JULY, 1932



Ninth green at Beverly Shores C. C., Michigan City, Ind., where Tri-State (Indiana, Illinois, Michigan) Open will be held July 11-12. Prize money will be \$2,500. Players in the 1931 inaugural Tri-State tourney commended the course. Fred Peterson is green-keeper and Macdonald and Maddox were architects and builders.

parts of the country usually immune from such weather. The heat and humidity continued above the average and hence the fickle nature of *Poa annua* was brought home to many for the first time.

There is now a question in the minds of many as to what can be done about it. There is little cause for undue alarm. According to the average weather conditions there is little likelihood of another such summer for some time. The Poa came back, as it always does, from the millions of seeds it has deposited in the greens, and is likely to go through this summer without undue loss. However, it is well for every greenkeeper to remember the 1931 season so that he does not unintentionally aggravate Poa annua trouble if such weather conditions again occur. If it were desired to get rid of it on the greens it would mean removing the old sod and replanting, and the newly planted greens would then have to be weeded continually for a season or two to keep what Poa came up from going to seed. The top-dressing used would have to be free of Poa annua seed and the greens would have to be protected from wash from higher elevations in which the grass was growing. Once a bent putting green is free and receives only clean top-dressing material, a little weeding each spring and fall is sufficient to keep the Poa out. However, once sufficient Poa annua is allowed to go to seed in the green it would be money wasted to try to eliminate it by weeding.

Those who have babied Poa annua the summer each year have learned that it requires careful watering and fertilizing in hot weather. It can be forced to the limit during spring and fall and will make one of the best putting turfs that can be desired. While it is being forced with heavy nitrogen feeding, it turns a beautiful dark green and grows too fast to mature and cause much trouble by producing seed heads profusely. However, as the warm weather comes on it should be fed very sparingly. It is a shallow-rooted grass and hence needs more watering than the deeper rooted bent grasses. But as in the case of bent grass, the soil around the roots can not be kept saturated for prolonged periods.

Everything should be done on Poa annua greens to loosen up the topsoil and by guarded and infrequent watering during the spring and early summer to encourage it to develop as deep and abundant a root system as is possible. The soil should not be allowed to get too acid for the best growth of Poa annua and a regular spring application of a complete mixed fertilizer will improve its root system and make the plants stronger during the summer. Poa annua responds to nitrate of soda better than to other soluble nitrogen fertilizers and an occasional application will usually improve it. Most greenkeepers will only use this fertilizer in extreme cases, however, as they do not like to encourage Poa at the expense of bent grass which does