Janesville gets new championship course

Janesville, Wisconsin, a city with an outstanding city manager form of government, is to have an outstanding 18-hole championship golf course. Through the energy and perseverance of Henry Traxler, city manager, and Joseph Lustig, city engineer, this city of some 30,000 will open the first 9 holes of its new course in Riverside Park, situated along the Rock River, early this summer.

Robert Bruce Harris, Chicago golf and landscape architect, has planned a superb layout for Janesville. Favored by large acreage, partially wooded and quite rolling terrain, Harris has transformed an old 9-hole course of 2,837 yards, plus additional acreage, into a new layout of 6,428 yards. The first 9 measures 3,190 yards and the second, 3,230 yards. Although the plans and specifications for Janesville's new muny course were prepared by Harris, the supervision of the work has been handled by Lustig.

Traxler and Lustig, after considerable negotiating, obtained title to an 83-acre tract of land adjoining the existing 9-hole course, thus assuring Janesville a sporty course that will be safe to play. There will be no congested, parallel holes, this due to its large acreage. Accordingly, there will be no crowded tees and greens as are so often found on municipal courses.

The greens at Riverside Park will be the equal of any championship course. Harris has designed large undulating surfaces that blend in naturally with the rolling topography sparing no effort to give Janesville a course they can be proud of. The greens were planted by Ralph Bond, of the Old Orchard Turf Nurseries, Madison, Wis.

Plant Over 1,000 Trees

Last fall over 1,000 trees of native variety were planted between fairways. This spring, hundreds of native thorns, wild crabs and plum will be planted, all in accordance with a planting program Harris has prepared. Janesville will have a completely planted golf course in good taste, achieved by using a few simple varieties of plant material placed right. The natural woodland setting thus effected will be different from the conglomeration seen at many clubs—perhaps the result of new planting ideas imposed by a new set of club officials.