

Home-made gang mower, with body and rear of a 1907 Reo runabout mounted on triple-armed frame. A 3-ft. mower was attached in front of the roller and another at the left side. It cut fairways of a Massachusetts club in 6-ft. swaths at a speed of 6 miles an hour. Pennsylvania Lawn Mower works furnishes this illustration by way of contrast with its modern equipment.

horse as an element in golf course maintenance. Henry Ford also had his hand in, in a sort of a remote control fashion, for the Fordson tractor and the adaptations of the Ford car for speedy and fairly heavy hauling were decided influences on the mechanization of golf course maintenance.

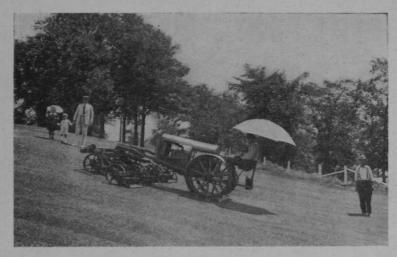
The cutting machine and the power unit gave the manufacturers two problems to contend with. Worthington came out with the triple gang mower and cutting operations that for years has been reconciled to the limitations of a single cutting unit, snapped into this quantity output policy of grass cutting. In 1919, Toro, experienced in the farm tractor business, took out to Charley Erickson, veteran greenkeeper at Minikahda a special golf tractor for trial purposes. Charley and his chairman, the late Senator Brooks, put the contrivance through its paces and without hesitancy voted it into the Minikahda menage.

The accompanying photograph of the grand-daddy of the Toro tractors gives an indication of what this and other makers of mowers and golf course tractors have done in bettering equipment during the last ten years. K. E. Goit, Toro sales man-

ager, calls attention to the open gears, the crude framework and the wooden center section of the front truck on the antique, as contrasted with today's types of tractors which have all gears enclosed and running in oil, steel framework, and many more bearings.

Welcomed New Equipment.

Younger greenkeepers and chairmen who take today's power mowing equipment as a matter of course can not appreciate the revolution this equipment has effected in course maintenance. W. L. Austin, Ideal's sales manager, tells of the warm welcome power equipment received at the alert and foresighted clubs in sending GOLFDOM the accompanying illustration of an Ideal 30" roller type power mower used at the Toledo (O.) C. C. It will be noted that the mower was used for cutting fairways, even though the capacity of the machine was not suited for such duty. Mr. Ausfin states that Ideal used to sell quite a few of these machines to smaller clubs, especially, and cites this as an indication of how anxious golf clubs were to secure power driven equipment. The sales were made in spite of the fact the company made no effort to sell this sort of equip-



Charley Erickson at the right and the late Senator Brooks at the left look over the first Toro tractor at Minikahda.

ment for golf work, Mr. Austin relates in giving further evidence of the recognized need for power equipment.

Some curious jobs marked the early days of power mowing equipment in the United States. California, where the influence of the west's big power farming operations was felt at golf courses, yielded two classics for the early chapters of the archives. W. W. Beaver, supt., Virginia C. C., Long Beach, Calif., made a five cutting unit job, which was pushed by a stationary engine chain-belted to the drive. Al Schoenbeck of the California G. C., San Francisco, 18 years ago used a wide single cutting unit pushed power mower. device was cumbersome and heavy, but gave an attractive demonstration of the possibilities of power mowing, to one who had a sympathetic and lively imagination.

The ingenuity of the manufacturers and greenkeepers was producing many ideas that since have become established factors in greenkeeping. One of the historical items referred to by Mr. Austin is an early power mower to which the greenkeeper had added a frame of his own design and construction for pushing three cutting units. This happened in 1918 or 1919.

Joe Roseman in his greenkeeping work came to the conclusion that the higher speed of tractor operation of mowers fitted in with the construction of the hollow roller type mower and had the hunch that the day was coming when fairways would be given the care that greens alone were getting in the earlier period of American golf course maintenance, so Mr. Roseman built some experimental machines that worked out with such success that he was

An early adaptation of the Ideal power mower in use at Rumsen (N. J.) C. C. The club got the Ideal machine and made its own three-unit application around 1918.



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As fast as the raw material is fed in-wet or dry-lumps or sod.



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A pioneer team in power maintenance. The first Toro and the first spiked roller for fairway use. The latter built by Charley Erickson, veteran greenkeeper at Minikahda.

encouraged to establish the manufacturing business that now bears his name.

Other manufacturers and other greenkeepers exercised their ingenuity and patiently devoted their resources to the development of grass cutting equipment for golf courses, with the result that power mowing may safely be credited with being the basis of today's golf development.

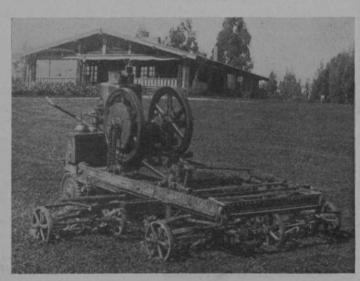
A Pace-Making Industry.

Mr. Charles C. Worthington, designer of the first commercial gang mower, has in his office at Stroudsburg, Pa., an exceedingly interesting and valuable collection of illustrations and other data on grass cutting devices. As the head of an internationally noted manufacturing organization for years before he became interested in the golf maintenance equipment business, Mr. Worthington is qualified to make some significant comment on what golf maintenance equipment manufacturers have done in the rather brief period they have had allotted to them for service to the golfing public and those responsible for course maintenance.

Mr. Worthington says:

"There is a great deal to be said on what has been accomplished by modern grass cutting equipment. The immense value of those improvements, to the golfing world and the country at large, has been practically disregarded thus far by writers either through ignorance of what the improvements really accomplish today or of the conditions that existed at the time the triple made its appearance. Practically no estimate of the dollars and cents saving that has been brought about by these new designs has ever been given publicity. It amounts to millions a year in the cost of labor alone and to vast economies in the saving of time.

"Simple as it may appear to the casual observer, the work imposed by the present day demands of the golf course has presented engineering problems to the designer and manufacturer as difficult to solve perhaps as those encountered in almost any other line of machine construction. This will become apparent to anyone taking the time to investigate."



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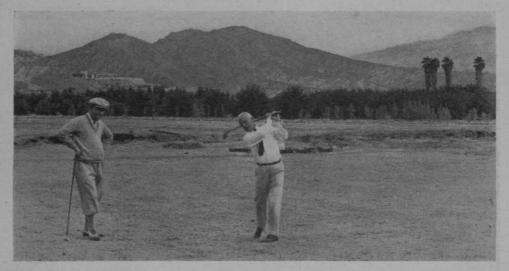
Keep Up to the Minute with Everson

Among the most recent developments of the Everson Laboratories is the Jewell Electric Chlorinator which manufactures chlorine electrically from salt and water—sterilizing, efficiently, the pool water at an average yearly cost of 35 dollars. Illustrated bulletins, describing Everson pools, equipment and new developments, are mailed from time to time to those requesting them. Write for these free bulletins today. Keep up-to-the-minute with Everson.

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The Death Valley course, 178 ft. below sea level, is a triumph of turf engineering, for it is an all-grass course.

California Coastal Mountain Region Invites Golf Growth

By ARTHUR LANGTON

A DISTRICT of wealth, beauty, and a few fine golf courses, the future of which is roseate because of the richness of natural gifts, describes briefly that physiographic division of California known as the coastal mountain region. This area is included in the 400 miles along the coast between Ventura and Santa Barbara on the south and the San Francisco Bay region on the north. Rugged in general contour, but with pastoral lands and fertile valleys containing numerous soils interspersed among mountain peaks, this section composed a unique region in which superlatives are characteristically descriptive.

Discarding the resort pamphlet description for the time being, there are few golf courses in this large expanse of territory because previous unavailability has made for the development of but few towns. The numerous mountain chains running diagonally toward the sea have made extensive road building impractical. However, the Roosevelt highway, now under con-

struction, will allow easy access to a region which has been but sparsely settled, and for this reason one may look forward to the construction of several golf courses in the not too far distant future.

Padres with Golf Vision

At the southernmost extremity of the province are the two towns of Ventura and Santa Barbara. Ventura and Santa Barbara are within 25 miles of each other and share two missions and several fine golf courses.

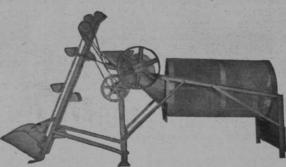
Being right on the ocean front, the climate here is cool in the summer, is free from frost, and is moderately damp in winter. Architects have taken advantage of the fertile soils and the rolling land-scape and have produced something distinctly worth while, as anyone who has played Valley C. C. or La Cumbre will testify. From the greenkeepers' stand-point, the problems of turf culture are not as great as those in Los Angeles, 100 miles to the south. There is not so much play

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A Saturday afternoon scene on many of the better operated clubs throughout the country. Toro golf machine equipped with belt pulley operating Toro compost machine with a Toro Junior tractor hauling the screened top dressing.

LOWEST UPKEEP EXPENSE

and the summers are not so warm. Brown patch is not the problem that it is in the south. Bermuda grass, capriola dactylon, is present but is not of the horribly corded variety which causes so much grief in warmer parts of the state.

Traveling north 200 miles over an almost golfless area one finds himself still in the coastal mountain region and in a district famous nationally and internationally in the golfing world. Here on the cypress-dotted shores of Monterey bay is located Del Monte, home of the Pebble Beach golf course, site of the 1929 United States Amateur tourney. Here also is a bijou among golf courses, the highly exclusive Cypress Point club. Like many another jewel, only a few people have the privilege of this one, for it is owned and controlled by a comparatively few of the local wealthy residents. According to report there is little chance for the outsider to crash the gate unless he rescues one of the members from dire peril, no matter how much he may wish to send brassie shots screaming down cypressbordered fairways.

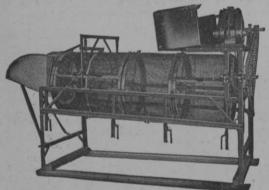
Traps Are Notable

Other courses of note in this district are

the Del Monte and the Monterey Peninsula. Golfing conditions here verge upon the ideal. Light fogs provide moisture for the bracing air which tempers the heat of the sun. Winds from the ocean are present to provide a sportive touch to the best game. A word about the bunkers here would not be amiss. Some of the courses have incorporated the beach into the trapping system with highly successful results. At Cypress Point the traps were constructed by an artist who realized that true artistry is a close approximation to nature. The sand, which is remarkably pure, is brushed right into the grass roots of the fairway so that there is no harsh line of demarcation where the trap ends The sand, being and the grass begins. free from silt, does not pack readily and presents a sufficiently hard problem for the golfer to extricate himself without the necessity of sinking the bunker below the Taking everything level of the fairway. into consideration, there is little left to be desired by the golfer around Monterey Bay, either from an aesthetic or sporting standpoint.

General greenkeeping problems in this district are less intense than they are in Santa Barbara. Brown patch is present

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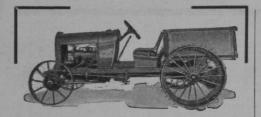
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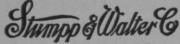
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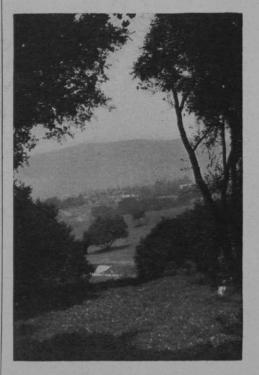
Remember:—We are one of the largest direct contractors for foreign-grown Grass Seeds in the United States. Over thirty years of Seed Service have enabled us to segregate those collectors of Bent Seeds who are reliable from those who are not; to single out those growers of Chewing's Fescue whose strains are pure; also to contract for true American-grown seeds of high vitality. All our seeds are botanically true to name and are cleaned and recleaned until brought up to the highest possible state of purity and germination, special care being given to the elimination of weed seeds.



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in the dollar variety but is kept under control without too great expense or trouble. Bermuda grass as a problem is practically unknown here as are many other weeds. This may be because the greenkeepers have them under better control or because soil and cool climatic conditions are not suited to them. Daisy plants in the fairways may present a diffi-



No. 2 at Flintridge C. C. (Pasadena, Calif.); a view from the new tee. The green is at the end of the fairway curving to the right

culty to be overcome if allowed to grow unchecked.

At the northern end of the California coastal mountain region, 150 miles away from Monterey Bay, is located one of the state's two great metropolitan centers, the bay city of San Francisco. The golfing situation here is somewhat similar to that of Los Angeles, but there are less courses, fewer players, and there is less expenditure involved in outlay and upkeep. It might be said with some degree of accuracy that that which pertains to golf around the Golden Gate is the same without the prevalent extremes as those in and about the Angel City 500 miles to the