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**ALBERT H. BOSBACH**

R D 2 — ALTAMONT, N. Y.

method without rebuilding on many courses.

Sponge-like thatch on many bent grass greens created trouble in 1958 during wet spells because of its high waterholding capacity. An overly wet thatch encourages disease and is one of several causes of iron chlorosis.

Thatch formation may occur on fine textured Bermuda greens unless steps are taken to prevent its formation. Thatch consists of partially decayed stems and leaves.

### Lime vs. Thatch

Steps must be taken to rid greens of excessive thatch. It can be accomplished by the periodic use of a little lime, preferably hydrate, along with enough nitrogen fertilizer for the grass and the cellulose decomposing soil microorganisms, together with aeration to insure a plentiful supply of air. Cellulose decomposing organisms are of the aerobic type (they must have free oxygen).

Lead arsenate is returning to popularity for use on greens and is being applied to fairways by some clubs. Excellent control of crabgrass on fairways was obtained by one Chicago club with 250 lbs. per acre. On greens the lead arsenate inhibits poa annua when used properly besides curbing crabgrass. Calcium arsenate is being substituted by some. It is effective, but caused burning in some of our trials 30 years ago. For that reason it is best to test its effect in a limited way before embarking on large scale use.

### 300 Pros Expected to Play in Seniors Championship

About 300 pros over 50 years of age will seek to dethrone Gene Sarazen, defending titleholder, when the PGA Seniors Championship is played at Dunedin, Fla., Jan. 27-Feb. 1. The event is co-sponsored by Wm. Teachers & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow and the PGA. Past champions and winners of 33 sectional Seniors titles play in the tournament with expenses paid as guests of Teachers. A total of \$10,000 in prizes is being offered for the 1959 competition with the winner getting, in addition, \$1500 for a trip to England where he will meet the British Seniors champion this summer. The winner also will receive the Ronald Teacher trophy, a sterling silver bowl fashioned after a medieval Scottish quaich or drinking cup mounted on a plinth or base fashioned from part of a beam of the Glasgow Cathedral.