

## Seattle Gives Coin-in-Slot Starter System A Tryout

By VERNE WICKHAM

Now, it has appeared again in the form of a coin-in-the-slot starter.

On the first tee of the short nine at Jackson Park Municipal GC in Seattle, Wash., there's a device that looks for all the world like a coin-operated parking meter — only it kicks out a combination golf ticket and score card!

The first tee of the recently opened Par-3 course at Jackson Park is rather far



Pat Lesser, Seattle's famed amateur star, inserts "green fee" in golf meter at Jackson Park Par-3.

removed from the first tee and pro shop of the standard 18. Seattle Park Board officials were faced with a problem of whether to build a new starter house for the Par-3 or sell tickets at the pro shop and let the golfer shift for himself. They solved the problem by installing the coin-operated starter at the first tee of the new nine. The golfer inserts 50 cents and out comes a numbered ticket. The score card is on the back.

The mechanical starter is about 10x14x6-ins. and is serviced by a concessionaire on a rental basis. The machine is loaded with scorecards in the morning and emptied in the evening. It was installed in May, 1956, and so far has collected green fees from more than 7000 golfers. There has been no vandalism and a few golfers, who didn't know how the machine worked, left their fees on the top of the box. The green fee rate and instructions are posted on a sign above the machine.

The golfers are more or less on the honor system as to rights on the tee. The ground crew checks tickets during the day. When the ground crew leaves, rangers from the big course occasionally check the Par-3 to see that all is in order.

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