

NEW WESTERN G. A. HEADQUARTERS

THE VILLAGE of Golf, Ill., had a big day when the new Western Golf Association and Evans Scholars Foundation headquarters, across the street from the village's combination post office and railroad station, was dedicated recently. A turnout of more than 400 prominent golfing personalities, exceeding the village's entire population by 100, attended the function.

WGA omitted nothing for the historic event. The crack Milwaukee Road streamliner, Olympian-Hiawatha, bound for the West Coast, made a special stop at the Village, eighteen miles north of Chicago, to unload a group of forty WGA officials and guests.

The ceremonies also served as a means of honoring Carleton Blunt, chairman of the trustees of Evans Scholars Foundation, who conducted the fund drive for the \$100,000 structure. By dedication time, the building fund was over-subscribed and, it was pointed out, no scholarship contribution to the Evans Fund has been, or need ever be, used for its cost and upkeep. The building not only will serve as headquarters for the nation's largest caddie-scholarship program, which this year is sending 204 caddies to college, but includes the offices of the Village of Golf. Of Georgian design, the building has 3,500 square feet of office space, plus ample grounds and basement space.

The origin of the Village of Golf was re-lived prior to the dedication ceremonies, when the Olympian-Hiawatha streamliner made its unscheduled stop at the Golf station. During the early 1900s the train of that day would occasionally make a special stop at the same place for the purpose of allowing the Milwaukee Road's President, H. E. Byram, to debark for a game of golf at the nearby Glen View Golf and Polo Club.

In making arrangements for his stop, Byram would tell his secretary: "I am going to golf today." Thus, engineers, dis-

patchers, conductors and other employees of the railroad came to know the stop as "Golf," and the name was retained by the Village when it incorporated in 1925.

Another back-track on history was provided for the dedication when four of the nation's leading golf personalities—Charles Evans, Jr., Jock Hutchison, E. P. Allis and James D. Standish, Jr.—climbed into a horse-drawn carriage for the short trip to the WGA headquarters, even as old-time golfers used to do to reach the Glen View Club.

Harold A. Moore, WGA vice-president and chairman of the dedication committee, presided over the ceremonies. Speakers included Harold Fink, the first caddie to receive a scholarship when the program was introduced in 1930; Roland Zagnoli, University of Michigan senior; James L. O'Keefe, president of Western Golf Association, and Carleton Blunt, chairman of the trustees of Evans Scholars Foundation. In addition, J. Edward King, vice-president of National Golf Fund, Inc., presented a donation in the amount of \$13,140 to the Evans Scholars Foundation as the National Golf Fund contribution for 1954.

The new building includes spacious quarters for the WGA office staff; a large directors' room, where hang the oil portraits of Charles Evans, Jr., Theodore C. Butz and Carleton Blunt; two executive offices; a large filing and mailing room; a kitchenette; the office of the Village of Golf, and a large octagonal, marble foyer, four sides of which are built-in trophy cases. Equipment for the building was donated by various groups, including that for the workroom by the Chicago District Women's Golf Association; for the kitchenette by the Women's Illinois Golf Association and for one of the executive offices by friends of Maynard G. Fessenden, late president of Western Golf Association.