the game of golf, when you stop to "THE BUNKERS ARE ALL RIGHT. ANY MAN WHO THINKS HE CAN PLAY GOLF HAS NO RIGHT TO KICK ABOUT THEM."

By A. Linde Fowler

One of the striking peculiarities about think about it, is the manner in which the majority of club members are willing to sacrifice themselves upon the altar of the majority's best interests. In other words, it is the majority who are putting up the cash to provide golf courses of the highest standard procurable upon their particular piece of club instances it is the best golfer in the club, or a group of its playing leaders, who lay plans for alterations and improvements which will place that club's links on a higher pedestal in the estima-. tion of foremost experts and critics. Rather, I think you will find that in a majority of instances such alterations, purchases of new property and other improvements have their breeding ground in the minds of the club members or officials who could never hope to break 80 on the round.

It is indeed fortunate, from the angle of progressiveness, that there have been identified with the sport so many men who place their love of golf, and their desire to see their home club possessed of a course second to none, ahead of their selfish interests. If they were only studying their own personal interests they might have the holes made shorter; bunkers placed where they seldom hit;

property; whereas it is the minority- is not prepared to steel himself against chart and they spent hours and hours usually the small minority—who are such criticism. If he has been long tramping over the course, ever striving tively little roll unless the fairway is possessed of the ability to play around identified with the game and with the to evolve some new plan for scientific baked. It was decided to install a the first-class course in figures which are history of the club's transition from a improvement. They watched the play series of rather deep bunkers near the linked up with a high standard of play. course of mediocre merit to one which of all manner of golfers, seeking to I venture to say, moreover, that in rare has been brought up to a place of high gain inspiration for the placing of new practically all carry to give a man any

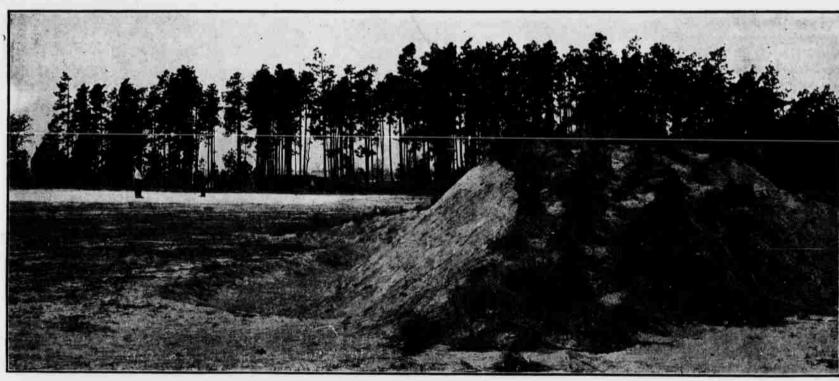


test almost shifted into one of downright praise. When I started to tell, however, the manner in which criticisms. of a change at one particular hole, especially on the part of one member switched suddenly to one of enthusiasm over the new bunkering.

This hole was the fifteenth, measuring 380 yards. The tee shot is a bit blind, being from in back of a knoll, out to level ground, where there is comparagreen, so that the second shot has to be chance to get home. While 350 yards is not considered a long hole in these days of far-flying balls, there were many members in thee lub who found it most difficult to get their second shots over those bunkers some could get the distance by using brassies, but with that club it was difficult to put the ball on the green and have it stay,

The member who protested most frequently and loudest could not get over at all with his second shot and every time he laid his ball in one of the bunkers in a vain effort to get home in two, he started a fresh protest over such bunkering, declaring that it was all wrong and that such idiotic placing of hazards would in time turn members away from the club.

One day, however, he went rushing back to the clubhouse inquiring for Mr. Jaques. Upon finding him, he rushed up and said something along this line:



all greens made saucer shape, so that standard, he knows that in the end criti- hazards; they visited other courses, and "Jaques, I want to apologize for every courses not only forget their personal criticisms.

the approach would be simplified and cisms of any one alteration soon die a studied them for ideas; they consulted thing I have ever said against your fairways made so wide that it would natural death and ultimately a majority with experts and overlooked nothing bunkering at the fifteenth. I was all take an exceptionally wayward shot to of the members either will grudgingly which would improve the standard of wrong. The bunkers are all right. Any get into the rough. But the men who admit the value of the change or else the Clyde Park course.

sponsor improving changes in their will tacitly admit it by ceasing their Mr. Jaques and Mr. Windeler had no right to kick about them."

accept place on a Green Committee who detail of topography. They studied the change was made, the meeting of pro-

their full share of criticisms, maybe a What happened that so completely interests, but boldly face the criticism There comes to the writer's mind, in little more than their share, at times, changed his viewpoint was that for the of a large body of their fellow members this connection, a story told by late Her- I recall that there was a special meeting first time since the bunkers were inwho see in every new bunker and every bert Jaques concerning a hole at The of the members, a few years ago, stalled, he had just put his second shot extension of a hole usurption of their Country Club. Brook"ne, Mass. This brought by those who wished to protest over them and on to the green and he rights. Many have been the maledic- course is considered one of the most the number of changes which had been was one of the most delighted of men tions hurled at the heads of members of scientifically bunkered in America. Mr. made, and were in contemplation. The that ever swung a golf club. There, Green Committees and many have been Jaques and his inseparable companion, course was being made too difficult, when you come right down to it, is one the "indignation meetings" in club G. Herbert Windeler, for a number of But after a series of lantern slides had of the secrets that account for the locker rooms over changes which have years worked together incertantly to been shown, depicting the course in its spirit in which so many club members of made this hole or that so much more dif- perfect the layout. They had the club various stages of development, and with mediocre ability are willing to stand for ficult. But a man has no business to property charted down to the minutest a detailed statement of why this or that the changes which make their courses

(Continued on Page Eight)