

# Pacific Coast Gossip

By ARTHUR LANGTON

**T**HE mid-winter tournament situation in and around Los Angeles might be termed one of suspense as far as several greenkeepers are concerned.

The venue of the Los Angeles Open has not been determined at the present writing and the tournament is to be played early in January of next year. The Wilshire, Riviera, Hillcrest, and Los Angeles Country clubs seem to be the most likely possibilities in the eyes of the Los Angeles Junior Chamber of Commerce which stands sponsor for the annual event.

The courses at these clubs are of championship design; the care given to greens, tees, and fairways is excellent; the grounds are possessed of facilities for handling large crowds; and each is securely fenced so as to insure the collection of an entrance fee from all the spectators.

Two considerations are delaying the final selection of the tournament place. One is that the golf officials are unwilling to give would-be prize winners too good an opportunity to become accustomed to the course where the match is to be played. The other is that the clubs themselves are unwilling to surrender their courses to the playing of the event.

The objections are based upon the sad experience of clubs which have held the tourney in the past. It has never been a money-making proposition; much damage has been done to the grounds by careless galleries; and the regular members have been unable to play their daily game.

Furthermore the cash usually is won by some player who goes somewhere else to spend it. As one greenkeeper expressed the situation, "The club that weakens first will be the one to get the tournament."

The delay, however, is hard on the course superintendent who finally is assigned the task of getting his course ready for the affair. What easily could be a two-month job will have to be crammed into about two weeks.

The Northwest Greenkeepers' Association recently elected the following officers at their annual meeting: Fred Starrett, president; Hans Moen, Broadmoor, vice-president; and Alex Boyd, Rainier, secretary.

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The greenkeepers of Southern California have decided to buy a compound microscope as their first piece of laboratory equipment and with it they intend to look into some of the matters that have been vexing them for some time.

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It is astonishing to what ends some Coast golf courses have gone in order to stave off financial disaster and yet keep on running.

It is interesting to note, however, that one course in Southern California which has kept up to practically a pre-depression schedule as far as expenditure is concerned, asserts that it has lost less members than any other club in the district because of economic conditions.

## Canadian News

By J. H. EVANS, *Golf Editor*

*Toronto Globe*

**T**HE qualities of a suitable turf for golf fairways and putting surfaces provided the subject of discussion at a recent meeting of the Empire Club of Toronto where the New Zealand Trade Commissioner, seeking an outlet for the products of his Dominion, urged the Canadian golfer to insist on Chewings fescue for fairway and green. The Trade Commissioner attended the meeting to solicit business for his country and included the popular seed among the commodities which Canada might import in larger quantities.

The question of trade between Canada and New Zealand has become a topic of more than usual interest due to the decision of the newly elected government in Canada to place a tariff on butter from New Zealand which in return retaliated with measures affecting the Canadian automobile industry. Shut out from the Canadian market, the New Zealand farmer manufactured cheese for the British Isles and struck another blow at the Canadian dairy industry. As a consequence, the New Zealand Trade Commissioners proposal was followed keenly and secured some support from those present, the majority of them golfers.

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A Canadian merchant paid a compliment to the high qualities of Chewings fescue which was used for lawns, parks and golf courses in New Zealand and he said, it had been found to be the best in the world for Canadian fairways because it was close growing and had the special virtue of holding the golf ball up from the ground. During the discussion it was discovered that New Zealand produced over two and three quarter million



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