



**T**HE AMERICAN GOLFER will gladly answer any inquiries from subscribers on questions relating to the Rules.

D. C. M., N. Y.—We are figuring on laying out an additional nine holes this coming season. Will you please inform me how many one-stroke, two-stroke and three-stroke holes would make an ideal course? In discussing these things, we have a great variety of opinions, and if you will commit yourself on the above it will be greatly appreciated.

A.—The modern practice rather leans toward holes being laid out at the following distances, depending, of course, very largely upon the configuration of the ground :—

- 2 holes 500 to 550 yards
- 4 holes 415 to 440 yards
- 3 holes 390 to 410 yards
- 5 holes 330 to 380 yards

and four short holes. Of the latter two may be any distance from 90 to 160 yards, and the remaining two, which may be described as long-short holes, from 180 to 210 yards. Of these four short holes two should come on each nine, care being taken, if possible, not to have

them follow each other. Another point worth bearing in mind is that the shorter the hole the nearer should bunkers encroach upon the green. Holes ranging from 500 to 550 yards should feature both the tee-shot and the second shot—that is to say, unless a long and accurate tee-shot is made, difficulty will be experienced in carrying bunkers arranged for the second shot. Holes 415 to 440 yards usually take care of themselves, irrespective of bunkers, unless the ground be very dry, or unless wind be against the player; and the same is true, to a lesser extent, of holes 390 to 410 yards. On holes of both types it is, however, advisable to have two or even three different tees, to suit wind and weather conditions. Holes from 330 to 380 yards should be so laid out, with regard to the system of bunkering, as rather to feature the approach. This does not mean that the tee-shot is ignored. A hole of about 210 yards should also have two sets of tees.

