Tully Launches Physical Fitness Program; Builds Par 3

BY HARRY C. ECKHOF
Director, Eastern Region, National Golf Foundation

Tully English of Grand Island, N.Y., a pharmacist travelling for a large drug manufacturing company in New York State, was told by his physician that he should get more exercise in some sort of a physical fitness program.

After some deliberation, English decided to build a Par-3 course on 20 acres he owned in Grand Island. This would give him the exercise recommended by his doctor and also enable him to play golf — his favorite sport. He began clearing the area in the spring of 1961. Says English: "It was not long before I was playing golf on my small course with temporary and terrible greens. But my wife and I, and many of the neighbors, had a great time all summer anyway".

As he had such an enjoyable season on a makeshift layout, English decided to improve his course and build three permanent greens. With the aid of National Golf Foundation material and advice of a local consultant, Tully discovered he could do the work himself. A landscape specialist had told him construction of the greens would cost $1.00 a square foot. English built his first three greens, each 1200 square feet — about 40 feet in diameter, for $200 each. Says English: "The bent grass is growing very well and with a little patching here and there, they should be ready for play about June 1."

This is a private course. However many golfers in the area have heard of English's project and have asked him to let them use the course and allow them to contribute something to the general upkeep. Because of the many requests, English has decided to allow about 100 players use of the course this year for a small maintenance contribution of $25.00. This will enable him to maintain the course in good shape and perhaps add three or six more greens next year.

English now has a five year program. He hopes to have at least six holes in play by 1963 and then sell 200 season tickets. When his first nine is completed, his goal is 300 players. If plans
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RCGA Reports Steady Increase in Member Clubs

The Royal Canadian GA realized an excess of revenue over expenses of $1,027 in 1961. Total revenue amounted to more than $51,000, about $3,500 less than it had been the previous year, and net revenue was approximately $7,000 lower than it had been in 1960. Surplus at the end of the year amounted to about $39,000.

A report of the membership and public relations committee of the RCGA shows that membership fees paid to the Association have increased by about 50 per cent in the last four years. There were 512 clubs in the Association in 1961 as compared to 470 in 1960. Clubs now in the RCGA have total membership of about 77,000.

Retained as Director

C. E. Robinson, who resigned about a year ago as secretary-manager of the RCGA was retained as director of the green section. The Association played a part in the conducting of three turfgrass conferences in 1961. In its report, the section cited the work of Cy Creed, supt. at Niakawa CC, Winnipeg, for bringing his course into such sterling condition for the Canadian Open despite extremely adverse conditions.

Canada’s National Golf Week in 1961 was conducted by Provincial Golf Associations. The Quebec GA had gross revenue of $5,605 and the Ontario GA, $3,133, to lead the provincial organizations in raising money for various Canadian golf projects.

Other developments that were cited in the RCGA report include: Enlargement of the handicap system to cover 9-hole play on 9-hole courses; Cooperation by the Association in translating the Rules of Golf into French; and retention of consulting engineers by the rules committee for testing golf balls for minimum size and maximum weight.