

Pasadena Is Optimistic

IN COMPLIANCE with request from President Morley as to how we met the depression of 1932, I will limit my remarks to observations of courses in general in this section, as I have been unattached for the past two months. It has given me a grand opportunity to visit a great many courses and take note of conditions on same.

By far, the largest number of courses are in excellent condition and in every instance those are the ones that have maintained their regular greenkeeper and regular crew. Of course, there has been some lowering of wages, but not of maintenance standards. With the lowering of wages 10% and the extremely low prices of supplies, it has allowed them to meet the conditions as they exist at the present time.

A few courses made drastic cuts in wages, even as high as 25% to 40%, then reduced the maintenance crew 50% and some even more. These are the ones that lost a goodly part of their membership and are having a mighty hard row to hoe at the present time. Some are on the fence and don't know which way to fall, just waiting for prosperity to return from just around that elusive corner.

Some let the club house manager and greenkeeper go and installed a general manager, and detailed one of the laborers on the course as messenger boy to deliver orders and report results. Some of these courses will find they bought a general manager with a handicap of 72 on a 71 par course.

In general, the courses in Southern California are in a healthy condition and our friends from the East and Middle West will find the same excellent courses to play on as they have had in previous years. Treat yourself to one or more of the four big events of the coming year—playing golf in Southern California, Pasadena's Rose Parade on New Years' day and the National Greenkeepers' Convention and the World's Fair at Chicago.

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Who Will Answer This?

Have been greatly interested in the articles on brown patch which have appeared in the *GREENKEEPER*; especially results being obtained from the use of this new chemical mentioned in Arthur Bogg's articles. May I trouble you in going into detail about our new greens which were planted this fall, and to our grief have been greatly infested with this fungi.

I am manager and part owner and act as pro-greenkeeper of the Plantation Golf Club, Inc., of Boise, Idaho. The golf course is located along the river and as you may know our soil runs very much to an alkaline condition. However, we are little troubled with alkali, being able to grow good turf on nearly all parts of our course. This is due to a sub soil of sand and gravel which makes for good natural drainage conditions. We have constructed eight new greens which have been built from three to four feet high, and from the best of advice and because of natural drainage have laid little or no underground drainage.

We have in no way been greatly troubled with brown patch in our older greens and therefore we are quite certain that this disease has come in the seed, as nearly all of our new greens were affected. The first appearance of brown patch seemed to be noticeable about ten days after the grass was up. We got an excellent stand and a very rapid growth up to said time.

Upon first appearance of brown patch we immediately applied Semesan according to directions. Some greens we treated with the dust formula, others with the spray, and obtained very much the same results.

In most cases the disease has been killed and the greens have attained a normal green color, but the grass has made a very slow growth in comparison with that which has not been attacked. This may be due to the cooler weather that we have this time of year. In most cases we treated our greens two times and in some cases three, but still to some extent the disease seems to break out anew.

Our greens were planted to fescue and bent.

I will greatly appreciate your advice as to Semesan or other fungicides, and also advice about the new chemical mentioned in Arthur Bogg's articles in the *GREENKEEPER*, and any further information you could give us that might help us in combating this disease.

HOWARD H. TUCKER.