Advance Sales Indicate Western Open Will Draw Big Gate

IOWA, in entertaining the first major championship in the state’s golf history, promises to restore the Western Golf Assn. Open championship to its old-time financial status.

Advance sale for the Western Open at the Davenport (Ia.) CC, June 19-21 gave early indications that attendance might establish a record for the Western affair. Davenport is 180 miles from Chicago and the same distance from Des Moines. It will draw from a territory rich in golf interest.

The Davenport course is 6,359 yds., making up for its lack of length by an abundance of natural hazards.

Sarazen set the men’s record last summer with a 64. Joyce Wethered shot a 78 on it for a woman’s record which lasted but one day. Lucille Robinson in the qualifying round of the Iowa State women’s tournament scored 77.

Numerous exhibition appearances of star pros at the course have seldom resulted in cutting under the par of 71.

North Joins Green Section as Monteith Aid

F. A. NORTH, well known to Eastern greenkeepers by his work in turf at Rhode Island State college, has joined the Green Section of the USGA as assistant to Dr. John Monteith, Jr. North takes the place formerly occupied by Ken Welton on the Section’s staff and already has plunged into the accumulation of work that has swamped Monteith since the Section has been laboring short-handed.

North’s addition to the staff is an especially fortunate choice for the Green Section, Monteith and the golf clubs. Technically and temperamentally he is well qualified for his new work.

He graduated from agricultural course at Iowa State college in 1922, then taught agriculture and allied subjects at Mount Ayr high school in southwestern Iowa. At the University of West Virginia he did graduate study and worked in the department of agronomy and genetics. This assignment included work in the state seed laboratory. The graduate studies included genetics, plant breeding and plant pathology. He received his Master’s degree in West Virginia in 1928 and remained there for a year as assistant seed analyst and assistant in agronomy and genetics.

He went to the Rhode Island Agricultural experiment station in November, 1929, to fill the vacancy left when E. S. Garner resigned as agrostologist there. Garner had established several sections devoted to a study of the production of bent grass seed. These experiments were continued by North and were published in 1934 and 1935.

North continued and extended the work with fine turf at the Rhode Island station. He studied particularly the velvet bents and made many valuable observations on the control of webworms, earthworms and diseases, along with his study of the seed production of the more valuable strains of bents.

In 1934 a bulletin of his was published dealing with the management of bent grasses kept at putting green height and also reporting the quality of the turf from vegetative plantings as compared with seeded plantings of the same strains.

North has kept in close contact with greenkeeping problems in the New England district since going to Rhode Island. For a long time he has been Secretary of the Rhode Island Greenkeepers’ club.

Pro’s Kids Steal Show at Illinois PGA Dinner

THE three Kelly kids, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Kelly, stopped the show at the second annual Illinois PGA dinner and dance attended by 500 pros, managers, their families and friends. During the floor show headed by Sophie Tucker, the Kelly boys, aged 7, 9 and 11, went on in popular songs, parodied for the pro event. The lads put their stuff across in real pro fashion. They’re great.

Their daddy is pro and manager at the Sunset Valley GC, Highland Park, Ill. Lew Waldron, Mohawk pro, was assigned the M. C. job by Elmer Biggs, president of the Illinois section.

Pros who have batted up on radio programs were repaid for their courtesy by the performances of Tom, Dick and Harry and other star radio acts.

Managers at the party made professional favorable comment on the manner in which Leonard Hicks, Morrison manager, and his staff, served a big banquet, tasty and hot.