

avoided not only because of the additional expense but because the appearance of the property is likely to be mutilated temporarily. The actual cost of a tree is only a small part of its expense. Cheap trees, which require an excessive amount of attention or fail to develop properly, are really expensive.

Many desirable uses may be found for trees removed from areas occupied by the fairways, greens and tees. Sometimes quite a number of trees must be cut down when the property is cleared. Large trees may often be used in the construction of a rustic clubhouse. Smaller trees are very useful in the making of rustic benches and in the building of rustic bridges and fences which will add to the general attractiveness of the course.

#### DOUBLE FAIRWAYS DIVIDED BY TREES

**D**ouble fairways may be divided very attractively by trees and plantings of shrubs which will reach a height of about five feet when mature. The beds should be about 100 feet long and 10 feet wide. Dogwood, bridal wreath, barberry, lilac and

white thorn are always popular. These bushes often add color to monotonously green fairways and set them off to fine advantage. Such plantings require a certain amount of attention but it may be given to them when work cannot be done on the rest of the course without interfering with play. Labor spent upon such landscape features always pays fine dividends.

Border plantings of shrubs in some cases may be more desirable than trees. Spring and autumn beauty may be provided by mannyberry, white thorn, and dogwood bushes. Sumach, cranberry and hawthorne bushes also are desirable.

Water features of the course present many opportunities for landscape artistry. Winding lagoons and sparkling lakelets, beautiful in themselves may be made still more beautiful through pond lillies and fringes of graceful willows, blue flag, marsh marigold and lotus. If rocks are available, they may be used to create artificial cascades and stepping stones.

*Next Month—Bringing the New Course Along*

## Pacific Coast Gossip

By ARTHUR LANGTON

**I**N ALL but the most northern portion of the Pacific Coast, greenkeepers even now are preparing, not to settle down for the winter, but to receive the hordes of tourist golfers demanding days of perfect playing weather and courses of polished perfection.

The visitors probably will get a large measure of that which they seek, although Indians and government weather bureaus unite in predicting a rainy winter for California at least. The government's report is based upon the fact that in Alaska a cool summer has been experienced, thus keeping cool the current which bathes Pacific shores (or it may be that the coldness of the current has kept Alaska cool). This low temperature, say scientists, almost invariably is the forerunner of a heavy precipitation.

Any downpour above normal will be welcomed by Southwestern greenkeepers inasmuch as the annual rainfall has been below normal for several years. In fact, the last fifteen years have been deficient, but scientists

at the University of California claim that the next decade will see a decided rise in rainfall figures. This prediction is based upon a learned and intensive study of sun spots.

However, eastern golfers who are planning their annual visit to the coast need have no fear that their golf will be confined entirely to the indoor variety more than in the past. It is to be expected that Washington, Oregon, and Northern California will receive a lot of rain; because when do they not?

The old saw originated in this territory about the visitor asking the native if it rained all the time. The native assured him that it did not since "sometimes it snowed." Of course, no native will admit of ever having said anything like this because the weather most of the year is delightful and perfect for golf.

In Southern California the rainy days rarely exceed more than fifteen and in some places there is none at all. Arizona is safe for the winter golfer as its rainy season is already over. It is not saying too much to predict that Arizona will become much more popular as a winter golfing resort than it is now.

At present there are only half a dozen all-grass courses in play in the whole of the state and these are constantly

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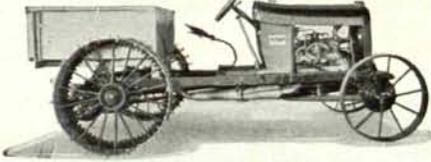
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faced with the probability that brown patch will claim a large percentage of their greens annually. Greenkeeping is in its infancy, however, in this state and little has been learned of the prevailing peculiar conditions.

According to Jack G. Ashworth of the El Rio Golf and Country Club of Tucson, greenkeeping is anything but a pleasant pastime what with transient labor, a galaxy of insect pests, rodents, almost no rain, and a temperature which soars above one hundred and twenty-five degrees in the summer months. This year was especially hard on Arizona because even its little rainfall was late and short.

Coming back to California we find that after a winter with subnormal rains this year, cool weather prevailed until July and August when a sudden hot spell aroused considerable anxiety on the part of greenkeepers as to the welfare of the finer grasses. Heavy application of preventatives saved most of the greens from the ravages of brown patch, although some of the inland courses suffered heavily.

During the present season the disadvantages of Bermuda grass, *capriola dactylon*, as a turf maker become increasingly apparent. This plant, popularly known as devil grass, provides a good playing mat throughout the early summer, but then sends out long, coarse runners which, if they be on a green, must be painstakingly dug out, else they cause the ball to hop.

Besides this, Bermuda turns yellow and brittle in the winter so that whole fairways look parched even though they receive plenty of water. In some sections of the state there seems to be little that can be done about it since it inevitably chokes out all other grasses. It thrives on hot sun and lots of water.

In and around Los Angeles, greenkeepers are polishing their courses in preparation for the midwinter tournaments when most of the golf notables flock to this district for the glittering prizes offered. Present indications point to the Wilshire Country Club as the venue of the next Los Angeles Open tournament. It was played here in 1928 when the canny MacDonal Smith led the pack over its gilt-edged layout situated in one of the most expensive districts of the state.

## How Many Times do you Want to Pipe Your Golf Course?

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Another Scot, Robert S. Greenfield, is the greenkeeper here and is now serving his second consecutive year as president of the Southern California Greenkeepers' Association.

Still another Scotchman, James A. Lyon, greenkeeper at Flintridge Country Club in Pasadena, California, hung up some kind of a record for this territory when he reported a practice green ready for play just four weeks after the grass seed was planted.

### Pressler Appointed Finance Chairman

John Pressler, veteran greenkeeper of the Allegheny Country Club, Pittsburgh, has been appointed chairman of the Finance committee of the National Association of Greenkeepers of America.

Announcement of this appointment was made last week by Colonel John Morley, president of the Association. Mr. Pressler is extremely well equipped to fill this important position.

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