

# Pacific Coast Gossip

By ARTHUR LANGTON

**T**HE presence of almost 300 greenkeepers, park superintendents, manufacturers, and salesmen testified to the success of the second annual turf equipment exhibition held at the Los Angeles Bel-Air Country Club on Monday, April 11, under the auspices of the Greenkeepers' Association of Southern California.

Displayed and demonstrated were the products of the leading turf equipment houses on the Pacific Coast. Turf growers from the 650-mile stretch between San Diego and San Francisco were shown under actual working conditions, the most modern equipment used in their work from ball washers to gang mowers. Interested spectators included members of the Los Angeles park commission, one of whom was Dr. George Finley Bobard, president emeritus of the University of Southern California.

\* \* \*

Beginning at 10 a. m. each one of the twenty exhibitors was allotted a space of time in which to demonstrate his wares. At noon a barbecued beef dinner was served to everyone present which demonstrated that all the nice things that have been said of the Bel-Air cuisine were justified.

The show continued in the afternoon and as it drew to a close many gratified remarks were overheard anent the fact that there were no speeches, lengthy introductions, or agitations for funds. Everyone was permitted to come and go as he pleased, with the result that everyone entering into the spirit of cooperation had a good time.

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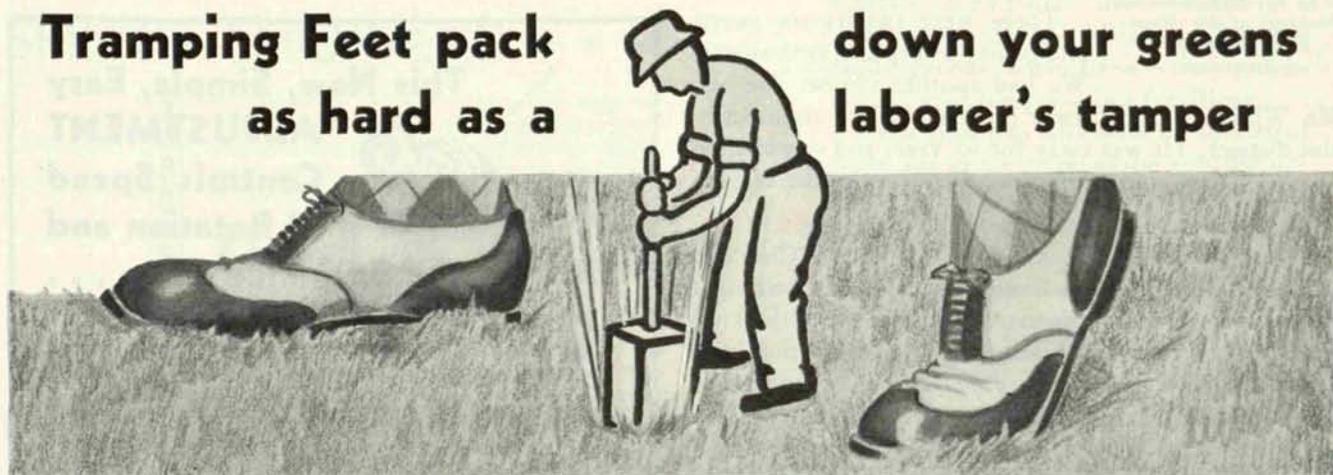
Gossip overheard at the exhibit indicated that there is some activity on golf courses up and down the Coast in spite of perilous times. L. T. Parker of the Pasadena Country Club is going ahead with the construction of 17 new greens on his foothill course. At Long Beach, William P. Bell, golf architect, has been assigned the task of designing and constructing a pay-as-you-play layout. This will make the fourth big course for the beach city, the others being the Virginia Club, the Country Club, and the Municipal.

\* \* \*

Owing to the kindness of nature the California deserts have blossomed as the rose this spring with the result that Easterners have been pestered to death by colored photographs of unbelievable acres of color from western friends. The fairways of the Elsinore Lodge golf course became a veritable Persian carpet on a gigantic scale. So beautiful did it appear that players refused to allow the fairways to be cut, preferring to give up their golf rather than spoil the aesthetic effect.

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The problem then is to renovate with a satisfactory product that will maintain the soft, resilient, cushion-turf you want.

Sand, loam, ordinary fertilizers, water, etc., simply react to make the condition worse instead of better.

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Second, SORBEX—This new material is destined to be of tremendous help in maintaining greens in good condition. A moss peat 25 times finer than any peat moss, it can be used from the top down most successfully and will penetrate the turf right down to the roots where even the finest sand could not reach. It will improve any type or kind of soil needing humus.

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Mention has been made of various pets which have been unofficially adopted by a number of local golf courses. The Hacienda Country Club of Whittier, California, now comes to the fore in this regard with a flock of mallards which have quartered themselves on a little reservoir lake on the club property. A bucket of corn at the clubhouse keeps the birds from straying and they fly around the course much to the delight of the members, who are not permitted to harm them. Only once has greenkeeper Boynton had trouble with them; this was when the ducks strayed on to one green and pecked holes in the turf in search of worms.

## Minnesota Gossip

By H. E. STODOLA, *Secretary*



CHAS. ERICKSON  
*Who has been re-elected  
President of the Minne-  
sota Greenkeepers'  
Association.*

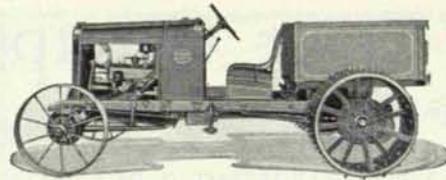
THE annual meeting of the Minnesota Greenkeepers' Association was held April 7, at the Sea Food Inn in Minneapolis. The Toro Manufacturing Company was the host, and a delightful chicken dinner was served. Mr. K. E. Goit of Toro was made an honorary member of the organization. His interest in our group is so sincere that he belongs with us.

There were twenty-six guests and plenty of pep and enthusiasm. We had another visitor. He was

Mr. William Clark, former professional and architect in this district. He was away for six years and commented on the higher standards of golf courses in the Northwest.

Before the business meeting our president, "Charley" Erickson, presented Leo Feser with a desk set holding a fountain pen and ornamented with a good-looking horse. Leo is fond of horses, hence the decoration. Incidentally, he is the "spark plug" of our organization. The secretary, Harold Stodola, was presented with an onyx desk set. It had two pens—one for his new wife and another for himself. The old-timers believe in harmony in the family, so they got a pen for each member of the Stodola household.

At the business meeting the name of our association was changed from Golf Course Superintendents back to Greenkeepers. Most of the members feel that "greenkeeper" is a title by itself and that we can make it synonymous with the finest turf in the world. Superintendent seems to cover too much territory and does not fill the bill. That is the opinion of our majority, but Leo Feser believes in superintendents heart and soul. I want to say here that this Leo fellow has ideas—he backs them up, fights for them, is a good loser, and a modest winner. Like the horses he loves at Woodhill, he is a thoroughbred.



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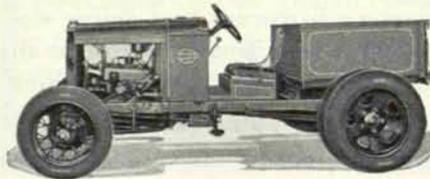
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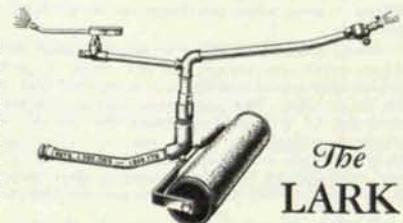


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