



The 5600 sq. ft. second green of the new Sullivan (Ill.) CC course flanked with large sand traps will give some of the boys trouble. New clubhouse is beyond trap at the left.

## Small Town Uses 3-step Plan to Build Debt Free Club

By JAMES McLAUGHLIN

**A**S OF March 1, 1950 the Sullivan Country Club had 36 members, 40 acres of land, 9 sand greens and a club house that was later sold for \$250.00.

Our new course was officially opened June 5th of this year. We have 250 members, 83½ acres of land, a 9-hole course of near-championship caliber, and a new, completely equipped club house. The total cost of the improvements was \$120,000. To put over a project of this size in a small town—3,600 population—required a lot of work and effort on the part of several members. However, in retrospect, the success of the club has been due to the program and policy adopted by the first Board of Directors. The three-stage program included:

1. The acquisition of additional land and plans for the new course.
2. Construction of a new club house.
3. Construction of a new course.

The policy adopted was that of completing each phase of the program in the order indicated and to secure professional

assistance in every phase of the work.

It was unanimously agreed that a competent golf course architect should be retained and we secured the services of Robert Bruce Harris of Chicago. He advised us concerning the land we should buy and laid out and designed our course, furnishing complete plans for all phases of the construction. We know that his suggestions and advice saved us initially from several serious mistakes. The course, as he designed it, could hardly be improved on, either as to layout or as to maintenance. The investment made to secure his services was one of the wisest moves we made.

A drive was immediately started for new members and for contributions. A reasonable membership fee was established and the members were solicited to make outright contributions to the club. Some members were unable to make any contributions. Others contributed from \$25.00 to \$7,500.00 Irrespective of the amount contributed, all of the mem-



"Chuck" Maddox (R), contractor who built the new Sullivan course is presented with first ball hit in opening day ceremonies by club president F. W. "Bo" Wood.

bers had the same rights and privileges.

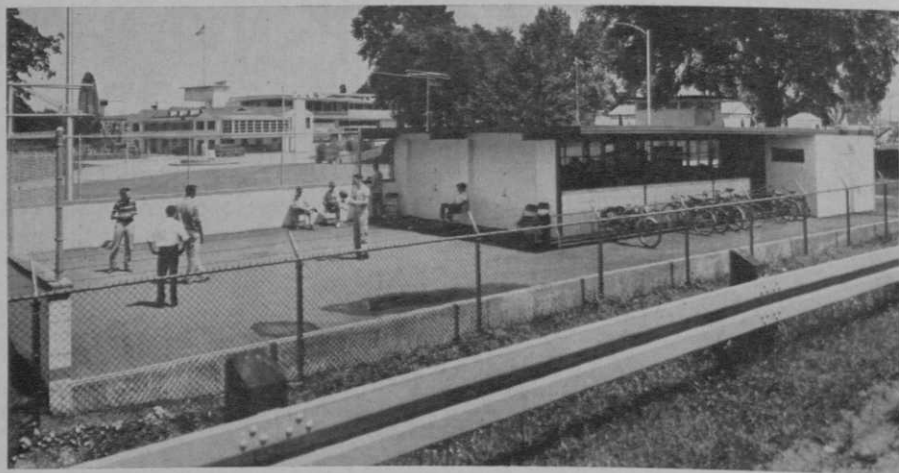
By June, 1953, we had purchased the new land—secured plans for our course and built and furnished our new club house entirely debt free.

The fall we started a new drive for

funds to build our new course and entered into a construction contract with Chuck Maddox of Rankin, Ill. In this respect we were extremely fortunate for Chuck has made a specialty of building golf courses. Except for minor changes, the architect's plans were followed to the letter, and as a result, we have a well designed course built with exceptional care.

The course was built in the summer and fall of 1954. We were so pleased with Chuck's work that the club held a special dinner in his honor. He is our number one life member, and was given the honor of hitting the first ball at the opening day ceremony.

Our program is completed. The social members are more than pleased with the year-around activities offered. The golfing members are extremely proud of a course which potentially can be one of the finest nine-hole courses in the country. The average cost per member was approximately \$500, a comparatively small investment, in view of the prospect we have for a lifetime of fun, playing golf.



### CLUBHOUSE FOR CADDIES AT TAM O'SHANTER

This \$22,500 building at Tam O'Shanter CC (Chicago dist.) is a modern version of the old caddy shelter. It's virtually a clubhouse for the boys. It has a dining area, commissary, television, radio, basketball court, bicycle racks and telephones.

Caddie awards for work during the season are distributed at the annual party put on by George S. and Alice May. The Mays have matched the Tam members' contributions to the Chick Evans Caddy Scholarship Fund of the Western Golf Assn., with \$29,085, making a total from the club of \$58,170. Eleven of the Tam caddies have won Evans scholarships. May's interest in caddies is further exhibited by a fee of \$1000 to the lad who caddies for the winner in the Tam World's championship tournament.