

Two New Courses for Chicago

BY EDWARD B. DEARIE, Jr.

Architect of the New Municipal Links, Lincoln Park, and of Sportsman's Golf and Country Club

NEXT year will be another of a series of notable years for Golf. Two new championship courses will be open to play in Chicago-Land next summer—one to millionaires and the other to those of moderate means who pay as they play. These two new courses will be the new municipal links in Lincoln Park and the links of the Sportsman's Golf and Country Club.

Both of these projects are being created with one fundamental thought: to spare no expense to make them among the most attractive in the United States. Pride of achievement is behind both of them. In one case the pride is of personal ownership and in the other case it is the pride of a board of trustees representing one of the



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greatest cities in the world. A \$35,000 stalwart wire fence, artistically concealed by beautiful foliage, will guard the exclusiveness of the private course; the public course, which is bordered on one side by Lake Michigan and on the other side by a scenic motor drive, will be protected by public sentiment.

A feature of both developments is the fact that they will each have underground fairway watering systems, one of the latest advances in golf course construction. Pop-up sprinklers able to cover a diameter of 90 feet are placed at the points of 90-foot equilateral triangles, thus insuring complete coverage. Although these systems will cost about \$45,000 apiece, they are expected to prove very efficient and to be good investments.

The New Municipal Course at Lincoln Park

CIVIC pride, which is far from lacking in Chicago, is the inspiration behind the new municipal course at Lincoln Park. One of the primary objects is the creation of a course fine enough for the holding of championship contests in connection with the 1933 World's Fair.

The Board of Commissioners of Lincoln Park consists of the following citizens: Eugene R. Pike, Robert H. Morse, John R. Thompson, Jr., John F. Cuneo, Alexander Fife, John A. Torston and Albert Halperin. All of these men are prominent in the business world. They are interested in golf and are keenly anxious to make its pleasures more available to the residents of their park district. They also desire to assist in the development of golf generally. They feel that the creation of this championship course under municipal

control will not only attract many prominent golfers to the city from time to time but that it will also stimulate other municipalities to build championship courses.

As the closest course to "the Loop," the new one at the north end of Lincoln Park is easy of access by land, sea and air. The Outer-Drive, one of the city's beautiful highways, skirts the links. Automobiles and busses from the center of the city can reach the first hole in about 15 minutes. A few blocks away are several street car lines and the "L." Adjoining the course is the Belmont yacht harbor where pleasure craft from all of the Great Lakes may ride at anchor while their owners and guests enjoy themselves on shore. Of course, aquaplanes will soon be able to land on the lake and motor to shore.

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Lake Michigan this municipal course is a real engineering achievement. For the past four years the process of filling in the enlarged boundaries of the park has been in progress. During this period thousands and thousands of scows and auto-trucks have dumped huge loads of rock and dirt so that the cost is beyond measurement.

After the fill was completed, the surface was covered with a 10-inch layer of fertile black loam and the whole improvement was protected by the construction of a substantial sea-wall. This is about 3 feet thick and 18 feet high but only five feet of it extends above the mean water line. The top of this wall is slightly above the surface of the soil.

Because of its location directly on Lake Michigan, this course is the only one in the Middle West which may claim to be on the "sea shore" There is usually a pleasant breeze blowing inland from the Great Lakes which makes their shores especially attractive in warm weather. The air surrounding them naturally contains a great quantity of moisture which has its effect upon turf culture.

Much of the credit for the results achieved belongs to Henry E. Eicholz, assistant architect and superintendent of construction. He made the necessary topographical survey of the 168 acres and carried out the engineering plans which involved much detail.

Although the course will comprise 18 holes when completed, only 9 of them will be open for play the first season. These will be located closest to the lake. A water hazard will be provided by an inlet from Lake Michigan which will be artistically fringed with rocks and will terminate in a rock grotto. The yardage for the first nine holes will be 3,375 and for the second nine holes 3,355, making a total of 6,730 yards.

Adjacent to the course are several features of interest. To the south is a baseball diamond, football field and tennis courts. To the north on the extension of an artificially-created promontory to protect the yacht harbor, is a huge archery field. Along the lake is a 100-foot bridle path.

In harmony with the surrounding beauty of Lincoln Park the new course is to be attractively landscaped. Cedar, pine, spruce and other trees are being planted. It is anticipated that vegetative bent stolons will be planted on the greens and considerable bent seed sown in the fairways.

A magnificent club house for golfers and yachtsmen is to be built at the entrance to the golf course and facing Belmont Harbor. This is to be an architectural gem.

The Sportsman's Club— A Millionaire's Vision

THE Sportsman's Golf and Country Club is the result of a millionaire's vision. George L. Chamberlain of Evanston, owner of the property, is promoting the project without thought of immediate financial return and sparing no expense to make the course an artistic masterpiece.

The development includes not one golf course but three. Besides one 18-hole course, there will be a 9-hole course exclusively for women. With 27 holes the project is one of the most complete in Chicago-Land.

The total investment, including the value of

the land and the cost of the club house, will be almost \$1,000,000. So far as known no actual plans have been made for the sale of memberships in the club, it being Mr. Chamberlain's belief that the attractiveness of the development will be the most powerful magnet for those able to afford the best.

Mr. Al Espinosa, internationally known golfer, is the managing director of the club. He tied Bobby Jones in the National Open Championship last summer at Winged Foot. He has endeavored to have reproduced wherever practical some of the holes he has played on famous courses abroad. His knowledge of the game and of the finest courses in the world will be a tremendous asset.

Located on the south side of Dundee road between Milwaukee and Waukegan roads on the northwest of Chicago, the property is only a short distance south of Sky Harbor. Golfers will thus be able to come almost to the links in airplanes.

The construction of these golf courses is believed to have set a record for speed. The designing and building occupied 91 days. The layout was approved June 19 and the seeding was completed September 25. In the interim 80 horses, nine tractors and two steam shovels had been at work moving and preparing 102,000 cubic yards of dirt.

Both the irrigation and drainage systems are worthy of attention. In order to secure water it was necessary to lay an 8-inch pipe-line two miles from the village of Northbrook. At the entrance to the property are two pumps which guarantee the delivery of 600 gallons of water per minute. Four ditching machines assisted in the laying of 78,000 feet of cast pipe for

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the watering system and over 80,000 feet of tile for the drainage system. Over 3,000 cubic yards of gravel were placed in the traps and bunkers and tile lines installed to insure adequate drainage in storm periods.

Plans for a magnificent \$400,000 club house have been designed by Holabird and Roche whose architecture is responsible for much of Chicago's magnificence. Actual work is to commence in February and completion is promised in four months. The huge building will be 283 feet long by 196 feet wide. The



WORK ON THE NEW
SPORTSMAN'S CLUB NEAR
CHICAGO

This million dollar layout is being built by George L. Chamberlain of Evanston. In the foreground is Mr. Dearie, architect, and Al Espinosa, managing director of the club

men's locker room will include a swimming pool.

Other features of the development will involve an outdoor swimming pool, tennis courts and a polo field. Landscaping includes the planting of 1,600 trees.

Although some of the grass is above the ground already, it is planned not to open the courses for play until the middle of July in order to give the turf a chance to mature. The fairways were planted with 150 pounds of seed per acre with a mixture consisting of 70 per cent Kentucky Blue Grass and 30 per cent *Agrostis Maritima*. The greens were planted with vegetative Metropolitan bent stolons.

The Sportsman's Golf and Country Club undoubtedly will be heard from frequently in connection with open championships.

U. S. G. A. Meeting

The Green Section committee of the United States Golf Association have arranged to hold a meeting at the Hotel Biltmore, New York City, on Friday, January 10th, 1930, at 9:30 a. m. A number of interesting papers will be read, supplemented by a report of the work of the Green Section during the past year.

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Mr. C. A. Rich, chairman of the Green committee of the Western Hills Country Club, Cincinnati, says: "Since 1926 when we commenced reconstruction of our course I find that we have used 17 cars of

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Don't Forget the Birds

EACH morning I take great pleasure in feeding great flocks of birds and I am richly rewarded by their beautiful songs. I certainly enjoy their music. There is hardly a day goes by but what I have something for them, even in the summertime. In the winter I buy feed for them and take as good care as I possibly can. At the old place I had several bird houses, which are still there, and birds undoubtedly waiting for me. However, this winter I told my handy man that we would have to put up new houses here so the birds could get better acquainted with us.

I also have a great many Chinese pheasants which have multiplied so that we have anywhere from forty to fifty on our grounds. Some years ago we didn't have any, but by taking care of those that happened in, such as buying cornstalks and corn and tying these to the trees so the pheasants could get hold of the feed after the snow arrived, they must have gotten together and said, "Let's make Charlie Erickson's place our permanent home." I am really very proud of my birds.

Well, boys, I guess I have said my say, there is just one more thing and that is I wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and I hope I will have the pleasure of seeing a great many of you in Louisville in February.

Yours very truly,

CHAS. ERICKSON,

(Greenkeeper, Minikahda Club)
Minneapolis.

Larger and Better Tees

By JOHN ANDERSON, Greenkeeper
Crestmont Golf Club, West Orange, N. J.

ON visiting some of our golf courses one is struck with the need for larger and better teeing grounds. Even on some of the championship courses, some teeing grounds are poor, mostly on short holes where the tees are much too small.

The tee ought to be at least large enough to allow the markers to be changed six or seven times without being twice in the same place. This gives the turf at least a week to recover after hard playing for one day.