

6-Hole Course Shows Best Architectural Principals

By TOM SIMPSON*

DUE to the cost of labor and materials at the present time, there are comparatively few people who are prepared to face the cost of the upkeep of a 9-hole private course, let alone the cost of constructing such a course. Yet there probably are quite a number of people who would like to have a small course laid out on the lines described in these notes.

A while back I received a letter from a client at Liege for whom I laid out an 18-hole course some 15 years ago. He told me he had six business friends in an outlying settlement in the Congo, all keen golfers. What could I suggest for their entertainment? He added that there should not be more than three putting greens. That, coupled with the fact that there would never be more than six people playing at any one time, gave me a clue as to what to suggest.

The ground available was dead flat, and because of local conditions couldn't be undulated. So, I was obliged to rely more on bunkers than I like doing in the design of a golf course. Putting greens were to be sand greens.

For a short course of this description to make any lasting appeal it is essential that all six holes should embody, as far as possible, classic principles of golf course design.

What exactly are the Articles of Faith in this matter?

Should Provide Entertainment

I shall not myself make so bold as to lay down what those principles are. I shall quote the words of John Low who said axiomatically that a golf course should provide entertainment for every class of golfer, particularly the medium player and the long handicap man, who after all are mainstays of the game.

Low also said: The course should provide a searching and difficult test for the powerful player. A simple matter for the architect who knows his business, always provided the long handicap men attack

*Tom Simpson is one of England's leading golf architects.

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a hole on their line and not on that of the "Tiger."

The primary function of a bunker is not to punish a technical error in the execution of a shot, but to govern the play of the hole, and catch the scratch golfer's good shot which is not quite good enough. Such bunkers are out of reach for the less proficient. At one-shot holes of course all have to share and share alike.

Ground Dictates Play

The trick of the thing is to make the ground dictate the play.

The good architect will see to it that so far as the powerful player is concerned, he must keep well to the right or to the left, as the case may be, with his tee shot if he has to have any hope of reaching the green with second shot.

The center of the fairway, the shortest line to the green, should never be the correct line for the Tiger.

A moment's reflection will show that all the great two-shot holes of the world are thus designed.

Putting greens should be oriented as to be required to be approached to best advantage from the left or from the right of the fairway.

These are the Articles of the Faith to which a man must subscribe if he is to understand the meaning and intention of a golf course, and it is on these principles the holes on this short course have been planned.

Proposes Building More Golf Courses on Air Force Bases

By **LYLE P. (Bud) WERRING**

Professional, Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.

GOLF in the Air Force is a necessity — not a luxury.

That, I concede, borders on being a pronouncement, a bald statement, or whatever you might want to call it, but I'm reasonably sure I can cite enough facts to back it up.

Let's look at it this way:

This country depends upon air power to survive. Few deny the need for combat capability. In order for a pilot to live up to the standards and rigors of his job of preparing and remaining prepared to defend this country in an emergency, we

have an obligation to afford him relaxation and the opportunity to relieve the mental strain of tedious flying.

Are we living up to this obligation? Probably not. In the Strategic Air Command, for example, we have only four 18-hole courses in operation, five 9-hole courses under construction and three 9-hole courses being planned. These are inadequate just as golf playing facilities are inadequate in other commands.

Where there is an airfield, there should be a golf course—9, 18 or 27 holes, depending on the number of personnel, or, if nothing else, a driving range or putting green. Let's start building more of them! I wouldn't try to sell a golf course in preference to a \$3,000,000 airplane, but to get back to my original theme, we have to provide money for recreational activities if we are going to capitalize on huge expenditures for things such as planes.

Protecting Our Investment

While speaking of expenditures, let's consider the investment in the training of a pilot. It's somewhere in the neighborhood of \$50,000. We can't train him and then forget him. If we do, it's better that we had not made the original investment.

If we think that we are protecting our investment by providing only for his physical well being, we're only fooling ourselves. We have to keep him reasonably happy, mentally alert, combat-fit. The only way I know of doing this is to give him a chance to keep mentally and physically occupied when he's off duty.

Golf is as good a way of doing this as any I know. From what I have seen of Air Force courses, most of them have been built for about what it costs to train two pilots. That certainly is a reasonable price to pay when all the good a golf course does at an air base is considered. At Eglin, we have one of the finest layouts in the world, but what I often find myself wondering about is, how do pilots and other personnel at Podunk keep a sharp edge. There are those who say they can play football, baseball, basketball and other sports, but these people forget that injuries suffered in physical contact sports too often wipe out the big investments made in airmen as well as crewmen.

I contend that golf is the one sport which can keep a man in top shape without exposing him to broken legs or arms which may result in permanent impair-

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ment. The Air Force can't afford to take unnecessary chances with its highly trained personnel.

Through my association with Air Force men, I have tried to analyse the link that exists between golf and flying. If I were a pilot as well as a golfer, I could proceed with more confidence, but even though I'm only a golfer, I can see a surprising corollary between the two.

A professional's life is filled with hearing complaints of "could have, should have, bad bounce, etc." Hang around an air base long enough and you'll overhear pilots discussing similar or equivalent bad breaks that occur aloft. Poor equipment is blamed by both golfer and pilot for poor performance. Rarely do either admit to fouling up because of lack of instruction or failing to heed it.

Maybe I can explain myself better by making comparisons between green and runway. A common golfing complaint is, "Those greens don't hold a pitch shot." Mr. Golfer would be the last to admit that paying closer attention to the pro when he took his last lesson might have taught him the trick of bringing the ball up short. Without trying to put his training to use he's in the same boat as the jet jockey

who overshoots the runway, and if he lives to tell about it, offers all kinds of alibis except the right one — he didn't allow for one of the many conditions drummed into his head by the instructor when they were practising landings.

Other Corollaries

There are many other corollaries between golfing and flying. Both demand ability, but more important, a large amount of time devoted to instruction and practice. If they are to be mastered. Overwhelming physical power is not a requirement of either, but neither golfer nor airman can be lacking in judgment, coordination and stamina if he expects to excel. Concentration is another factor common to both. So are good reflexes and determination.

For the most part I have talked about the need of golf among flying personnel. I haven't meant to slight the non-flying people since the need for golfing facilities for them is just as great. The Defense Department as well as some Congressmen have long bemoaned the low rate of reenlistments in the Air Force. If golf courses at Air bases can help correct this situation, and I believe they can, then here is at least a partial answer to the Air Force man-

Tournament Dates MEN'S EVENTS

April

- 4-7 Masters, Augusta, Ga.
11-14 Greater Greensboro (N. C.) Open, Sedgfield CC
18-21 Tournament of Champions, Desert Inn CC, Las Vegas Nev.
22-27 North-South Amateur, Pinehurst (N. C.) CC
24-28 Derby Open, Seneca GC, Louisville, Ky.
24-27 Seniors Grand Master, Pine Needles CC, Southern Pines, N. C.

May

- 1-5 Colonial Open, Ft. Worth, Tex.
7-11 Southern Amateur, Memphis (Tenn.) CC
9-12 Arlington Hotel Open, Hot Springs, Ark.
16-19 Greenbrier Open, White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.

June 3

- 7-9 Tournament of Champions (amateur), Sunnehanna CC, Johnstown, Pa.
13-15 USGA Open, Inverness Club, Toledo, O.
17-22 Southern Amateur, La Gorce CC, Miami Beach, Fla.
17-23 Trans-Mississippi, Brook Hollow GC, Dallas, Tex.
19-20 Western Seniors, Belle Meade CC, Nashville, Tenn.
20-23 Carlings Open, Flint (Mich.) CC
27-30 Western Open, Plum Hollow GC, Detroit

July

- 17-21 USGA Junior Amateur, Manor CC, Washington, D. C.
17-21 PGA Championship, Miami Valley CC, Dayton, O.
25-28 Eastern Open, Mt. Pleasant GC, Baltimore
29-Aug. 3 USGA Public Links

August

- 1-4 All American, Tam O'Shanter CC, Niles, Ill.
8-11 World's, Tam O'Shanter CC, Niles, Ill.
15-18 St. Paul Open, Keller GC
22-25 Miller Open, Tripoli CC, Milwaukee
30-31 Walker Cup, Minikahada Club, Minneapolis
30-Sept. 2 Insurance City Open, Weatherfield (Conn.) CC

September

- 9-14 USGA Amateur, The Country Club, Brookline, Mass.
13-16 Dallas Open, Riverlake GC
19-22 Okla. City Open, Twin Hills G&CC
24-26 Metropolitan Open, Plainfield (N. J.) CC
30-Oct. 5 USGA Seniors Amateur, Ridgewood (N. J.) CC

WOMEN'S EVENTS

April

- 4-7 Amarillo Open (tentative) Club to be announced
11-14 Dallas Open, Glen Lakes CC
18-21 Babe Zaharias Open, Beaumont, Tex.
25-28 Western Open, Montgomery (Ala.) CC

May

- 23-26 Land of Sky Open, CC of Asheville, N. C.
29-June 2 Triangle Round Robin, Cavalier Y & CC, Virginia Beach, Va.

June

- 6-9 LPGA Championship, Churchill Valley CC, Pittsburgh
27-29 USGA Womens Open, Winged Foot GC, Mamaroneck, N. Y.

July

- 4-7 Milwaukee Open
11-14 Flourtown, Pa. Open
18-21 Homestead Four-Ball, Virginia Hot Springs, Va.
25-28 Wolverine Open, Lochmoor CC, Detroit

power problem.

Some of the larger corporations, moving to smaller communities, are building their own courses in order to attract and hold desirable young executives and workers who, with their families, insist on adequate recreational facilities. The Air Force would show great foresight in taking a page from the book of these industrialists by building golf courses on air bases throughout the world.

This article has been condensed from a speech by Bud Werring to Special Service officers of the Strategic Air Command at a conference last fall.

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Mosel Case Emphasizes Need for Pros' Clarifying Doubtful PGA Status

In view of a mixup involving the PGA status of Stan Mosel, pro at Essex Fells (N. J.) CC, which recently came to light, any pro who has any doubts as to his PGA membership standing should take immediate steps to clarify it. It could happen to anyone, particularly an assistant applying for a PGA card while in the process of changing jobs.

Late in February, Mosel requested PGA headquarters to forward his membership card to his winter home in San Antonio only to be informed that he had never been a PGA member. This is the gist of what caused the mixup:

Mosel turned professional in April, 1955, to become assistant to Jack Fox, a Class A member of the PGA, at the Glen Ridge (N. J.) CC. At the conclusion of the 1955 playing season, Mosel accepted a job as assistant to Jim Toomey at Essex Fells. At about the same time he applied for Class H membership. The New Jersey section okayed the application and forwarded it to the national office.

Succeeds Toomey

Stan continued as Toomey's assistant until late in the 1956 season when he succeeded Jim as Essex Fells head pro.

Somewhere along the line the National PGA turned down Mosel's application, but officials of the New Jersey section were not aware of this. They accordingly permitted Stan to play in the state PGA championship last July and in the pro four-ball tournament the following month.

Local PGA officials had approved Mosel's application, they said, because they felt he was eligible for Class H membership after having spent a year as assistant to Fox. But national officials ruled otherwise. In a recent clarifying letter sent to Mosel and New Jersey PGA officials, Tom Crane national PGA executive secy., said:

"The PGA constitution requires that, in order to be eligible for Class H membership, the applicant must have worked for one year under the Class A member (in this case, Fox) by whom he is employed and he must accordingly be employed by that same member when his application is submitted for consideration."

Must Wait 3 Years

Mosel no longer was working for Fox when his application was submitted. He can't obtain an H membership now, for



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he no longer works for Toomey. In fact, he now must wait three more years before becoming eligible for any kind of PGA membership since he cannot obtain a card as a Class A or head professional until he has completed five years as a pro.

Mosel won the 1956 New Jersey PGA championship and teamed with Al Mengert, Echo Lake CC pro, to take the state pro four-ball title. He'll retain both titles and the prize money involved because at the time he competed in these events, New Jersey PGA officials believed he was eligible as a Class H member.

19 Putts for 18 Holes

Jack Emerson, a ten handicapper, used only 19 putts in 18 holes last month while posting a par 71 on the Los Altos CC course in Palo Alto, Calif.

Al Maus, Los Altos pro, said he believes this is a national record. Emerson, a United Air Lines pilot, was a guest playing Los Altos for the first time. It

GOLFDOM is interested in hearing of any rounds that equal or come even close to duplicating Emerson's feat.

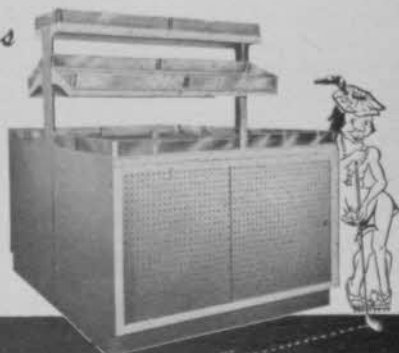
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up at the Connecticut club. The state Open will be held here in July and the entire course is being refurbished for the event.

Every golfer needs it!

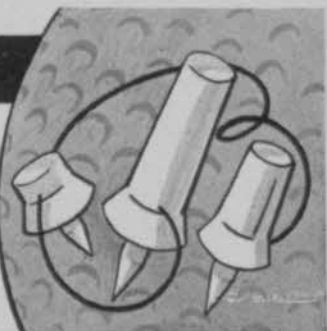
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Ouimet Gets Richardson Award; Berg Runnerup

Francis D. Ouimet, the Massachusetts amateur who won the National Open 44 years ago, has been named 1956 winner of the William D. Richardson trophy for outstanding contribution to golf by the Golf Writers' Assn. of America.

He received 479 points and 56 first place votes in the annual balloting of the writers' organization. Runnerup was Patty Berg, St. Andrews, Ill., pro, who got 371 points.

Third with 348 points was John Jay Hopkins, New York industrialist and founder of the International Golf Assn. Bob Jones, the Atlanta wizard of the '20s, was fourth with 302.

The following have been recipients of the Richardson award in past years:

1947—Robert A. Hudson, Portland, Ore.

1948—Maynard (Scotty) Fessenden, Chicago.

1949—Bing Crosby.

1950—Richard S. Tufts, current USGA pres.

1951—Chick Evans, Chicago.

1952—Bob Hope.

1953—Mildred (Babe) Zaharias.

1954—President Eisenhower.

1955—George S. May, Chicago.

Ouimet, who will be 64 next month, made world headlines in 1913 when, as a 20-year old ex-caddie, he defeated the heavily favored British pair, Harry Vardon and Ted Ray, in an 18-hole playoff for the Open crown.

In 1914, he won the USGA Amateur title and then waited 17 years before he won it again. In the meantime, though, he was semi-finalist in this tournament on six occasions. In 1920, he was runnerup in the Amateur to Chick Evans.

Ouimet was a member of every Walker Cup team from 1922 to 1934 and from 1936 through 1949 was the team's non-playing captain. In 1951, the ex-Brookline caddie became the only American ever to be named captain of the Royal and Ancient GC at St. Andrews in Scotland.

In recent years, Ouimet has devoted much of his time to promotion of amateur golf in New England and to the foundation of a scholarship for caddies.

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National Golf Day Set for June 8

(Continued from page 78)

will accept the challenge from golfers across the nation. This year, of course, the challenged are the 1956 champions, Dr. Cary Middlecoff and Kathy Cornelius. Middlecoff will play his round at Inverness in Toledo, scene of the '57 USGA Open in the week following June 8, while Mrs. Cornelius will play hers during the Ladies PGA Championship at Churchill Valley CC in Pittsburgh.

82,229 Played in '56

As of Nov. 3, 1956 a tabulation of the results of National Golf Day in 1956 showed that a total of 75,112 men participated with 7,184 winners over 1955 champion Jack Fleck. A total of 7,117 women, with 3,339 winners played Fay Crocker. Out of a total of 609 caddies participating, there were 77 winners. Net proceeds for the day were \$64,050.41.

In the past five years, a total of \$542,750 has been contributed to various golf charities and projects as well as to several of the nation's general charities through the

cooperation of those participating in National Golf Day. A breakdown of contributions made from 1952 through December 31, 1956, inclusive, is shown on p. 78. This shows the amounts contributed and names of the projects and charities to which the contributions were made by the National Golf Fund, the organization which has been set up to receive and distribute the proceeds of National Golf Day.

Plan to Start Winter Turf Course at Penn State in Fall

A turfgrass management Winter Course has been added to the list of offerings by the College of Agriculture at Pennsylvania State University.

The course will provide the necessary skills and knowledge to supervise and manage golf courses, municipal and industrial parks and lawns, athletic fields and playgrounds, cemeteries, highway roadsides, estates and airfields.

The program will consist of four eight-week terms of instruction on the campus of the University. During this period intensive classroom and laboratory training will be provided in the identification, es-