

sparkling Texas wit and vernacular, so tickled the dinner guests that he was kept on his feet for more than an hour, and received a standing ovation upon conclusion of his talk. He was then backed into a corner by George Mikán, a head-table guest. "Mr. Basketball" who was recently voted the "Outstanding basketball player of the past half century" is an avid golf fan and player. He plied Byron with innumerable questions aimed at working his 6 foot 10 inch frame into an efficient golf swing, and came off grinning with obvious satisfaction.

Everyone present had such a pleasant time of it that the portals through which the refreshments pass were still heavily attended at 1 a.m. when the management finally got the upper hand and sent a contented swarm of golf enthusiasts off into the frosty night air.

Tell Members What Makes Their Golf Enjoyable

Yahnundasis GC, Utica, N.Y., got its 1950 season away to a good start with an evening session that combined close-ups on course maintenance, the rules and playing. Pres. Fritz Redberg brought Green chmn. Sherill Sherman and the club's greenkeeper, Major Tom Bowen before the

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125 diners. The session concluded with Wilson's movie, "Play Better Golf."

Sherman, in introducing Tom Bowen, told of Tom's start as a caddy, then his golf course work, his study under Dickinson at Univ. of Mass., Amherst, his work at Twin Ponds CC, Utica, Burlington (Vt.) CC and at the Military Academy course at West Point, and construction of the James Baird Park course north of Poughkeepsie, prior to coming to Yahnundasis. Bowen's career in course maintenance was interrupted by four years in the Army. He enlisted as a private, was assigned to heavy engineering and came out of the war as a major.

Bowen told of the problems the greenkeeper has to contend with and finished by telling members what they could do to help the maintenance staff improve course conditions. He noted, first, and uppermost, the replacing of divots which every player makes. This covers not only the fairway but particularly the divots cut from tees on the short holes with an iron. Most clubs suffer from the lack of sufficient caddies and we have the evil with us of the caddy carrying two bags; therefore, often not being near the player when he makes his divot and because there is a bag on each shoulder, not reaching down to replace the divot even when near the player. He warned the smokers not to drop cigarettes,

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while burning, on the greens as they burn and mar the putting surface. He asked the members not to spin on their heels and thus mar the greens with the spikes in their shoes. He asked them not to scuff along and mar the greens as they walked. Put paper and trash in the waste containers to keep the course neat. As no one man can completely cover every day a golf course, members, by reporting unfavorable conditions, make it easier for the greenkeeper to correct such conditions. If the members before leaving a sand trap will smooth out either a playing hole or foot marks, it lessens the work required by the greenkeeping force. In order to keep the tees in shape, he asked the members to observe in playing their shots from tees, the location indicated by the tee markers.

Sherman noted the significant relationship between the etiquette of golf, the technicalities of the rules and the safety factor. USGA 1950 Rules of Golf booklets were distributed to each member present. Sherman explained the need and basis of local rules in agreement with the USGA code. He handled the answering end of a lively questions-and-answers session and put on an interesting presentation of the case for rules observance being one of the elements that adds to enjoyment of golf.

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