



Aerial view of the new West Palm Beach course shows clubhouse in the background with the 9th and 18th fairways running in toward the clubhouse. The 9th green is to the left of the clubhouse and the 18th at the right. Accommodations and facilities are complete but the landscaping remains to be done.

West Palm Beach Boasts New Half-Million Dollar Course

By TONEY PENNA

Give it a little more time for the trimmings, such as the landscaping around the clubhouse and the finishing touches that always have to be applied after a golf course construction job is formally completed, and you'll see the new West Palm Beach (Fla.) Country Club as one of the great courses of the land.

It's operated by the West Palm Beach Golf Commission and has 455 resident members. In addition, the commission accepts members for the season or month and has daily fee play at \$2.50 from Nov. 1 to May 1 and at \$1.50 per round from May 1 to Nov. 1.

Henry F. Lilienthal is chmn. of the commission and R. A. Carlton, vice chmn. Other members are Jack Faircloth, Alf. R. Nielsen, J. P. Cochrane and Clarence R. Philips is sec.treas. The club is operated by Clyde Usina, sr., mgr., Clyde Usina, jr., pro, and John Bass, greenkeeper.

Dick Wilson who designed and built

the course, is well known for his work with the famed Toomey and Flynn firm of golf course architects and builders. Since Wilson went into business for himself he has established himself solidly with excellent work, particularly in Florida. On this job at West Palm Beach he can be placed among the masters of golf course builders for it's the Florida counterpart of Pine Valley, although the differences in terrain and lack of Pine Valley's woodland make the comparison simply one of two outstanding jobs in their respective classes.

Very interesting trapping and use of the natural sandy areas bordering fairways not only provide golf that is a test of the best but minimize the maintenance work and expense. It must be borne in mind that although the establishment is virtually a public one the West Palm Beach commission insists that playing conditions be of highest grade.

The West Palm Beach club has had its

first season in operation and despite the fact that the layout was new and short of its present splendid condition it drew a membership, green fee and clubhouse income of \$86,940.51 for the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 1948. Expenses during that fiscal year were \$74,665. Major items were \$37,500 for course maintenance, including \$6,600 for fertilizer; \$16,455 for clubhouse operation, and \$20,710 for administration and supervisory expense, including insurance.

In an enterprise such as this there's no telling how much income it drew to West Palm Beach but very definitely the talk about the course has been a factor in stimulating profitable business in West Palm Beach real estate and retail shops.

Plant Cost \$531,745.58

The total cost of the West Palm Beach CC is \$531,745.58.

The cost of the golf course completed as it is today is \$411,144.60. This includes the pro shop, caddy house, greenkeeper's home, rain shelters, equipment shed, and equipment, together with the magnificent water distribution system for watering fairways, greens, tees, etc. This water system is composed of a concrete block pump house, with two centrifugal electric pumps.

The source of water supply is the Palm Beach canal, which is one of the main drainage canals from Lake Okeechobee to the Atlantic Ocean, and which assures at all times an adequate water supply. Buckner valves and sprinklers are used throughout the course, and the two pumps are capable of completely watering all the fairways three times each week, putting on them more than an inch of water each

week, which together with a normal average yearly rainfall of approx. 60 inches, assures proper watering.

The clubhouse is of concrete block, stucco construction, with red tile roof, situated on the highest point of the golf



West Palm Beach officials and pro staff who conduct the affairs of the new half-million dollar layout are: (L to R) standing: Bill Cuomo, Caddymaster; Clyde Usina, Jr., Professional; Clyde Usina, Sr., Manager; C. R. Philips, Sec.-Treas.; Kneeling (L to R) L. S. Cramer, Pro Shop attendant; and John Bass, greenkeeper.

course. From the front porch one can look up five fairways. The clubhouse consists of a large main lounge, with wide screened front porch overlooking the golf course, ladies' lounge and powder room, ladies' locker room, with 48 lockers and three showers, large mens locker room with 213



Interior of grill room has ample accommodations for food and beverage service and plenty of windows have been provided for an airy atmosphere one expects in the Florida climate.



Spacious porch of the new clubhouse overlooks 9th and 18th greens, the practice putting green, and the first and 10th tees giving non-playing guests a broad view of the course.

lockers and seven showers. In the basement is located a grill and refreshment room, with liquor bar and snack bar. Upstairs adjoining the main lounge is also a nice-sized kitchen and dining room to be used for private parties and dances. The entire clubhouse is tastily furnished. The entire cost of the building, including furniture, totaled \$120,600.98.

Equipped for Machine Maintenance

Gkpr. John Bass and Dick Wilson have worked closely together in getting the course so it will require very little manual maintenance. Fairway mowers operate on trap mounds, close to greens, traps and tees. Among equipment used are Worthington fairway mowers and rough Blitzers, Jacobsen power greens mowers, Farmall tractors, Bean power sprayers, West Point aerifiers and Milbradt hand mowers.

Of special interest is the tee arrangement which provides for three lengths of course; the Red with 6,145 yds.; the White with 6,415 yds. and the Blue with 6,690 yds.

Lengths of the holes on the Red, White and Blue courses:

Red	White	Blue
380	400	420
470	485	500
155	170	185
435	450	465
295	305	320
385	400	415
170	185	200
370	385	400
375	390	405
3035	3170	3310
460	475	490
115	130	145
415	430	445
365	380	395
170	185	200
365	380	395
355	370	385
340	355	370
525	540	555
3110	6415	3380

Southern Turf Association Holds Annual Conference

Annual Conference of the Southern Turf Assn. was held at the Univ. of Tenn. College of Agriculture, January 6 with the following topics and discussions covered in the compact one day meeting: Soil — Grass Relationships in Turf Production — Dr. Fred V. Grau, Director of U.S.G.A., Green Section, Beltsville, Maryland; Managerial

Factors in Turf Production — Dr. Lawrence S. Dickinson, Assoc. Prof. of Agrostology, Univ. of Mass., Amherst, Mass.; Fertilization Program For Turf in Tennessee Soils — Dr. Eric Winters, Head of Department of Agronomy, Univ. of Tenn.; Southern Problems in Turf Production As I See Them — Dr. O. J. Noer, Agronomist, Sewerage Commission of the City of Milwaukee, Wis.; Mowing & Mowing Machinery in Turf Production — Mr. Henry Westall, Worthington Mower Company, Asheville, North Carolina and Turf Problems As I Have Found Them at Cherokee Country Club — A. V. Tribble, Cherokee, CC, Knoxville, Tenn.

USGA to Re-elect Wallace and Other Officers

Fielding Wallace has been nominated for re-election as pres., United States Golf Assn. at its 55th annual meeting which will be held at Waldorf-Astoria hotel, New York, Jan. 29, noon. Selection of the USGA nominating committee is tantamount to election. Other officers who will be re-elected with Wallace are:

VP Totton P. Heffelfinger, Minneapolis; VP James D. Standish, jr., Detroit; Sec. Isaac B. Grainger, Montclair, N. J.; Treas. Daniel A. Freeman, jr., Mt. Kisco, N. Y.

Wallace, a member of USGA Executive committee since 1939, head of USGA Green committee 1940-47, and pres. emeritus for life of Augusta CC, headed a highly successful administration in 1948. The USGA now has largest membership in its history.

New members of the Executive committee will be Charles B. Grace, Philadelphia, a member of Princeton's intercollegiate 1927-28 championship golf team and former sec.-treas. Penna GA; and Corydon Wagner, Tacoma, Wash., an official of the Pacific Northwest GA and of Yale, '16.

George W. Blossom, jr. headed the 1949 Nominating committee. The 1950 Nominating committee is headed by Morton G. Bogue.

Stanish will continue as chmn., Green section committee. The Green section expects to announce soon publication of its book on golf course maintenance. Prof. H. B. Musser, Penn State college, editor of the book, has assembled considerable of the material which will present a greatly needed and valuable practical manual of golf course operation.