain moisture but the tuber-bearing stems, which are quite different from the root system, do not develop well. Where the soil is a loose, sandy loam, hilling is not necessary and may be injurious, as the soil dries out more than if left on the level. In heavy soils it is desirable to hill the potatoes as it will loosen the soil and the tubers will be shapelier than when the ground is left level. When there is sufficient rainfall and moisture in the soil hilling is likely to give best results in all kinds of soil as the soil will be looser and the tubers can push through it readily. As a great development of tubers takes place during the cooler and usually moister weather of the latter part of summer, it is very important to keep the plants growing well until then. In one experiment it was shown that during the month of September there was an increase of 119 bushels of potatoes per acre.

PROTECTION OF POTATO TOPS FROM INSECTS.—It is very important to prevent the tops of potatoes from being eaten by insects, particularly by the Colorado Potato Beetle. The old "bugs" do not do much harm to the foliage, as a rule, and usually the plants are not sprayed to destroy these, although the fewer there are to lay eggs the less difficulty there will be in destroying the young ones. These begin to eat rapidly soon after hatching, and close watch should be kept so that the vines may be sprayed before much harm is done. Paris green kills more rapidly than arsenate of lead but does not adhere so well, and in rainy weather it is desirable to have something that will stay on the leaves so that they will be protected until it stops raining and thus prevent the tops being eaten. At the Central Experimental Farm a mixture of Paris green and arsenate of lead is used in the proportion of 8 ounces Paris green, 1½ pounds paste arsenate of lead (or 12 ounces dry arsenate of lead) to 40 gallons of water in order to get the advantage of both poisons. It may be that it is not convenient to get both poisons, when either 12 ounces of Paris green or 3 pounds paste arsenate of lead (or 1½ pounds dry arsenate of lead) to 40 gallons of water could be used, or in smaller quantities, say 1 ounce Paris green to 3 gallons or ¾ ounce paste arsenate of lead or half that quantity of dry to 3 gallons of water. An experiment conducted for six years at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, showed that, on the average, where the tops were sprayed to kill "bugs," the yield was 186.9 bushels per acre, while when the tops were not sprayed and allowed to be eaten, the yield was only 98.2 bushels per acre. It is desirable not to stop with one spraying which usually does as possible is eaten.

PROTECTION OF POTATO PLANTS FROM LATE BLIGHT AND ROT.—In some years the crop of potatoes is much lessened by the Late Blight disease and when rot follows little of the crop may be left. It is, therefore, very desirable to prevent this disease from spreading. This is done by keeping the plants covered with Bordeaux mixture from about the first week of July, or before there is any sign of the disease, until September. Sometimes the first application of Bordeaux mixture is made before the potato beetles are all killed when the poison for them may be mixed with the Bordeaux. While the disease is not very bad every year it is well to be prepared. There was an average increase per year of 94 bushels of potatoes from spraying with Bordeaux mixture in three years.

The formula for Bordeaux mixture for potatoes is 6 pounds copper sulphate or bluestone, 4 pounds freshly slaked lime to 40 gallons of water. While the bluestone will dissolve more quickly in hot water, if it is not convenient to get this, it may be suspended over night in a cotton bag in a wooden or earthen vessel containing four or five or more gallons of water. The lime should be slaked in another vessel, and before mixing with the copper sulphate solution should be strained through coarse sacking or a fine sieve. The copper sulphate solution is now put into a barrel, if it has not already been dissolved in one, and enough water added to half fill the barrel; the slaked lime should be diluted in another barrel with enough water to make half a barrel of the lime mixture. Now pour the diluted lime mixture into the diluted copper sulphate solution and stir thoroughly, when it is ready for use. The concentrated lime mixture should not be mixed with the concentrated copper sulphate solution.

Minard's Liniment Cures Garget in Cows

as, if this is done, an inferior mixture will result. If the barrels are kept covered so that there is no evaporation, stock solutions of the concentrated materials may be kept in separate barrels throughout the season. It is important to have the quantities of lime and copper sulphate as recommended, but, in order to be sure that enough lime has been used and there is no danger of burning the foliage, let a drop of ferrocyanide of potassium solution (which can be obtained from a drugist) fall into the mixture when ready. If the latter turns reddish-brown, add more lime mixture until no change of color takes place.

POULTRY BREEDERS, ATTENTION

(Experimental Farms Note.)

At the present time when growing chicks are attaining an age of from one month to ten weeks, a disease (known as Coccidiosis) affecting the liver and bowels, is causing considerable losses. This disorder according to Dr. Wickware of the Experimental Farm is quite prevalent throughout Canada and is probably responsible for many deaths at present attributed to White Diarrhoea. The disease is caused by a small egg-shaped germ which inhabits the first portion and blind pouches of the bowels. It produces inflammation of the bowels and liver, the blind pouches showing the most marked alteration. The changes in the latter may carry from a filling up with a reddish granular-looking mass of soft consistency to hard cores composed of lining cells blood, etc. The liver may show changes varying from a fairly normal appearance to large areas of a yellow color which when cut into show a cheese-like centre.

SYMPTOMS.—The chicks appear dull and isolate themselves from the remainder usually remaining in the hove or under the hen. The feathers become ruffled, wings droop; appetite is lost, and occasionally the chicks will give utterance to a shrill cry, particularly when trying to pass material from the bowels. A white discharge is usually present although it may be rather reddish in color and the vent may become pasted with the material discharged. These are the prominent symptoms in typical cases but chicks may also be badly affected and exhibit no outward appearance of disease until death suddenly takes place.

TREATMENT.—Treatment consists in dissolving fifteen grains of powdered Cathu in a gallon of drinking water. This



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should be kept constantly in front of the chicks and should be changed every two days.

PREVENTION.—Prevention consists in the isolation of all ailing chicks from the remainder of the flock and the thorough disinfection of all the quarters and runs, which may be accomplished by the application of a lime wash solution made by adding two and one-half pounds of stone lime to a pail of water, to which is also added one-half a teaspoonful of a good commercial disinfectant. This should be applied full strength with a spray pump, brush or old broom, to all parts of the quarters, brooder houses, etc. The feeding troughs should be cleaned daily by scalding with boiling water and special care taken to prevent the chicks from getting their feet either in the feeding

utensils or drinking fountains as the disease is transmitted from bird to bird in this way. The floor of the brooder houses should be covered with a coating composed of nine parts of sand and one part of air-slacked lime, and if the droppings are not removed daily, they should at least be mixed with a fair amount of air-slacked lime to insure proper disinfection. If the runs are not too large, it is also advisable to cover them with a thin coating of the above mentioned lime and either spade or plough them up. The chicks should be kept away from all adult fowls and carcasses of dead birds immediately burned, as burying only serves to keep the infection going from year to year.

"Bikins"—Home, they say, is the dearest place on earth. Wilkins—"Yes; that's why we quit housekeeping and went to board."—*Boston Transcript.*

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