Thirty-Seven Steps
To York Downs

By W. D. CHINERY
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IT is some thirty-seven years ago that I commenced my training as a professional gardener, on a large private estate in the old country. From a golfing point of view it may be said I started in right, as my first job was assisting in cutting and laying turf. I obtained a varied experience in ten of the leading establishments in as many counties. One of the most important branches of horticulture is the upkeep of the spacious pleasure grounds including cricket, tennis, croquet, lawn, etc., and of the care of these I have had my share.

Coming to Canada fourteen years ago I endeavored to follow my profession, but soon found there was little scope for that class of gardening. I was fortunate in meeting with Mr. G. Cumming of the Toronto Golf Club, who advised me to take up golf course work. My first charge was the Scarboro Golf & Country Club. During my stay of five years there, we had such notables of the golfing world as Mr. Charles Evans (Chick) of U. S. fame, Vardon and Ray, Mitchell and Duncan, the Canadian and U. S. Seniors, with several minor events.

York Downs, my present club, is one of several laid out five years ago, the architect in this case being Captain Alison.

Two Distinct Kinds of Soil

Our course takes in part of the Don River Valley, where we have several spectacular holes. There the soil is typical for the purpose being of a deep, friable black loam inclining to sand. The opposite may be said of the upper part of course, which is a very heavy adhesive clay, given to baking and cracking. To combat this evil we have, during the past four winters liberally treated the fairways with coarse sand, applying over 5,000 loads and with good results.

Third green from front tee, 250-yard hole, with sixth green in background. Creek to right. York Downs Golf Club, Eglinton, Ontario
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THE NATIONAL GREENKEEPR...
Plenty of trouble on Number 7 at York Downs, 456 yards of it. Taken from middle tee, showing creek

At York Downs last year was staged the Ontario Amateur and Ontario Open, and while it was on the cards to hold the Canadian Open here this year our officials ruled otherwise.

know of one whom I assisted and who is making good at Beach Grove Golf Club, Tecumseh, and on March 1st, my assistant went to the Thornhill Golf Club where they have 27 holes.

Have You Seen "Snow Mold"?

JUST at this time John Monteith, Jr., author of the article "Can You Identify Brown-Patch," appearing in this issue, is investigating "snow mold," an early spring type of turf kill having the general appearance of Brown-Patch. Members of the N. A. G. A. are requested to report all cases of the appearance of such a disease, with full description of the methods used for control and the results shown. Please state fully the exact appearance of the spots, and give information as to the location and drainage of the green or greens affected. If any unusual circumstances relating to original construction prevail, please give them in detail. Mail reports to the office of the association at 405 Caxton Building, Cleveland.