

golf courses were eliminated. Public courses were not developed sufficiently in number to compensate for this loss.

Short Courses Popular Nurseries

Meeting the need for more public courses may require some readjustment of traditional thinking as to what constitutes a suitable golf course. When a regulation 18 hole course cannot be provided, a full nine hole course should be used. When there is not enough ground for either the 18- or 9-hole course, the pitch-and-putt course of varying lengths, and perhaps the 6-hole course, should be provided. These short golf courses are proving very popular in cities which afford only a limited area. These courses cultivate future golfers who add their support to the demand for increasing numbers of public courses.

The City of Los Angeles, to use my own city as an example of the imminent need, has three 18-hole courses, four 9 hole courses, of which 3 are pitch-and-putt courses. That the demand for public golf facilities is far beyond the capacities of the present system is illustrated by the fact that approximately 13,000 persons have registered to become eligible to make reservations on municipal courses, especially for Saturday, Sunday, and holiday play. But the capacity of the entire system of golf courses is 3580 on any given week-end.

No doubt, more citizens, in the thousands, would register and play on week-

ends if facilities were sufficient. Many more would learn to play if courses were available. It has been conservatively estimated that the municipal system should include 20 more courses and that these should be augmented by public courses established and operated by the County of Los Angeles, whose present system includes five, and by some of the smaller municipalities.

LA's Building Plans

The City has under its jurisdiction lands which are suitable for development of five additional 18-hole courses and six modified 9-hole or 6-hole courses. The sites for four standard 18-hole courses are in the Sepulveda Dam Park, a 2000 acre area available to the city for park development by a 50 year license from the federal government.

The site for an additional 18-hole course is in a similar area, Hansen Dam Park. This site is presently occupied by a temporary veterans' housing project. Sites for the shorter courses are Wilmington, Venice, and Arroyo-Seco Park. Two of the 18-hole courses are now under development in the Sepulveda Dam Park; one of which should be completed toward the end of 1954. In addition, there is a good prospect of acquiring another 200 acre site, formerly allotted to the public housing program recently abandoned, where an 18-hole course might be added.

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WHERE WESTERN OPEN WILL BE PLAYED JUNE 3-6

The 18th green of the Kenwood CC, where the 51st Western Open will be played June 3-6. The club was host to the National Amateur in 1933. Supt. Marion Mendenhall is grooming the course to perfection for the Western, and in the cheerful clubhouse Mgr. George Miller will present smooth tournament service. Bill Hook, club pro, rounds out the operating team to take care of Western contestants and gallery.