

An Expression of Appreciation

The Public Links Section of the United States Golf Association extends its sincere thanks to the Green Section for their splendid cooperation in devoting this issue of THE BULLETIN in the interests of spreading the doctrine of golf at a lower cost. We hope that much benefit will result from the statistics and articles, and that we may be of increasing service to the game in 1923.

JAMES D. STANDISH, JR.,
Chairman, Public Links Committee,
United States Golf Association.

Applying corrosive sublimate and liquid manure with a watering cart.—By the old method of applying worm eradicator, when watering a green 70 feet square it takes six men four hours to cover the green and remove the worms after making the application. With a 50-gallon watering cart such as we use it takes four men an hour and a half to apply the worm eradicator. We have one of these men sweep the greens with a green sweeper, removing the worms much more satisfactorily, and, as far as we can see, doing no damage to the greens although they are wet. The chief advantages of the watering-cart method over the old method are more direct applications and more worms secured; also a reduction in cost namely, the difference in cost of six men working four hours against four men working an hour and a half. We use corrosive sublimate in the proportion of 2 ounces to 50 gallons of water.—*Mr. W. R. Hurd, 2d, Golf Division, United Shoe Machinery Athletic Association, Beverly, Mass.*

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He is the man upon whom you are depending for the success of your turf.
One of the two copies of The Bulletin sent to each club is intended for the greenkeeper.
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Furthering Public Golf

JAMES D. STANDISH, JR.

The first Public and Municipal Links Committee of the United States Golf Association was appointed by President J. F. Byers on February 1, 1922, as a result of the rapidly increasing public interest in golf and in the hope that such a committee would prove useful to individuals or communities interested in making golf possible at a minimum expense. This committee as originally constituted, consisted of Albert D. Locke of Boston, Robert W. McKinlay of Chicago, Grantland Rice of New York, S. P. Jermain of Toledo, Malcolm McGregor of Detroit, and the writer as chairman. With no experience on which to base their activities, this committee undertook as its first enterprise the establishment of an amateur Championship for Public Links Golfers. After considerable thought, it was decided that the event should be open to amateurs who were not members nor had the privileges of any club

maintaining and supporting its own golf course. This championship, which was held at Toledo, Ohio, brought forth an entry which far exceeded expectations, and it became at once apparent that the contemplated scope of activities of the Public Links Committee would have to be considerably broadened.

Letters of inquiry were received from all sections of the United States requesting data on the development of public courses, cost of construction, costs of upkeep, etc., so the committee decided to gather such information as it thought would be useful to new golfing enterprises. The information in this number of *THE BULLETIN* records the results of this attempt to secure such data. It must be realized that all the figures can not be absolutely accurate, but they may serve as a useful guide for any community attempting the establishment of a public golf course, without any previous experience in this line.

There are so many different types of so-called public courses that no definite opinion can be offered as to which produces the best results and is most desirable. The most pronounced example, however, of how a course can pay dividends, is the Harlem Golf Course in Chicago. This course consists of eighteen holes, not bunkered or trapped in any way, yet the individuals who own this course cleared \$43,000 in 1921 and in the neighborhood of \$75,000 in 1922 by throwing it open to the public and selling daily tickets at \$2 each. This simply shows how successful a course for profit can be made in a golfing community. Another extreme exists in Toledo, Ohio, a city with a population of 243,000, which maintains three courses, no fee being charged for their use. These are constantly kept up to a playing standard very little behind that of the better private courses in the country. The players at the National Public Links Championship held there in August were astonished at the condition and quality of the links, and many went home to their respective cities filled with enthusiasm over the possibilities of public course play. That the object-lesson taught at Toledo has borne fruit, is evident from information received from various cities that many improvements are being made in public courses and new standards of play established as a result of Toledo's example—all credit to Mr. S. P. Jermain, who has given much of his time for years to the betterment of Toledo parks, and as long ago as 1898 built the first municipal golf course in the United States at Ottawa Park.

Statistics show, however, that there are courses which increase a municipality's revenues, courses which break even, and courses which cost the city varying amounts. The chart which is appended seems to show that most public courses are actually earning money for their proprietors, a condition which is not desirable, for by the judicious use of these profits the quality of the course can be greatly improved and the landscape of the park can be much beautified; better still, a fund can be established for the development of additional facilities which it seems desirable to add as the demand for golf increases.

The situation in Detroit is a particularly interesting one. Certainly one would expect that the fourth city in the United States would extend to its citizens adequate golfing facilities, but on the other hand, it was only with great difficulty that permission was secured last April from the City Council to build a short nine-hole course in Belle Isle Park.

This course was opened May 30, 1922, and from then until December 1, over 56,000 rounds have been played. As the charge has been 25 cents a round or \$3. a month, it seems fair to estimate the revenues from playing fees alone at \$12,000. Thus a considerable surplus was left over from construction expense during the first six months and will be turned into a fund for the development of a second course. It is pertinent to note that the maintenance force consisted of only one manager, one clerk, one starter, one ranger, one grounds foreman, and three laborers. There also was a professional, who, however, did not receive a salary but gained his remuneration from lessons which he gave for \$1 per half hour.

In Philadelphia also there is only one course open to the public, but that is a fine one. It is located in Cobbs Creek Park, 20 minutes' ride from the city, and the demand for more adequate facilities was demonstrated by the fact that 80,045 rounds of 18 holes were played there between May, 1921, and May, 1922. This experience is not extraordinary. It is simply typical of the fact that, in every case reported, public courses have been filled to capacity and without exception have been considered complete successes by their proprietors.

The most striking example of progressiveness in number of courses is Chicago, where there are today located 12 courses of 18 holes each and six of 9 holes each. Surely this would seem sufficient to care for all public links players; but the Forest Preserve Commissioners are fully alive to the drawing value of golf in the preserves and are planning at least two new 18-hole courses at present. In addition, there are more than twenty-five good locations in the preserves which will probably be developed in the next few years. The most numerously attended course in Chicago is Lincoln Park, a course of 9 holes, where 107,624 tickets for rounds were sold in 1921, a truly wonderful record.

Of the smaller cities, which offer golfing facilities to the public, Springfield, Ill., stands as a good example. With a population of 75,000, two courses are kept busy during the playing season and no charge is made for playing. At Bunn Park there is an 18-hole course, two miles and a half from the center of the city, accessible by trolley and with pavement direct to it. The Park Board estimates that \$14,000 is spent yearly on this course, which indicates that it is kept up in good shape. The other course, one of 9 holes, is located at Bergen Park, still closer to the city and the cost of upkeep there amounts to about \$5,000 a year. Surely this establishes the fact that Springfield is one of the most progressive of the smaller cities in the United States in respect to golf.

Statistics have been gathered from as many cities as possible and show a great variation, particularly in cost of upkeep. It must be borne in mind that these figures vary, because of different methods of book-keeping; and in some cases no figures can be given, because the cost of the golf is included in the cost of the upkeep of the entire park where the course is located. Surely this must be the case in San Francisco, where the estimated cost of the 18-hole courses amounts to the excessive figure of \$22,000 a year. Other cities also show discrepancies attributable directly to accounting methods. Here, following this article, is a tabulation of the data gathered by the Public Links Committee, which it is hoped will be of use to anyone contemplating the development of a golf course for the public.

A List of Public Courses in the United States, with Information Concerning Each.

City	Population	Name of Park where located	No. of holes	Charge		Players during 1922	Upkeep and operating expense	For further information address
				per day	per year			
New York City	5,621,000	Van Cortland	18	\$1	\$10	2000	\$45,000	C. H. M. Atherton 347 East 74th St.
		Mashohu	18	\$1	\$10	Permits		
		Pelham Bay	18			not yet completed		
Chicago, Ill.	2,700,000	Glencoe Forest	18			Semi-public course		A. T. Packard care Chicago Evening Post or Robert McKinlay 537 County Bldg
		Highland Park	9			Semi-public course		
		Skokie Playfield	18			Semi-public course		
		Green View	9			Semi-public course		
		Evanston	18		\$30			
		Playmore Golf	18	\$1		Ready in May, 1923		
		Budlong Woods	18			Ready in May, 1923		
		Big Oaks	18			Ready in May, 1923		
		Edgewood Forest	18			Semi-public course		
		Lincoln	9	15 cts				
		Columbus	9	15 cts				
		Garfield	9	15 cts				
		Harlem	18	\$2				
		Green Valley	18			Semi-public course		
		Jackson	18	25 cts				
Marquette	18	20 cts						
Palos Hills	18	50 cts						
Jackson	9	15 cts						
Philadelphia, Pa.	2,000,000	Cobb's Creek	18	50 cts	\$10	80,045	\$12,000	E. D. Mendell 205 South 9th St.
Detroit, Mich.	1,000,000	Belle Isle	9	25 cts		57,000	self sustaining	W. G. Curtis care National Casualty Co.
Cleveland, Ohio	900,000	Highland	18	75 cts	\$25	500 season 48000 daily	\$21,000	H. H. Bandy Hippodrome Bldg
St. Louis, Mo.	773,000	Forest Forest	18 9	No charge		not counted	\$18,719	Bonner Miller 1000 N. 22nd St.
Boston, Mass.	750,000	Franklin Franklin	18 9	No charge		30,000	\$6,000	Albert D. Locke 179 Lincoln St.
Los Angeles, Cal.	750,000	Griffith	18	50 cts	\$10	100,288	\$2,000 per month	Mrs. A. E. Trabuc 4432 Franklin Ave.
Baltimore, Md.	734,000	Clifton	18	No charge		600 per day	No record	M. McL. Dukehart McComas and Race Sts.
Pittsburg, Pa.	588,000	Schenley	18		\$3	3147 permits	\$10,428	John J. Burke care Internal Revenue Service
Buffalo, N. Y.	592,000	Delaware South	18 9	No charge		95,450 48,400	\$14,000 \$6,000	Thomas P. McAuliffe Main St.
San Francisco, Cal.	550,000	Lincoln	18	50 cts	\$7	85,800	\$22,000	R. D. Lapham 503 Market St.

City	Population	Name of Park where located	No. of holes	Charge		Players during 1922	Upkeep and operating expense	For further information address
				per day	per year			
Minneapolis, Minn.	500,000	Columbia Glenwood	9 18	15 cts a round 25 cts a round		97,986	\$4,615	
Milwaukee, Wis.	500,000	Lincoln Lake County	9 6 18	No charge No charge 35 cts a round		40,000	\$2,000 \$2,000 \$10,000	E. O. G. Head So. Milwaukee
Cincinnati, Ohio	500,000	Avon Short Woods	18 9	50 cts	\$10	23,750	\$10,370	Thos. Craighead care Craighead Electrical Engineers
New Orleans, La.	450,000	City	6	25 cts				
Washington, D. C.	438,000	E. Potomac W. Potomac	18 9	25 cts	\$20	63,000 24,000	self sustaining	Henry L. West 2659 Connecticut Ave.
Newark, N. J.	414,000	Weequanic	9	25 cts	\$1	1832	self sustaining	J. E. Daly 1108 Salem St.
Kansas City, Mo.	400,000	Swope	18	50 cts	\$10			G. E. Martin 407 West 8th St.
Seattle, Wash.	315,500	Jefferson	18	50 cts	\$10	73,442	\$15,000	
Indianapolis, Ind.	315,000	Riverside South Grove Pleasant Run C. E. Coffin	18 18 9 18	75 cts 25 cts 50 cts 75 cts		65,120 80,657 Just opened 35,820	\$11,500 \$10,629 \$3,900	Harry Schopp South Grove Golf Links
St. Paul, Minn.	313,000	Phalen	18	10 cts	\$5			
Rochester, N. Y.	296,000	Genesee Durand Eastman	18 9	No charge				
Denver, Col.	265,000	City	18	50 cts	\$6	60,000	self sustaining	
Toledo, Ohio	243,000	Ottawa Jermain Bay View	18 9 9	No charge		75,240	\$15,000 total	S. P. Jermain P. O. Box 362
Louisville, Ky.	236,000	Cherokee	18	No charge		40,282	\$4,000	W. I. Hunt care Cherokee Golf Club
Omaha, Neb.	200,000	Miller Elmwood Fontrelle	9 18 9	No charge				
Atlanta, Ga.	200,000	Piedmont Jas. L. Key	9 9	25 cts 25 cts		50,000 5,000		Thos. B. Paine care Trust Co. of Georgia
Worcester, Mass.	180,000	Lincoln	9	\$1	\$7	400	\$5,231	Dr. T. C. McSheehy 86 Vernon St.
Syracuse, N. Y.	180,000	Burnet	9	No charge				

City	Population	Name of Park where located	No. of holes	Charge		Players during 1922	Upkeep and operating expense	For further information address
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San Antonio, Tex.	163,000	Brackenridge	18	No charge			\$7,800	J. H. Lapham 250 Brahan Blvd.
Dayton, Ohio	153,000	Hills-Dales	18	50 cts	\$10	1,005 members	\$15,000	G. W. Klockson 113 East 3rd St.
Bridgeport, Conn.	143,000	Beardsley	9	No charge		70,000	\$3,700	P. V. Gahan Room 502, 1st Nat'l Bank Bldg
Hartford, Conn.	135,000	Goodwin	18	No charge				George Smart 80 Pearl St.
Des Moines, Iowa	126,500	Grandview Waveland	18 18	50 cts	\$5	40,000 50,000	\$5,000 \$5,000	
Spokane, Wash.	125,000	Down River	9	50 cts	\$10			
South Bend, Ind.	85,000	Studebaker	9	15 cts		25,172	\$4,500	Ralph J. Keltner City Hall
St. Joseph, Mo.	80,000		18	No charge				J. W. Mytton Forsee Bldg
Long Beach, Cal.	75,000	Anaheim	18	50 cts	\$20	2,400 a month	\$565 a month	S. F. DuRee Dept. Public Recre- ation
Springfield, Ill.	75,000	Bunn Bergen	18 9	No charge			\$14,000 \$5,000	James Abels care Franklin Life Ins. Co.
Racine, Wis.	59,000	City	9	10 cts		22,000	\$5,000	E. C. Billings 310 10th St.
Springfield, Ohio	40,000	City	9					O. W. Allen 1st National Bank
Sioux Falls, S. D.	27,000	Sherman Sherman	6 9	10 cts		15,700	\$1,000	City Auditor
Wilmington, Del.	110,168	Delaware	18	50 cts	\$25	19,000	\$6,500	H. L. Tatnall 1500 Rodney St.
Lancaster, Pa.	53,150		9 9					

This list does not claim to be absolutely complete, and any additional data which will add to its usefulness will be much appreciated. Such information should be sent to the chairman of the Public Links Committee, the personnel of which is given elsewhere in this number of THE BULLETIN. Any member of this committee will be glad to assist the promoters of a public course at any time, and solicits inquiries concerning any particular point which may not be covered in these statistics. We want to be of assistance in spreading and popularizing the game of golf in every desirable way. So please call on us.