

Refuse \$100,000 Profit on Depression-born Course



Hutt Martin

WASHOE COUNTY (NEV.) commissioners have turned down an offer of \$100,000 for a comparatively small part of the county's land holdings. The acreage has two small buildings on it. The price offered by a millionaire eastern distiller represents profit of

\$100,000 on what Washoe county, the city of Reno and the federal government put into the property.

But, in unanimously agreeing to turn down the offer the commissioners echoed the statement of Melvin Jepson, district attorney, who said "Selling the Washoe county golf course would be like selling the courthouse."

In the Washoe county commissioners' decision there is evidence of a happy ending to what began as a very troubled story of municipal golf. Before the Washoe county course was made a first class municipal layout there were many political and technical difficulties to be overcome. The present course was widely publicized as one of the wastes of public funds for which no local or national administration could be pardoned.

And, in its earlier stages when difficulty was experienced in getting grass on the

course, it certainly did seem to be a bust. Green Section advice helped greatly in establishing fine turf on the greens, tees and fairways. A major engineering job was done in getting the course supplied with water. The average rainfall at Reno is 4½ inches in a year. With rare exceptions the rainfall is in the winter months.

The course depends on artificial watering from April 1 to December 1. Its reservoir contains about 10 acre feet of water which is supplied by an irrigation ditch in which the course has rights of 80 miner's inches. The feed is by gravity and gives a static pressure of about 110 lbs. at the highest point on the course and 160 lbs. at the lowest point.

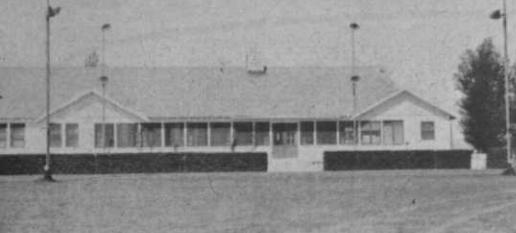
A Buckner snap valve system waters the course completely. The course is watered three times a week. Greens are cut three or four times weekly at 7/32s. Fairways are mowed to ¾ inch twice a week.

In normal times the club has five men mowing greens and on other maintenance jobs, one man mowing fairways and rough and wo men on night watering. Since the war the club has been getting along with five men.

Last October the club lost its equipment barn by fire. The new barn is a very good job of wartime construction. Equipment was damaged by the fire, and all of it shown in the accompanying view of the new barn was repaired by the club's own

225 yd., par 3, fifteenth hole of the Washoe course.





Clubhouse, Washoe County, Reno, Nev.

men. They got needed parts mainly from junk yards and did many ingenious jobs of reconstruction.

Coming onto this course from surrounding country that presents sagebrush as the main item of vegetation is not only a visual treat to the player but an obviously phenomenal feat in the growing of healthy and abundant grass. Considerable play is received from officers and men at the Reno Army air base. They're given special rates.

The Washoe county course has accounted for a big increase in the value of adjoining property on which there now are some costly homes. Local authorities say that the increase in adjoining property values caused by the excellent operation of a fine municipal course far more than justified the expense of the course's construction.

Hutt Martin, pro-manager of the Washoe county course, is credited with having done an outstanding job in establishing and operating a municipal course that looked to be doomed to never amount to much more than an expensive effort to supply work for men who otherwise would have been unemployed on the county during the bottom part of the depression. Martin, a modest, hard-working and competent fellow, is quick to ask for plaudits for the Washoe greenkeeper, Wm. Mayo, one of the proteges of the late Wm. Rockefeller at Inverness, Toledo.

The spectacular success of the Washoe county course calls for congratulations not only to Hutt Martin and Wm. Mayo but to others who worked with them in putting across an enterprise that converted sagebrush wasteland into a financially and socially solid civic asset.

Equipment barn of Washoe County Club.



Worthington Mower Adds "White Star" and Two New Distributors

F. R. Van Rensselaer, 719 Hamilton National Bank Bldg., Knoxville 2, Tenn., and Kilgore-McRee Co., 2161 Bessemer Blvd., Birmingham 8, Ala., are two new distributor appointments recently announced by the Worthington Mower Co., Stroudsburg, Penna. Both will have sales and service of Worthington turf maintenance machinery on an exclusive basis in their areas. The Van Rensselaer organization will cover eastern Tennessee west to and including Clay, Jackson, Putnam, White, Warren, Grundy and Marion counties. Kilgore-McRee will cover Alabama, western Florida and central Tennessee including the Nashville district. While currently this type of equipment is not available for civilian use these and other Worthington distributors are ready to assist in furnishing replacement parts and other service required to keep Worthington equipment performing efficiently.

Maintaining the same outstanding record of manufacturing performance which won for them the Army-Navy "E" production award on July 3, 1943, the management and employes of Worthington Mower Company have been advised that, for the second time they have been cited for meritorious services on the production front for which they have been awarded the "White Star." This honor symbolizing the Government's acknowledgment of the company's continued efficient wartime production pace, is held by less than 3 percent of the nation's industries.

Lew Scott, Pro Veteran, Dies on Course

LEWIS SCOTT, 57, pro at Lakeside CC, Hollywood, Calif., died of a heart attack on the 13th hole of the club, April 29. Scott had been working at a war plant at night and continuing pro duties in the daytime.

Lew was an Englishman, who developed his game at Carnoustie. He caddied for Harry Vardon. For the past 28 years he'd lived in California. He had been at Lakeside for six years and prior to that served the Valley CC, Montecito; San Diego CC, Wilshire CC and Hillcrest CC. Lew was one of the master instructors of the game and gave post-graduate tutoring to many pro stars. He developed many movie notables into good golfers. He was known and cordially regarded by thousands of pros and amateurs all over the country.

He is survived by his widow, a son and a daughter.