The National Greenkeeper

April, 1932



shown after the use of arsenate of lead. The Thornhill club has topdressed its fairways extensively during the past three years.

## Pacific Coast Gossip

By ARTHUR LANGTON

THE early spring, usually filled with construction activities, is this year extremely quiet on the coast. In most sections the weather, for once, is in the greenkeepers' favor. So far there have been neither droughts nor heavy floods.



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Play on golf courses which have maintained good playing conditions throughout the past season has been fairly heavy; not exceptional, but good when one considers how little is the total now being spent on golf when compared with other and more prosperous days. Several golf courses have changed hands owing to financial difficulties, but practically all are operating.

Although all may be quiet on the Western front, there is a prevalent feeling of tension in greenkeeping circles caused by thoughts of what the coming summer will bring forth. Another season of scald, heat, and brown patch like that of last year will be disastrous in many quarters, and a number of golf courses, precarious as their position now is, will not be able to survive.

However, last year was unusual in more ways than one. It added to the greenkeepers' total of experience so that for the most part they feel that fate has done its darndest and they found themselves able to cope with it.

Come what may, greenkeepers need no longer fear the ravages of the deadly brown patch, in the opinion of L. T. Parker of the Pasadena Country Club, for he has uncovered a positive panacea for the greatest of turf ailments. Parker states that never in his long experience has he known of an attack of brown patch to survive a fall of snow.

## JOHNSON APPOINTED LOS ANGELES GREENKEEPER

After passing his civil service examination with a score of 93<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, W. H. Johnson has been appointed as head greenkeeper of the two Los Angeles municipal golf courses at Griffith Park. He was formerly in charge of the Royal Palms club of San Pedro.

One of the greatest problems connected with Johnson's new position is based upon the fact that the courses in his care are built in the former path of one of Los Angeles' famous wandering rivers. Consequently while the soil is extremely gravelly providing perfect drainage, it contains practically no humus, and Johnson has to go to the nearby hills to obtain soil for new greens which he is building.

The Pacific Coast golfing world was saddened by the recent news of the death of George C. Thomas, Jr. As one of the outstanding golf architects and sportsmen of California, his passing is mourned by many.