



An elk fence surrounds the 6,700 yard Banff Springs (Can.) Hotel course to keep nosey animals off the fairways and greens.

Romantic Elk Now Cavort Outside Fence at Banff

By OWEN GRIFFITH
Hartford (Conn.) Courant

Moonlighting and mating elk were causing more trouble at the Banff Springs Hotel golf course in Alberta than winter-kill until Supt. Casper McCullough convinced the owners that the layout should be fenced in.

The elk were inclined to descend from the mountain slopes and frolic on the greens, with the males fighting each other fiercely for the favors of the females, before McCullough said nay to this rough house romancing. While it went on, his greens were often plowed to look like potato fields.

For the most part, the fence has forced the elk to cavort farther up the slopes, but in times of low water they still manage to crawl underneath the barrier. The course is in a national park where killing of animals is forbidden.

Floods were once a big problem, with torrents of water flashing down from the nearby mountains. Now, hydro-electric dams high up the slopes reduce or eliminate this hazard.

Remodelled in 1927

The course, attached to the Canadian Pacific's Banff Springs Hotel, was remodelled in 1927. Architect Stanley Thompson persuaded McCullough, a graduate of Massachusetts Agricultural College, to

come west and help out on the job. The original nine holes were built during World War I for the National Park Dept. by German war prisoners. They translated yards to meters and confused even the long hitters.

Extensive remodelling was necessary. Trainloads of topsoil were carried more than 100 miles from Strathmore, Alta, to fill in fairways and greens. Mount Rundle was blasted out for a long stretch to widen the fairway on the par 5 seventh hole and to provide a green for picturesque No. 8.

A "Wonderful World of Golf" sequence between Stan Leonard and Jack Burke, Jr., was filmed at Banff Springs more than a year ago. Numerous snow flurries lengthened this match to nearly five days. As Malcolm Tapp, the home pro, says: "It may have been the longest 18 holes on record, but it turned out to be quite a show."

O'Brien: Don't Forget the One Man Gang Who Puts in 18 Hours Daily at the Small Club

Gene O'Brien, pro at Rolling Hills CC, Wichita, Kans., calls attention to the man at the small club who serves as pro, manager, supt., head waiter, cook and bartender and then stays on after midnight to perform the janitorial rites.

"At least one week of the year should be set aside for paying him homage," says Gene.

O'Brien says that he has visited quite a few clubs where one man, sometimes assisted by his wife, runs the entire show from the dishwashing machine to the bag racks. He usually has 18 hours-a-day-durability and the surprising thing is that he keeps about 99.6 per cent of the membership quite happy.

Imagine, Gene continues, that you belonged to a club where a one man gang was operating. Here's what you'd have to expect:

"I would like to take a lesson."

"Sorry, the pro is tending bar."

"Could I have a ham on rye?"

"Sorry, the cook is mowing greens."

"Could I please see the manager?"

"Sorry, he's cleaning the swimming pool."

"Can I get a drink?"

"Sorry, the bartender is giving a lesson."

"May I see the supt.?"

"Sorry, he's waiting on table at a ladies' luncheon."