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### DRAINAGE

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### SOIL EXAMINATIONS FERTILIZATION PROBLEMS

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# Pacific Coast Gossip

By ARTHUR LANGTON

THE Los Angeles Open Golf Tournament and some of the rain for which Southern California greenkeepers have been praying arrived almost simultaneously with the result that the Wilshire Country club, the site of the tourney, was temporarily indisposed and the tournament was postponed for one day.

But Bob Greenfield had cause to be thankful for the precipitation for it gave him one more day of grace in which to prepare for the big event. Also the resulting torrents sweeping down from Hollywood and points north very obligingly removed all debris from the bottom of his barrancas, thus eliminating the necessity of using quantities of sand to smooth them off as he was prepared to do.

The Wilshire greenkeeper took advantage of all the breaks with a result that did him proud; the Open went off without a hitch and compliments were the order of the day. Incidentally, the name Greenfield attached to a greenkeeper sounds almost too good to be true. But there is one in the northern part of the state has the name Greenless, which represents the height of something or other.

\* \* \*

The rain and a dose of lead arsenate brought countless worms to the surface of the soil on the Wilshire course and a flock of seagulls made a field day of it by cleaning them up. The fairways were still a little heavy when play started but this was to be expected on the adobe-based course. Eddie Loos, who finished well up in the money, for at least one period in the tournament, was using a brassie to drive so that he could hook his ball and so take advantage of the slightest extra roll.

After all the praise that he has received for keeping his greens in fine shape through the tournament while others nearby were going brown, Greenfield has the mighty but inglorious task of cleaning up the mess made by seventeen thousand spectators chasing hither and yon over a wet course.

\* \* \*

Now is the time of year when greenkeepers in the Pacific Southwest are looking for their water supply and repairing irrigation equipment for next summer and fall. L. T. Parker at the Pasadena Country Club is installing a new pump engine to replace the one worn out in California's eight-month battle with dryness.

\* \* \*

James Birrel of the beautiful Valley Hunt and Golf Club of Santa Barbara sounded an ominous note in greenkeeping circles in his district recently. It seems that the course's well has gone dry and nothing can be done about it, with the result that one of the prettiest golf layouts on the Pacific Coast will face a terrible fight during the next dry spell.

Bert Gee, in charge of the oldest municipal golf course in Canada, that of Edmonton, Alberta, has come to the Pacific Coast for his winter's visit, thus making local greenkeepers with work beginning to pile up green with jealousy. Course superintendents in the East have no cause to envy their contemporaries out here.

Paradoxically enough, now that the rain has come in California, greensmen have to work harder than ever to keep the color in the greens because the grass insists upon hibernating unless treated. Chemical fertilizers are in order on many courses because play is at its height and must not be stopped by heavy topdressing.

## Canadian News

By J. H. EVANS, *Golf Editor, Toronto Globe*

**A**LARGER delegation than in former years will attend the February convention of the National Greenkeepers' association in Columbus, Ohio, to represent the Ontario Greenkeepers' association, President W. J. Sansom announced at the January meeting.

Those superintendents and greenkeepers who are certain of attending the convention are Mr. Sansom, Toronto Golf club; Howard Lloyd, Rosedale Golf club; Frank Hamm, Royal York club; William Austin, Humber Valley club, William Kirby, Lambton Golf and Country Club; James McCullough, of the Scarboro Golf and Country Club and a representative from the Toronto Ladies' Golf and Tennis club.

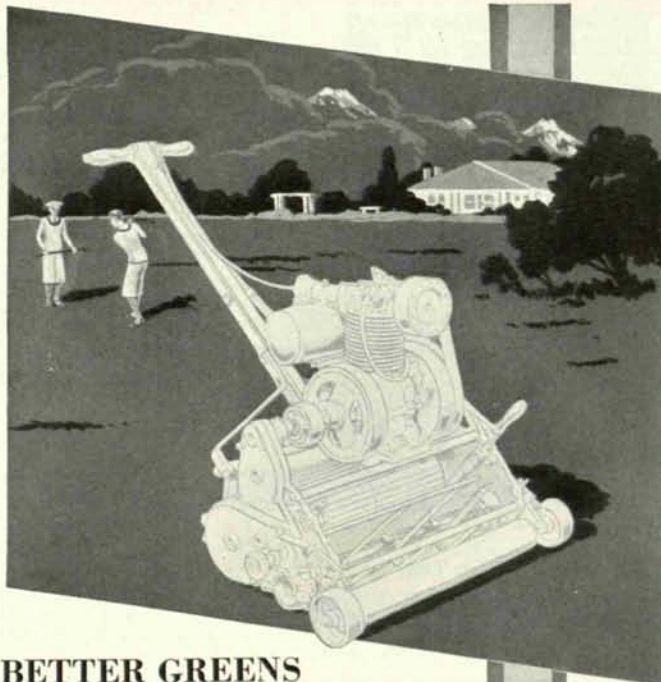
\* \* \*

In addition to the seven greenkeepers who have made arrangements through their clubs to attend the convention, others are expected to join the party when it leaves on February 2. Mr. Sansom explained that club directorates were now considering the advisability of allowing their greenkeepers to take advantage of the opportunities provided by the National Greenkeepers' Association to study the problems with which they are confronted during the playing season.

\* \* \*

Officers of the Ontario Greenkeepers' association are pleased with the attitude taken by the clubs toward the association's annual convention. It has taken some years to convince club secretaries and other officials that greenkeepers can and do derive a great deal of valuable information from the annual gathering, and it is with some satisfaction, indeed that the Ontario association has accepted the changing attitude of the larger clubs of the Province.

Mr. Sansom believes there might have been a much larger representation of Ontario greenkeepers at the convention but for the fact that several greenkeepers failed to make the necessary arrangements with their clubs before winter and are now confronted with the fact directorates are being changed which makes it more



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