

Pound's figures, \$9,300,000 in revenue was produced by County courses against expenditures of \$7,000,000. The difference has been applied to debt retirement of the courses, with the result that only a balance of \$600,000 remains.

The New York commissioner added that in recent years the county's five courses have been 96 per cent self sufficient from a revenue-expense standpoint and in 1962, they netted \$60,000 after expenses. That represented what would amount to a four per cent profit. Furthermore, a survey of 96 U.S. municipal courses, made two years ago by Westchester officials, showed that between 50 and 60 per cent of the public courses support themselves at no expense to taxpayers.

Pound, who elicited more questions from the audience than any of the other speakers, said that Westchester shop concessions are leased to PGA professionals on a five-year basis. They are charged two cents per round for these and whatever margin accrues after the assessment is paid, is kept by the pros. Restaurant concessions also are handled on a contract basis. To handle the 300 weekday and 400 to 500 weekend rounds at each of the five county courses, Pound said that absolutely no deviations are permitted in reservation taking and assignment. To keep traffic moving smoothly at all courses, foursomes are sent out every seven and one-half minutes.

#### Constant Renovation

"A municipal golf department," said Dick Sincerbeau of Flint, Mich., "can never stand pat on either the design of its courses or their maintenance. Improvements in both that come either through the suggestions of patrons or from surveys conducted by department officials and employees are made nearly every year in Flint."

In the last two or three years, Flint courses have undergone extensive renovations. Designs of numerous tees and greens have been improved by large scale sloping. Pads around tees and greens and car paths have been added. The material used in making these installations, a hot oil aggregate with a high bituminous concentrate, Sincerbeau noted, has held up exceptionally well. Footbridges at all the city's courses have been revamped with lumber from blighted elms that have been cut down, used for decking. (An article on the operation of Flint municipal

## The Longest Day

Charles E. Pound's remark that 687 rounds of golf were played at a Westchester County course in one day in 1930 was accepted with a good deal of skepticism by persons who attended the public course seminar. Those in the audience who took the time to do some computing said it would be impossible to get that many players over a course in 16, 17 or 18 hours of daylight, even allowing for foursomes to start at six-minute intervals.

Pound explained that the information he had was somewhat sketchy since it is 34 years old. He did know that the alleged record was set on a mid-June day, but whether 9-hole rounds were included in the total, wasn't stated. Somebody in the audience suggested that perhaps the Westchester County statistician of those days was including miniature rounds in his figures. This person was reminded that miniature golf wasn't in existence in 1930. (Or was it?)

Everyone in the audience breathed a little easier when Pound said that Westchester's later record of 488 rounds at one course in one day in 1959 was a bona fide one. For a difference of 199 rounds, nobody was going to argue.

courses appears elsewhere in this issue).

#### Contract with Pro

In discussing what the professional and the owner or operator of a semi-private or public course should agree on in a contract between the two parties, Max Elbin, the Burning Tree professional, said that both sides should be in a concession-making mood when the document is drawn up, and then be willing to live up 100 per cent to the responsibilities they have undertaken. A sectional PGA representative, said Elbin, often is called in to assist or advise on contracts and he makes every effort to protect the interest of both parties.

"Experience has taught us," said Elbin, "that an agreement that is tipped too much in the favor of one party isn't a good contract. It invariably leads to bickering between the persons involved and in the long run costs both sides money. A PGA pro expects to make a living wage and to share in the customary fringe bene-

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