



Joe Dahlman's pro shop at Mohawk is well stocked, cheerful place designed for handling large volume of players.

Public Course Clubhouse

There are some shortcomings in the facilities at Mohawk in Tulsa, but overall excellence of the clubhouse is typical of the great advance made in municipal golf surroundings in the last 15 years or so . . .

By HERB GRAFFIS

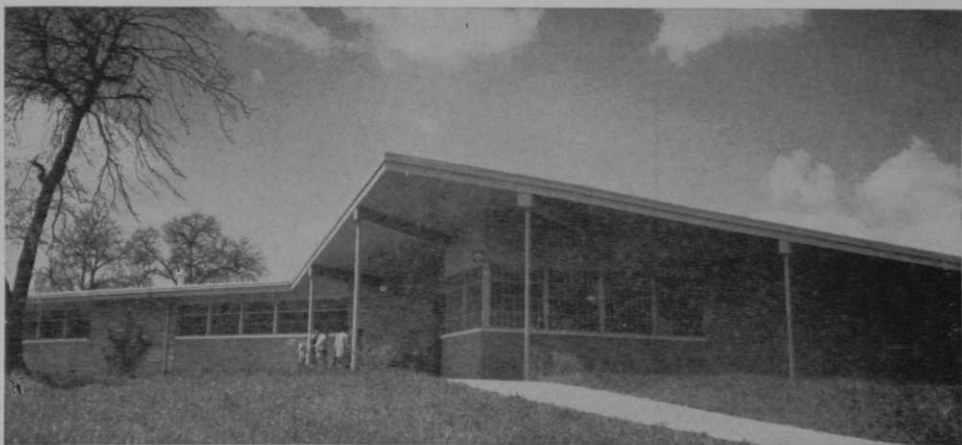
EXPERIENCED park and recreation officials will tell you off the record that operating a zoo can be much easier than running a public golf course. These authorities don't make that statement out loud because public course golfers are taxpayers and voters.

Public course golfers also are quite assertive and are getting to be as demanding as private club members. The officials realize this and have become expert in providing most of the right answers. Improvement in public golf facilities, as compared with their extent and character of 15 years ago, is almost incredible. Possibly no other municipal service has exhibited the progress, improved standards of operation and sound financial showing of public golf.

In making this advance, astute authorities in charge of municipal golf have revolutionized the public clubhouse. No longer is it a simple structure containing the elemental, acceptable utilities.

Low Cost Comfort

This phase of public golf improvement has involved many perplexing problems. The public clubhouse must have a great deal of what the private club offers its members in facilities. Yet, such accommodations obviously can't be extensive and fancy and call for undue operating and



Interior of Mohawk clubhouse was being completed when photo was taken. Walk leads from parking lot.

maintenance expense.

A practical and satisfying compromise in accommodations is provided at the new clubhouse of the Mohawk Golf Club, Tulsa, Okla., public course. At \$125,000 for building and fixtures, the clubhouse shows thrifty municipal planning and management. Municipal officials and the architect relied considerably on the advice of Joe Dahlman, veteran professional at Mohawk, in constructing and operating the clubhouse. Joe has been in Tulsa golf for many years and knows golfers, their desires and ways, and the golf business of the city.

His pro shop is roomy and light. Although not as fancy as some shops at private clubs where there is less play than there is at Mohawk, the shop is very useful and pleasant.

Protecting The Shop

Notice the windows in the photo of the shop at Mohawk. Dahlman insisted on these being steel framed because his previous shops often were robbed via entry through broken windows. When Dahlman proposed the type of windows used in the Mohawk shop, critics said the windows would look like they were designed for a prison. However the windows are attractive and allow plenty of light and air to come through. Attempts have been made to saw through the window bars but there hasn't been a robbery in the year and a half that the shop has been occupied.

Bag cart space adjoins the shop. Service in supplying and storing the bag carts is convenient and rapid.

Mistakes have been discovered in the
(Continued on page 72)

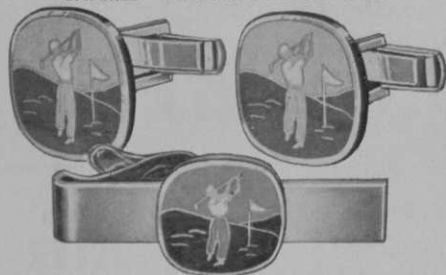


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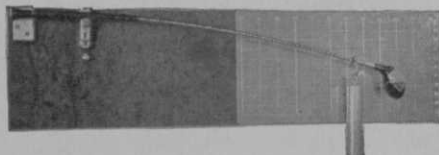
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1957-58, Southern supts. had to contend with the "big freeze" and courses were slow coming into shape. This year, abnormally dry weather has done considerable damage to turf.

In the Southwest, according to Goldthwaite's Texas Toro Co., budgets have inched up in the last two years and, while they probably are adequate, increased costs of labor and materials require that the supt. watch his appropriation quite closely. Labor, too, is slightly more efficient and plentiful, probably because wage rates are up a little over what they were two years ago and employees are getting better training. Weather conditions, says the Goldthwaite people, have been conducive to better courses than have been seen in the Southwest for some time. Rainfall has been adequate and usually timely and in mid-August most courses in that section were in peak condition, considering the season.

Public Course Clubhouse

(Continued from page 33)

Mohawk clubhouse since it has been in operation. That is the usual thing in new clubhouses. At Mohawk the lockerrooms and shops are too warm in the summer and too cold in the winter. The demand for air-conditioning in private and public clubhouses in the South and Southwest is giving builders new problems.

The kitchen area at Mohawk isn't adequate. Unexpected demand on cooking and freezer capacity, dishwashing machinery and bottle storage suddenly was revealed when the clubhouse was put into operation. Steak dinners are popular with Tulsa golfing organizations but the kitchen facilities are too limited for handling fairly large affairs where hungry golfers demand plenty of red meat.

However, the clubhouse shortcomings that have become evident are, to a large extent, the result of the contrast with general attractiveness of the surroundings and can be corrected by addition of more kitchen and storage space and better heating and air conditioning. Otherwise, the new Mohawk clubhouse is declared by the Tulsa golfers, who use the facilities, and by the clubhouse operating staff, to be pretty nearly perfect for their needs.

R.I.'s 28th Field Day

The 28th annual Turf Field Day staged by the University of Rhode Island will be held in Kingston, Sept. 17-18. Jesse A. DeFrance will direct it.