

Canadian News

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

CHICKWEED and winter mould were the subjects of discussion at the January meeting of the Ontario Greenkeepers' association held in Toronto, earlier than usual on account of the necessity of arranging representation from the association for the annual convention of the National Greenkeepers' association in New York city later in the month.

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The discussion on chickweed was led by J. Rosewell, greenkeeper at the Thornhill Women's Golf and Tennis club, an organization formed five years ago under the guidance of Miss Ada Mackenzie, which as its name implies is limited to women golfers. The greens of the women's course are bent, and although Miss Mackenzie and her associates did their utmost to produce a fine course from the moment it was opened for play, the greens have lost much of their effectiveness through this troublesome weed.

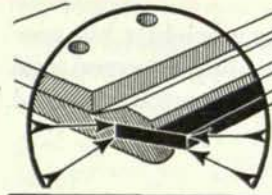
Mr. Rosewell stated that he had endeavored to eradicate the weed, but without much success. He used ammonia sulphate, then turned to arsenate of lead. He found that the raking of the greens was expensive and also marred the putting surface afflicted with the weed. Considerable time elapsed, he pointed out, after the raking before the greens would heal and spots fill in.

After using the arsenate of lead and ammonia sulphate and after raking the greens, he used a trade preparation applied with a small hand machine, giving out a very fine spray. He found the spray to be satisfactory. It did not mar the appearance of the greens, it was not costly from the point of view of labor, but if the spray was used while the greens were wet, the application of the liquid would burn the greens somewhat.

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H. Edgcombe, formerly greenkeeper at the St. Andrew's Golf and Country Club, a semi-public course, dealt with winter mould, a complaint which is not likely to concern greenkeepers in many parts of Canada this

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year due to the absence of snow. With barely six weeks left of what should have been a Canadian winter, farmers are ploughing, flowers are growing and grass is showing in many portions of Ontario, Quebec and the Maritime provinces.

In fact golfers have been following their favorite pastime and sport on courses close to the large centers of population continually since the season was closed formerly in November. The fact that golf was being played when winter sport should be interesting golfers was no reason why, said Mr. Edgcombe, that the subject of snow mould should not interest greenkeepers.

* * *

While employed at the St. Andrew's club, Mr. Edgcombe stated that in the fall of 1929 he used bichloride of mercury, finely ground to a powder applied to the greens at the rate of four ounces to 1,000 square feet and the greens were then well watered. Seventeen greens were so treated, while no treatment was applied to one green for the obvious reason of testing the value of the treatment.

The seventeen greens treated with the bichloride of mercury were in excellent condition in the spring of 1930, while the one green which had not been treated was seriously affected with snow mould. The greens of the St. Andrew's club are bent.

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All officers of the Ontario Greenkeepers' association were reelected by acclamation. After the annual convention of the National Greenkeepers' association, the Ontario association will hold its annual banquet at which delegates to the convention will address members on the national convention and perhaps hear speakers from agricultural colleges on subjects of a scientific character.

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