



Left: Tam O'Shanter, within Chicago City limits, had its parking lots taxed to capacity. Right: Although Tam's crowds are big, the galleries get a good break due to the fine work of the Marshalls.

has continually improved the course both scenically and as a test of golf. On new trees and shrubs alone (more than 2,000) he has spent more than \$35,000.

Near perfection has been achieved in marshalling, based on extensive study of the problem, so that milling crowds have been handled to their own satisfaction as well as that of the players, despite the huge attendance.

Needs and desires of galleryites have been further cared for in such details as grandstands for the foot-weary; numerous concession tents, comfort stations, and public telephones; admission of the general public to the clubhouse; and introductions through amplifiers of each player as he started, with a brief resume of his golfing career.

May's Tourneys Are Big News

Mr. May's three-decker golfing spectacles have received ever-increasing attention from press, movies, and radio as they grew in popularity and newsworthiness. Among recent examples are "Don't Feed The Golfers", the story of Tam O'Shanter and George S. May in the SATURDAY EVENING POST; LIFE's well illustrated story of the 1944 All-American tournaments; newsreels of the event made by Fox Moxietone and Universal; and the daily NBC sportcasts by Bill Stern from Tam O'Shanter during the tournament.

August 20th through 25th, 1945, are the dates already set for next year's All-American three-ring golf extravaganza at Chicago's Tam O'Shanter.

Diegel Accents Hands' Importance

★ Ask Leo Diegel what he considers the most important part of a good golf swing, and the Philmont veteran will unhesitatingly declare, "the hands."

For Leo, who has been head man at the spacious Philmont club since 1934, is thoroughly sold on the part played by the hands. "They're really what count," he says. "A good golfer can play around most courses flat-footed or while standing on one leg, but by using his hands correctly he can still get around in low figures."

Leo cites an example. "One of the greatest golfers I ever played with was Commodore Heard, of Houston, Texas. He was short and stocky, standing only about five feet, six inches. He used a three-quarter swing with a slightly closed face.

"The Commodore looked little like a great golfer, but his long, accurate game enabled him to beat the best of the professionals. He shot a 68 on his 68th birthday and seven years later, when he was 75, he got around in just 75 strokes. Correct hand action had a whole lot to do with Mr. Heard's success.

"And even yet, although I haven't seen him for over a decade, I think of the Commodore whenever I give a lesson to a 100 shooter who is inclined to be a bit wild, and try to teach the pupil his swing.

"There's another great Houston golfer who is a fine model. Youngsters who have any golfing ambitions would do well to copy his swing. I refer to Jimmy Demaret—whose swing is a dream."

Diegel gives more than 700 lessons at Philmont each year. One of his teaching accessories is a large, life-size mirror. Last season Leo also hit upon the idea of encircling golf club grips with an ordinary piece of garden hose. "It helps to loosen up pupils who are too tense and makes their swing more rhythmical," says the Philmont pro.

He started a junior class several seasons ago and, aided by Matt Kowal, his assistant, devotes two hours every Saturday morning to the youngsters. About thirty children are in the class. They are drilled on the fundamentals.

But the backbone of Philmont, as of most other clubs, are the business men,

most of whom took up the game comparatively late in life. "It's foolish for them to try to become great golfers," Diegel says. "I suggest that most of them employ a three-quarter swing, and stress accuracy instead of distance. Many inexperienced players get a 'slap hit,' which is all right in itself, but the great majority have no conception of what to do on the down swing.

"Again it is the hands that enter into it, for too much right hand will have the golfer handicapped by a looping swing, or 'crossing the line too soon.' I'm a great believer in teaching them to use a short grip, which will prove a big help to correct hand action."

Prior to taking up the Philmont post, Diegel worked for 12 years as a private professional at the Agua Caliente club, in Mexico. He instructed E. B. McLean, Washington publisher, and movie magnates Adolph Zukor and Joseph Schenk. He also gave a series of lessons to the late President Harding, and President Abelardo Rodriguez during a two-week sojourn at Mexico City. While in London, Leo spent three weeks ironing out the golf shots of the Duke of Windsor.

He doesn't have the time to compete in many tournaments any more. But the talented Philmont veteran, whose crab-crouch putting stance won wide attention years ago, still gives young, promising professionals a bitter battle whenever he enters tourney tests.

Members Who Cooperate Deserve Credit for Successful Operation

Meeting pre-war budgets with low memberships and the requisite high standard of club service are problems which war conditions have not made easier for the president, his club officers and governing board.

Yet, a club president's recent statement that "clubhouse operations are running smoother than at any other time before the war" can well be explained and is well founded. This may hold true according to Eric G. Koch, executive manager of North Hills Golf Club, Douglaston, N.Y. Such a happy situation can prevail even in these extraordinary times provided clubs enjoy the benefit and experience of a good manager, an efficient pro, a capable greenkeeper and a good club organization to back up his office.

Koch goes on to say:

"Clubs which have survived the pre-war lull and are operating today can boast in most cases of full memberships, excellent patronage and satisfactory operating

profits. Many shortcomings as far as clubhouse operations are concerned can be directly attributed to the war and most members are lenient enough to appreciate the present circumstances and will overlook the lack of many refinements as far as service and cuisine are concerned that were essential to pre-war club operation.

"Furnishing club service of nearly or as high a standard as in previous years rests still on the shoulders of the club manager. The personnel problem is one that will not be off the mind of any club manager until way after the war is won and it is indeed a phenomenal assignment to continue the operating departments, which are doing a larger volume of business than ever before, with the unavoidable turnover of personnel, the lack of supplies, rationing and the difficulties in making replacements and repairs.

"I wish to pay tribute to the members of the club who cooperate so wholeheartedly and make the best of certain curtailments and difficulties that are unavoidable at this time.

"The most helpful improvement and one that in my opinion will be well to continue after the war is to close down the clubhouse on Mondays, thereby making available the entire personnel throughout the week. From a financial viewpoint this innovation is saving now and will save considerable sums of money at times when clubs will again be confronted with budget problems.

"A club manager was always proud to operate his clubhouse on a most efficient plan with expenditures well within the confines of the club's budget and present conditions are only a challenge to maintain this service and improving on it wherever possible.

"I am sure that the sentiments expressed in this outline will be shared by many club managers. Let us hope for an early victory and the continuation of private clubs, which add so much to the benefit and enjoyment of our home communities."

Post-War Plans for Richmond GC Are Big

Plans for the post-war improvement of the Richmond (Calif.) GC include enlarging present clubhouse to twice its size to contain larger locker room for ladies and men, an addition to the bar-lounge, new entrance, new kitchen and service entrance. Also, an enlarged parking area, tennis courts, softball diamond, archery field, barbecue pits, a reserve steel water tank, rest and shelter houses, new main water pipe line and well. Dues will remain the same with a goal of 350 memberships scheduled.