



Even though a golf course is going in at Grand Marais, the site has lost little of its breath-taking, primitive look.

Golf Goes Up The Mountain at Grand Marais

By BILL SHERMAN

Golf is coming to Grand Marais, a little town that hugs the northern shore of Lake Superior, 40 miles inside the Ontario border and 110 miles northeast of Duluth. Looming big on its horizon is Sawtooth Mountain, the big hill that identifies and bears the name of the new 9-hole course.

A course on a mountain top covered by acres of trees seemed pretty far-fetched back in 1952. Up here, opening day ceremonies differed from the clunk of a shovelfull of dirt; it was the thud of an axe and flying chips of bark.

Starting any kind of summer activity in this part of the country is pretty well scheduled for sometime in June as the sun doesn't heat-treat the snow until at least late May. There's been snow recorded in every month of the year up here, but natives will swear that the months of June through September are the best to be found anywhere.

While golf is a newcomer to Grand Marais, sports and recreation aren't. This fact is well attested to by the streams of automobiles that prowl the highways of the north shore searching for the breeze, the woods, water and beauty that's to



be found everywhere. State parks sprawl over 75 per cent of the area.

The course site is ideal. Sawtooth Mountain has a plateau on its backside that joins the crest of many ski slopes that run down toward the lake. The modest clubhouse was built just where the slopes meet the plateau, so the building serves as lounge, golf shop and chalet in a season's time.

The course was designed by Pro Harold Clausen and Supt. Art Aspland of Duluth's Northland Country Club. Both Clausen and Aspland have since died; Clausen in the triple drowning that claimed the lives of two other golf professionals a few years ago.

In its native state the course was nothing but virgin timber. When it's finished, golfers may see the beauty of Lake Superior from almost any vantage point through the green, but there's no telling what they'll see if they follow a stray, white pellet into those nearby woods!

Loren Leng, general mgr. of the local Chamber of Commerce, is the chmn. of the golf course committee which has done all the work. Leng, a theater owner by



Jack Fox (2nd from right) was recently honored at a luncheon by a group of veteran New Jersey pros upon his retirement from the game after 50 years of notable service. Jack was at Glen Ridge CC when he decided that he had given his last lesson and made his last pro shop sale. Shortly after this, he and Mrs. Fox departed for a three month vacation in the British Isle where, among other things, he'll visit his birthplace in Scotland. With Jack in the photo are from l to r: Jim Barnes, Jack Jolly, All Randall, Jim Taylor, Jack Semple and Tommy Harmon. Bud Geoghegan, pro at Crestmont CC took this picture.

nite, has turned golf promoter by day. His committee has waged a tireless campaign to raise funds and get labor to finish the job. Cash raised has exceeded \$12,000.00 and the man-hour value demanded in cutting, hauling and salvaging timber has run to many times that figure.

"This course will do a lot for Grand Marais", says Leng. "Summer tourists come into town in droves. We have a nice place for them with plenty to offer — camping, boating, swimming, fishing, picnicking — just about everything. The only big item we don't have is golf, but we're going to have that, too."

Getting the course finished probably will call for another \$21,000.00. This will involve completely clearing the fairways and seeding, building greens and installing a watering system.

"We're taking a long time to build this course," says Leng. "we want it done right. We've spent more than \$12,000.00 and used a lot of labor, but we don't owe any money. Gifts from merchants and townspeople have been made voluntarily with no strings attached. We have no obligations other than to do our darndest to get this course finished and running. That's what we're going to do!"

Lancaster Superintendent Tells of Water Application During 1957 Drought

Speaking at the recent Penn State Turfgrass Conference, William F. Mellon, supt. at Lancaster (Pa.) CC, gave an interesting talk on how he and his staff went about saving the turf and what it cost at his club during last summer's

severe drought.

As Mellon pointed out it was fortunate that the original pump with 325 gpm capacity was replaced in the spring of 1957 by a 640 gpm unit. From May through September, rainfall deficiency in the Lancaster area was about 12 ins. To compensate for this, 23 ins. of water were applied to Lancaster CC fairways during this period.

Two young men were employed to handle the watering job. They worked seven hours per night, six nights a week. Amounts of water supplied to each fairway varied greatly. For example, No. 3, located on top of a hill, got a total of 2-ins. while No. 7, located adjacent to a creek, received only 3/4-ins. In July, 9-ins. of water were applied and in August, a total of 6-ins. In June, application amounted to 4-ins. and in May and Sept., 2-ins.

The Lancaster pump was operated for 970 hours. Seventy-five per cent of this time was for fairway irrigation. About one-fourth of the 23 ins. applied to fairways went over into the rough. Greens and tees received the remainder plus many hours of hand watering. Altogether, 35,000,000 gals. of water were consumed from May through September.

Mellon estimated that the cost of operating the pump was \$2,500, an average of 7½ cents per 1,000 gals. A further breakdown of equipment maintenance plus labor showed that it cost the Lancaster club \$150 to apply one inch of water to the fairways. Four of the fairways are watered by hose and on the other 14 there is a total of 84 sprinkler outlets, each of which covers about one-half acre.