

THINGS by Lee

Last month your editor did not have a chance to get all the necessary information on the host superintendent of Rancho Canada, Larry Lloyd. But in order not to overlook him, we made a promise to catch him later. Well, we are glad we did, since Larry, for those who don't know him, is a very interesting person with quite a story to tell.

Larry is a native of the Napa Valley. He was born and raised there, and took his first golf course job on the famous Silverado Golf Course, under no other than the equally famous or infamous Walter Collins. Somehow, he managed to stick it out for 4 years, and even Walt's jokes could not drive him off sooner. When he did leave, it was to take on the job as Superintendent of Pajaro Valley Golf Course in Watsonville. Larry at that time was only 21 years old, which must have been an indication of things to come. All this happened in 1962. In 1965 he went to work for Nick Lombardo at the Del Monte Country Club as their superintendent. After having worked as a superintendent for 3 years at Del Monte, Nick Lombardo added the Fig Garden Golf Course in Fresno to his courses and put Larry in charge of both courses. This arrangement must have gone well, because shortly afterwards Pajaro Valley Golf Course was added to the chain as a lease property, again under Larry. By this time Larry became a junior partner in the enterprise. The firm now decided to build a new course in Carmel Valley; the course which is presently known as Rancho Canada. Larry became the contractor on this project, and oversaw the entire operation personally. Building was started in February 1969, and the course opened for play in April 1970.

Larry is not the only Lloyd in the golf game. His Dad, Paul Sr. is his assistant in charge of Pajaro Golf Course, while his younger brother Paul Jr. used to be his assistant at Del Monte. Presently Paul Jr. is a superintendent in his own right at Aptos.

The rest of the Larry Lloyd family is made up of his good-looking wife Barbara, and their 3 children Rickie - 15, Julie - 13, and Lauri 11. They presently live in Pacific Grove.

RANCHO CANADA - This course is a 36 hole lay-out, designed by golf course architect Robert Dean Putnam of Fresno. The 'West' course is rated the third toughest course on the Peninsula. Rated 72.3 The length is 6835 yards.

Larry Lloyd was the contractor on this project, and he gave me these statistics--All equipment was rented by the hours. Three-quarter million cubic yards of dirt were moved. The sprinkler system is completely automatic. For the system Larry chose a Toro Moist-O-Matic system, consisting of hydraulic controllers, and all valve-in head gear-driven heads. The system includes 72 satellite controllers and 8 master controllers. Fifty-two miles of pipe were laid underground to

service 2300 heads. Five hundred and forty thousand lineal feet of hydraulic tubing was used to activate the heads. The system is capable of irrigating 230 acres of turf in one night, throwing out 1,000,000 gallons of water. To supply this water, there are 4 wells, capable of delivering 650 gpm. at 100 psi. The main pump is equipped with a variable speed turbine to meet fluctuating demands.

In order to build the greens and save money in the process, a local sand was used which was found in an old sandbar right in the middle of the course. The sand had all the gradations in the world including some awfully big rocks. The greens were made out of 100% of this sand without any amendments or drainage. The cover was Seaside Bent. In all, there is about 300,000 sq. ft. of greens surface. Two of the greens, however, are 22,000 sq. ft. monsters. "After all, you have to be unique" said Larry.

Fairways are a mixture of Chewings Fescue, Creeping Red Fescue, Highland Bent, and Common Kentucky Blue.

Since the course lays in the main drain channel of the canyons beyond, 5 bridges were constructed; the longest one 275 ft. long, and strong enough to support a load of trucks parked end-to-end across the whole bridge. Each bridge is designed to withstand the onslaughts of bad weather and washouts, and will not collapse. This is important, since in 1969 the devastating rains swept through that area and washed away 7 acres of land, which had to be brought back in by mechanical means. Three hundred tons of rocks in nylon netting now protect the riverbanks from wash-outs.

As you can see then, this course has quite a story to tell. It is a big success, and for a large part this is due to the great efforts of Larry Lloyd, who has now reached the ripe old age of 32. Larry is a great guy, a wonderful and congenial host, and a very interesting fellow to talk to. It certainly was my pleasure to get to know a little about him and share it with you.

----Those of you who were unfortunate enough to miss the meeting at Rancho Canada this year should feel sorry. It was a very nice party that was well attended, but could stand even more people. Many of the people I know were not there.

The weather was a little wet, but that was no fault of the host club. The food was marvelous, the crab abundant, and the prime roast absolutely out of this world--the meat just melted in your mouth.

Entertainment was provided by Joe Garland and his wife Donna, who did musical comedies, and the dance music was again provided by that excellent group of Mike Marotta and his band. Those who liked to dance surely got their moneys worth.

Prizes were awarded for the golf tournament which was held in the morning in spite of the rain. Winners were

Low Gross - Mike Clark, Oakmont C.C.
 Low net - Paul Lloyd, Sr., Pajaro Valley G.C.
 Hole-in-one - Ken Stohl, Orinda C.C.
 Long Drive - Howard Fisher, Calistoga
 Putting Contest - Larry Lloyd, Rancho Canada Golf Club
 First Flight - Dwight Denno, Lone Star Industries
 Second Flight - Pete Mari, Mike Clark's Guest
NOW GET THIS - L A D I E S F L I G H T - C L I F F W A G O N E R
 who won a pair of ladies socks! Talk about sandbaggers

DOOR PRIZES

Ed Watson - Walnut Creek G.C.
 Myrtle Wagoner - our beloved secretary
 Frank Liebert - Western Turf, Burlingame
 Paul Lloyd - Aptos Beach G.C.
 (There must be a conspiracy amongst the Lloyds. Did you notice they all won something?)
 Bob Wright - Scotts Co.
 Karen Watson - Wife of Ed Watson--not fair
 Mrs. Chet Sarsfield - Technical Irrigation Consultants, Lafayette

THANKS

George W. Bell
 Buckner Sprinkler Co
 Brady-Holmes Co
 H. V. Carter Co
 Castle of Stockton
 Colloidal Products Corp
 Ewing Irrigation Products
 Ferry-Morse Seed Co
 Robert Muir Graves
 Hercules Powder Co
 Lone Star Industries
 Mallinckrodt Chemical Co
 West-Turf Equipment Co

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 or firms who contributed to the annual
 Christmas party
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 Nunes Turfgrass Nurseries
 Occidental Chemical Co
 Olgiate & Kurtz
 Orchard Supply
 Pen-Gro Sales Co
 Plant Gro Corp
 Santa Cruz Aggregates
 O. M. Scott & Sons
 Sierra Chemical
 J. F. Sloan & Co
 Western Lawn

1972 Directory will go to print on January 12, 1972. Dues, corrections in addresses, clubs, etc. must be received prior to that time to be included.
