



This view of Kebo Valley's putting course shows the three levels of the 31,500 sq. ft. 18-hole putting surface.

Putting Course Tournaments Show Profit

AT swanky Bar Harbor, Me., there is an 18 hole putting course on three elevations that has been the venue of putting competition for almost 40 years. The season revenue of the putting course from mid-June to the first week in September is between \$400 and \$500 which is more than enough to care for maintenance and prize expense. Entry fee in the tournaments is 50c.

The putting course is one of the features of the famed Kebo Valley GC. The average entry in the weekly tournaments is about 100 in the women's singles, men's singles and mixed foursomes. Members of some of America's most famous families participate. In addition to being a sports event the weekly putting competition has become a ritzy sports style show with the

younger and middle-aged society women showing what society's sure-enough leaders wear as country club garb.

Kebo Valley's putting course originally was 9 holes built on two levels. It was constructed in 1903. Another 9 holes on a different level were built in 1927.

Total area of the putting course is 31,500 sq. ft. Length of the 18 holes is about 890 feet. There is enough putting area for 22 holes, the extra 4 holes being used for rotation and change-over.

Shirley Liscomb, Kebo Valley's pro, has been handling the scoresheets and entry money ever since he came to the club in 1906, and has not missed a session. The events are held each Monday afternoon, beginning at 3:30.

As another oft-mentioned feature, Kebo Valley has its beautiful 15th hole, tee of which is shown in this view. The No. 5 green is on the right.





Bag carriers have become so popular at some courses that 'garages' have been built to house them. This one's at the Sportsman's course in the Chicago district.

Carts For Caddie Shortage

By JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN

"CADDIES are scarce." "Caddies are small." "Caddies are untrained." "Caddies are arrogant, which is natural when their services are in demand." "They insist on carrying double or won't work." Many golf clubs over the country report caddie problems similar to the above.

Caddie prospects for the immediate future do not look too bright, with more boys going into the army and defense industries.

There are 70 days in the spring and 60 to 70 days in the fall where there is a caddie shortage. There are only 80 days (during school vacation) when the club gets by without trouble.

How long will members of private clubs continue to support a club where they cannot play unless they carry their own clubs? For the first time members have found out that their big leather bags packed with clubs, balls, etc., are really heavy. On ladies' day, with no caddies around, will women continue to support a club that does not serve them? There will be other activities less trying on the nerves and clothes that will hurt golf if something is not done quickly.

Several of the private clubs in desperation have installed a number of Kaddie Karts and have been surprised to discover that their members welcomed them whole-heartily. Often a concern of the private club is that if the members take to them with too great enthusiasm it will

discourage use of caddies. Elmhurst CC in Chicago, however, solved this by purchasing a fleet of 40 of these carts. In renting these to the members at 50c a round they found that the member would prefer a caddie for the difference in fee. At the same time it offered a very satisfactory substitute when there were no caddies available, and enough members used the carts to relieve the shortage. Many days this fall at Elmhurst every cart was in use, and the women at the club are their greatest booster.

Following Elmhurst came Midlothian, Flossmoor, Old Elm, and many more 'best' clubs of the Chicago district—fully 40% have been equipped at the present time. One club will not allow a small caddie to go out without a cart. It is furnished by the club and the member is charged a small fee for its use, which is credited to the purchase fund. This club finds that by this method they can use many smaller boys who otherwise would be ruled out because of their size.

But club members are finding out that sometimes even small caddies are not available—except on weekends. Schools that formerly were willing to accommodate near-by golf clubs have had so many calls for releasing boys from school for caddying purposes that they are now refusing to do this. Bag carts, for those clubs, would solve their problem speedily—and efficiently.

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"Winter Greens" Seeding Methods

By O. J. NOER

LAST fall was a bad one for seedings of winter greens in the far South. More or less trouble was universal. In aggravated cases several re-seedings were necessary. Instead of blaming prevailing weather during the germination and young seedling stage, some greenkeepers questioned and blamed seeding methods.

When weather is unseasonably warm and accompanied by copious rainfall at seeding time, more or less trouble is inevitable. Difficulties multiply on poorly drained low-lying courses, and are usually less on the high-lying better drained ones. While some trouble is inevitable during adverse seasons, damage can be minimized and disaster avoided by emphasizing practices which produce stiffer stems and leaves.

In the far South the seedling stage is the critical one. That is the period when all grasses are prone to be soft and tender. Rye grass is one of the worst offenders in this respect. Succulent seedlings fall easy prey to "damping-off" and related diseases. They strike with devastating effect when moisture is plentiful and weather is warm.

Many greenkeepers in south Florida sow rye grass at 20 to 40 lbs. per 1,000 sq. ft. the first time and plan to seed again after the initial seeding is well started. This is sound practice for them. The lighter initial seeding minimizes loss from smothering and lessens the "damping-off" hazard. As the season advances into winter, temperatures moderate so there is less likelihood of trouble with the succeeding seeding. Nitrogen supply is another important factor there, and will be discussed under the general topic of pre-seeding fertilization.

Seed Heavy First Time

Farther north the problem is quite different. A satisfactory turf must be obtained while soil and air temperatures are moderate. Later on soil becomes too cold to permit germination. Hence a thin initial stand stays sparse until warmer weather in late winter and early spring. So general practice is to seed heavily the first time. Some use 75 lbs. rye grass seed per 1,000 sq. ft. Very little trouble is experienced because equitable weather prevails at seeding

time. Once rye grass becomes well established, it stays green and survives relatively cold weather. That is why it is the safest grass to use along the northern fringe of the Bermuda belt.

Good Base Is Necessary

The necessity for a good Bermuda base is generally conceded. Without its support winter grass cannot withstand the wear of continuous play. Before seeding, the Bermuda should be mowed close and thinned-out, if need be. Even drastic renovation is in order if Bermuda is stemmy and heavily matted. That involves alternate cross-raking and mowing until surplus is removed. Seed germinates, but cannot strike root in a thick mass of dead stems and leaves. Unless surplus is removed, seedlings appear and then die in spots of varying size. Some blame fungus diseases, instead of the actual cause.

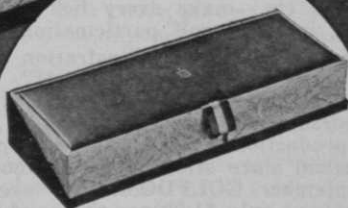
After close cutting or renovation, it is customary to topdress greens quite heavily, then fertilize and seed. A common mistake is to use a topdressing of high organic matter content. Such soil traps water. In the far South this trapped water favors "damping-off" and other related troubles. Farther north it accentuates heaving damage from frost, locally referred to as "honeycombing." An infertile medium sandy loam of low organic matter content is the best topdressing material for pre-seeding use.

Although opinions differ regarding best fertilizer practice, the principal difference relates to nitrogen usage. Agreement regarding need for phosphoric acid and potash is universal. The phosphoric acid to speed root formation and development; and potash to stiffen leaves and stems. From 10 to 15 lbs. 20% grade superphosphate and 5 to 7 lbs. 50 or 60% grade muriate of potash per 1,000 sq. ft. are not too much. They should be applied several days before seeding, if possible.

Nitrogen is needed to promote vegetative growth. But when used in excess it tends to produce thin cell walls and thereby make tissues soft and succulent, so they are more susceptible to "damping-off" and other diseases. Consequently, in the far South it may be wise to withhold

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nitrogen until after the seedling is well established. Rye grass seed is comparatively large so it possesses enough stored nitrogen to carry the plant through the seedling stage. Since quick growth right at the start is important farther north, nitrogen is needed before seeding. Soluble materials should be used sparingly to prevent injury to seedlings, but organics can be used more generously. They will yield nitrogen as needed to establish the plant. After that, during cooler weather soluble sources can be used when grass shows need for more.

Plentiful moisture is the other principal cause of succulence in plants. That means careful watering during the germination and seedling stage. The important thing is to avoid over-watering, but to keep the shallow surface layer damp. On hot or windy days that may mean light watering by hand three or four times.

Some greenkeepers prefer a mixture of Kentucky blue and rye grass. A stand of both cannot be obtained by seeding a mixture of the two. The rye grass germinates quickly and smothers the bluegrass before it can start. In order to obtain a satisfactory stand of both, the bluegrass should be seeded first, and the rye grass after it is up.

There is no apparent good reason why Seaside or Astoria bent should not make good greens for winter play. Since 3 to 5 lbs. seed per 1,000 sq. ft. is enough, they compare favorably from the standpoint of cost. Disappointment in the past may have been caused by imbedding seed too deep, and failure to furnish enough phosphate. In future trials, greens should be rolled after topdressing to make a firm surface. Then fertilize, rough surface with a fine rake, seed, and roll again. These bents will not equal rye grass in the cooler parts of the South. Rye grass continues growth at temperatures which are too low for bent.

1500 'Member' Photos—"Gone but not forgotten"—that's the story out at Mission Hills Golf Club in the Chicago District, where Charlie Nash is the managing director. Charlie has been keeping his camera right handy the last three or four years, and has 'snapped' those golfers who have been playing more or less regularly at his course. Now framed photos of more than 1,500 of these golfers adorn the walls in the club lounge and pro-shop, and the bar and grille room. Charlie has done all the camera work himself.



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Build New Caddie Houses

Two new caddie houses to provide shelter and leisure facilities for more than 500 caddies

ATENTION focused on the caddie problem in recent years has done much to solve what for many clubs has been one of their major problems. Caddie houses and shelters, caddie recreational areas, and 'special event days' for caddies at their clubs are common in most areas. Two recent caddie house installations are those at Chicago's Tam O'Shanter CC, where a deluxe, \$6,000 structure has just been completed, and at the City Park course in New Orleans.

Tam O'Shanter's new caddie headquarters is a spacious steel and concrete building 64 ft. long by 35 ft. wide. The roomy interior will be entirely free of posts or partitions so as to provide ample space for the leisure-time activities of the more than 200 caddies on the club's regular roster. Conveniently located just west of the first tee, the building has been painted white with a green roof to harmonize with the color scheme of the main clubhouse.

The interior is to be equipped with two table tennis sets, tables painted for checkers and chess and a variety of other equipment for indoor games. Just outside the caddie house, the club is constructing horse shoe pitching courts, a basketball court, a softball diamond and a golf practice range for the exclusive use of the boys. The house was financed by money raised through a series of club parties and has

been constructed under the supervision of Ray Didier, Tam O'Shanter greenkeeper.

In announcing the completion of the caddie house, Club President George S. May said:

"Caddie welfare has always been an important consideration at Tam O'Shanter and with the completion of this new development we have provided our boys with what we believe to be the finest caddie headquarters in the Chicago district. In addition to the new facilities for leisure-time activity, the club will continue its regular program of caddie training classes under the supervision of Caddiemaster Johnny Chovanec as a means of insuring not only well trained caddies but a high morale as well. Regular workouts on the caddies' own practice golf range will be a part of these training classes in the future."

Adequate facilities for occupying the leisure time of the caddie was the chief consideration which went into the planning of the attractive new WPA-built caddie house at City Park, New Orleans, which now serves as a general caddie headquarters and recreation center. The WPA didn't stop, though, with the mere construction of the building. Steps were taken to provide sufficient recreation leaders to direct outdoor games such as shuffle board and horse shoe pitching, and inside ac-



Photo of Tam O'Shanter caddie house, taken shortly before completion of the structure. The completed building is finished in white, with green roof, to match the main clubhouse.

While not so large as Tam O'Shanter's, the WPA built City Park (New Orleans) caddie house is well equipped to keep 300 caddies occupied during their leisure time.



tivities like Chinese checkers and constructive reading.

Constructed of brick, the caddie house consists of one large room, approximately 24 by 46 feet, overlooking the beautiful 18-hole golf course. It accommodates 300 boys and is equipped with a sound system for the starter's and cashier's desks so that the caddiemaster can be notified, without loss of time, which caddies are needed. An important feature of the caddie house is the large open fireplace where the caddie can warm himself and dry his clothes in inclement weather. A nine-hole putting green was built alongside the building.

Checker boards, sports reviews and magazines are available to the boys. Should any caddie feel the urge to whittle he is immediately discouraged by the fact that the benches and tables are constructed of stone. A bulletin board is also maintained to keep the caddies up-to-date on golfing events throughout the country, and to post important notices.

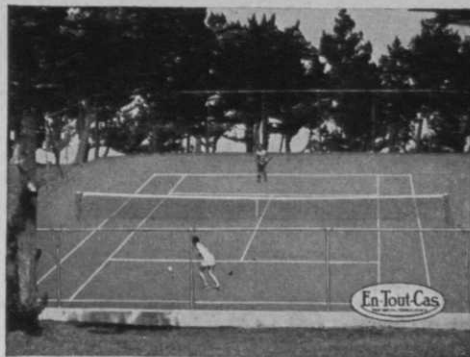
Robbers Slay Mrs. Fred Miley and Daughter, Marion

MRS. FRED MILEY, wife of the veteran pro, and daughter, Marion, nationally famous golfer, were shot by two masked robbers in the Lexington (Ky.) CC on the night of Sept. 27. Mrs. Miley, who was shot three times, lived two days before succumbing and was able to give police a meager description of the robbers; Marion, shot in the head and back, died en route to the hospital.

There had been a dance at the club. About 1:30 a.m., after the last member had left, Mrs. Miley and her daughter retired in separate rooms. They were alone in the building. Between 3:30 and 4:30, according to the police, Mrs. Miley was awakened by the robbers. The sound of the shots at Mrs. Miley or her screams wakened Marion, who rushed into the room and was herself shot.

Total loot was \$145. The murderers had taken the precaution to cut the phone wires to the club. This forced Mrs. Miley, though gravely wounded, to crawl several hundred yards to summon aid.

Fifteen days later, on Oct. 12, police of Fort Worth, Tex., picked up for questioning an ex-convict named Thomas Penney, 32. He confessed the Miley murders, naming Robert Anderson, 36, also an ex-convict, as his companion. Trial of the two men is scheduled for the near future.



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What To Do About the Weather

By DR. E. R. BIEL *

EVERYONE of us, and particularly the men in the golf business and the golfers themselves, is dependent upon the weather's vagaries. Thus, a brief summary of recent and important changes in the methods of weather forecasting and some remarks on climatic research may be of interest.

The first 50 years of official weather forecasting (1870-1920) were dominated by the study of pressure distribution. Forecasters drew isobars, lines connecting places, which, at a given moment, experience the same weight of air. They analyzed the many types of isobars, classified them as "lows", "highs", "wedges", "saddles" etc., and ascribed certain types of weather to certain configurations of isobars.

Lows and Highs Explained

They stated that winds circulate counter-clockwise around Lows and clockwise around Highs, and that winds are the stronger the more crowded the isobars are. They found that Lows represent regions of convergence of air masses and of rising currents, which means the formation of clouds and precipitation. Highs are controlled by settling and diverging masses resulting in cloudlessness and aridity.

It was stated that the Lows or traveling disturbances use habitual paths on their ways eastward. European forecasters numbered these routes like highways. Lows "prefer" seashores and chains of great lakes and the most frequented storm path in this country runs along the Canadian frontier and across the Great Lakes toward Newfoundland.

Other storm routes tend toward the New England States which, thus, are the terminus of scores of disturbances before they start on their trans-Atlantic crossings.

Another important finding refers to the enormous speed of American disturbances, which with an average velocity of about 600 miles per day exceeds by far those encountered over other continents. Atmospheric conditions of certain regions

proved to be of particular importance for the North American weather development; the Iceland—and Aleutian Lows and the Azores—and Hawaiian Highs became famous "centers of action".

But all these descriptions of experiences did not yield satisfactory explanations for many phenomena nor did they steadily improve the verification record of forecasts. After the first world war the Norwegian professor Bjerknes suggested a complete change in viewpoints and his system of "air mass analysis" gradually replaced everywhere the old "geometry of isobars." The experiences of the old methods do not by any means lose their importance, but the modern conception of weather is that of clashes between air masses of different geographic origin and of different physical properties. They do not mix; along their sharp fronts disturbances are born and developing. Storms have their individual life history and experience all stages from youth to old age and death. The most important source regions of American air masses are the North Pacific, Canada, the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea.

Speed of Travel Important

If the time elapsed between the start from the source region and the arrival in the forecaster's district is short the mass will retain its original properties; if the travel is slow and complicated the mass will arrive in a more or less "neutralized" stage. Passage over oceans, high mountain systems and snow-covered plains basically modifies the original properties, but the forecaster is able to analyze the situation by means of upper air data because the "conservative qualities" are best retained aloft.

Modern weather maps are covered with symbols indicating position of air masses and of the belts of their approaches. Sudden weather changes occur along these frontal battlefields.

Polar Pacific masses dominate along the West Coast. They are carried toward the continent by the prevailing westerlies common to our latitudes; but the passage over the Rocky Mountains modifies them completely. Polar Canadian masses primarily control East America's winter.

*Extract from a lecture offered in "Short Course in Turf Management" at the College of Agriculture of Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N. J.