

# POPULATION: 4000; COURSE: 1A

By C. B. MILLS

**N**OT that it's any different from any other golf course in many matters—it has greens, fairways and rough with here and there a bunker, yet there is a difference to the extent that total operating costs last year amounted to a mere \$1,800. And from that modest sum enough was extracted to do a bit of tree planting and for an extra \$400 the little clubhouse was constructed. But don't get the idea that we had lousy greens. They would do credit to many a famous course.

At our Marysville, Ohio (4,000 population when we're all at home) course, where the grocery clerks play too, the president of the club is also president of the local bank. In early spring he wouldn't think of sipping his morning orange juice until he had driven out to the course to see if his two German Settlement workmen, who do small farming near the golf estate, have weeded No. 6 as instructed and turned over the compost pile again. He gets the same thrill seeing new grass pop up on a washed fairway that comes from a long past due note being paid in full.

## Started on Low Costs

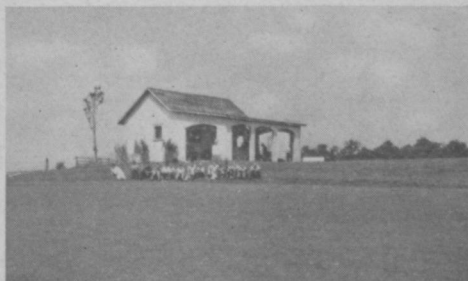
Finances have worked out splendidly at Marysville. Three years ago when farms were being virtually stolen, the club bought 100 acres for \$1,900. Half was used for the 9-hole course. The remainder was rented for sheep pasture, producing enough revenue to pay the taxes on the full hundred. A few months ago that fifty acres was sold for \$1,100 cash so the course property stands the club \$800. Enough stock was sold originally to pay for the farm and for course construction. It takes 50 full family membership at \$25 per year, about 20 of the out-of-town variety at \$15 and green fees at 50 cents to pay operating expenses.

The course is managed by the local high school coach who keeps an eye on his prospective football material by making caddies of them and does he have discipline! His summer amounts to more than a vacation by reason of receiving a small monthly salary, a cut on the green-fees and a profit on his refreshments and golf supplies. He even has time to train his

## On Minimum Investment, Marysville's Layout Is Adequate, Enjoyable

three small children in the ways of good golf.

It is probably true that at these small town courses, golf is played more for golf's sake. A man who has been deeply bitten by the bug can leave his office by four and have one leg in his knickers by four-



Four hundred dollars built this compact little clubhouse.

fifteen. At four-twenty he has joined a foursome either pre-arranged with three cronies or assembled on the spur of the moment with a group he could call by first names and middle ones too if necessary. And isn't it a fine tribute to golf that here you can enjoy it regardless of whether you end up at a Casino de Paree type of cocktail bar or drink a bottle of ginger ale on a bench which carries an advertisement of the local furniture dealer.

## Keeps 'Em Young

Two old-timers, both comfortably over sixty but with sixteen enthusiasm fight it out every night it isn't stormy—a summer shower goes unnoticed. If one wins too easily his perennial opponent finds an errand out past the course early the following morning and stops to brush up on his putting or approaching. If that fails to bring the desired results, he slips down to Columbus for a session with a pro. One of these two is a real estate operator and not wishing to acquaint his retired farmer clientele with his sporting habits, leaves this inscription on his office slate during the summer months: "Gone to the country." His pal whose nickname is "Dad" sells automobiles. He really does but we never know a fellow who had as many



Jock Anderson, pro at Techny Fields fee course (Chicago distr.) has Helen Hicks as guest star for his Saturday morning free class of New Trier high school girl students. The classes were started by Anderson and the smart young lady who has charge of girl's athletics at New Trier. They run from 45 to 70 pupils every Saturday morning through May, June and September. It is estimated that 200 of the school's girl pupils have attended these classes.

prospects on the same road as the golf course. Incidentally these two play in the low eighties and high seventies. Dad was the inspirational spark plug and did much of the "dirty" work in building the course. He still takes time to handle ably the multitudinous tasks of green-chairman.

Players are about alike wherever you find them. Here we have those air-tight matches where a man with asthma would not be tolerated in the gallery and then there are those where extreme razzing only omitting tripping, is permitted.

Some of the boys decided last year that razzing should be dispensed with in one operation so a "costume woof" tournament was arranged. It brought out some unique creations. Costumes from Henry the Eighth to Mahatma Ghandi stalked the greens that day. There was even a gallant golfer in a sulky with a caddie assuming the role of horse. During the play there was noise equal to the county fair with horns, tick-tacks, squawkers and cap pistols contributing to the din. It was hoped that this outburst would result in a turn to perfect golf etiquette, the rules of which appear on the back of one's score card. The party itself was a huge success but the objective only partially realized.

Our club also has the same percentage of players who can nonchalantly kick the ball into a better lie, cough while an opponent is putting, blame every one that fails to drop on some weed the greenkeeper missed, or in a fit of displeasure wrap a six dollar driver around a tree when the ball sails out of bounds. But it is as congenial, as lacking in dullness and as thoroughly sold on golf as you will find in these forty-eight states. Once a week or almost as frequently there will be an informal "eat together" party on that little porch. When the sun goes down the coal oil lamp is lighted because the utilities haven't gotten out that way yet. So when

### Illinois Pros Leading in Free Kid Lessons

**C**LASS instruction of youngsters gets a boost with the tie-up between the Illinois PGA and the Chicago Park district. After the Chicago Tribune-Daily Fee public golf school concludes, pros of the Chicago district are to give free group lessons to kids at six spots in the Chicago Park system. Boys and girls under 17 are eligible.

Midwestern pros are going strong for this kid instruction business. Harry Cooper has been giving free group lessons at the Glenbard high school and coached its golf team to victory in its season's schedule with other schools in its territory.

Jock Anderson, pro at Techny Fields fee course, has been teaching free a class of from 40 to 60 girls from New Trier High School Saturday mornings. Helen Hicks was Jock's guest co-teacher one Saturday recently.

When you see how these kids are coming out for pros' free class lessons you become confident about the future of golf.

What the pros all over the country are doing in this market development among kids is something that manufacturers must bear in mind when they rate the importance and value of pro trade and then determine what discounts are to be allowed the various classes of golf retail outlets. This market development among women and children through the free group lessons given by pros is doing a lot to balance any beefs manufacturers may have about pro credit in spots.

you city folks want to settle down a bit to enjoy all the intimate pleasure the game itself affords, come to Marysville and we will admit you to our circle.