


SPORTS
CHATS

By
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Friday afternoon a group of experts walked around the Credit Island golf course on an inspection trip.

They wanted to see what could be done to toughen the links for the \$15,000 Quad-City Open golf tournament next summer. At the end of the hunt they had come up with enough recommendations, which will be carried out, to guarantee that Credit Island will be no push-over for the great names in golf.

Doing the inspecting were Waldo Johnson, pro at the Short Hills Country club; Pete Fisher, pro at Davenport Country club; Tom Cunningham, greens keeper at the Rock Island arsenal; William Krevill, former president of the Quad-City 200 Civic Golf association; Dr. Paul Barton, who holds a flock of golf records and titles; John Hansen, veteran arsenal player; Julius Jung, president of the Davenport Park board; Emil Plambeck, superintendent of the Park board, and Henry Hennings, greenskeeper at Credit Island.

Last summer Dame Nature struck Credit Island a cruel blow by sending flood waters in May. All greens and fairways were destroyed. Play was not allowed on the course until Dec. 1 on 12 temporary holes.

All greens have been rebuilt, nine with the Old Orchard best grass and nine with Congressional best grass.

"Hennings has done a fine job on them," Plambeck stated. Those doing the inspecting with him heartily agreed.

The yardage will be extended from 5,518 to 6,616. Par will remain at 70.

"We are satisfied that when the improvements are made, Credit Island will be a good test for the best golfers in the country," Plambeck said. "We think our peninsula hole, No. 5, will compare in toughness with the best in the community."

The following are thumbnail sketches of the improved Credit Island links:

Hole No. 1—par 5—yardage increased from 491 yards to 511—tee to be moved to the right of the present tee—fairway to be narrowed—traps to be installed to left and right of green.

Hole No. 2—par 4—yardage to be increased from 314 to 450 by pulling back the tee.

Hole No. 3—par 3—yardage increased from 179 to 199 putting tee back into the timber 20 yards.

Hole No. 4—par 4—yardage increased from 322 to 340—heavy rough on left, lagoon on right.

Hole No. 5—par 4—yardage increased from 259 to 360—temporary bridge to be built across lagoon, bringing tee back into the timber.

Hole No. 6—par 2—almost all over water—yardage increased from 138 to 196, with a 180-yard carry—green trapped on the left.

Hole No. 7—par 5—dog leg—drainage ditch on right to provide rough—yardage increased from 451 to 461—traps to right and left of green.

Hole No. 8—par 4—398 yards—left as is.

Hole No. 9—par 3—188 yards—left as is.

Hole No. 10—par 3—yardage increased from 134 to 150—tee set back to lagoon—trees provide natural hazard.

Hole No. 11—par 5—yardage increased from 451 to 470—tee moved back—traps placed 240 and 260 yards from tee.

Hole No. 12—par 4—heavy rough on left to toughen dog leg—trap on the right of the green—yardage, 349, remains same.

Hole No. 13—par 4—tee set off from among birches—trap installed on left side of fairway 240 yards out and 265 yards on right, leaving passage to the green of about 40 yards.

Hole No. 14—par 3—yardage, 330, remains same—fairway narrowed by rough.

Hole No. 15—par 3—yardage, 202, remains same, elevated green at which to shoot.

Hole No. 16—par 4—yardage, 264, remains same—sand in trap to left, build trap to right and in front of green.

Hole No. 17—par 4—increase yardage from 396 to 450—sand in traps to left and right.

Hole No. 18—par 3—yardage increased from 125 to 159—traps in front and on left and right, leaving opening of from 6 to 10 feet.

Last year when the \$15,000 Western Open was held here, the Western Golf association collected something like \$1,800 for its share of the receipts. Next summer the 200 Club won't have to split with anybody since the tournament will be a Quad-City Open. There will be a fee for the PGA, of course.

The Western Golf association claims the greatest advancement in its 35-year-old history, and since the local community had a share of that, it may take a bow, too.

The caddy scholarship fund jumped from \$45,735 in 1949 to \$59,628 this year. Individual members of the WGA, who contribute \$5 annually to the scholarship fund, increased from 7,239 to 13,567. A total of 261 ex-caddies has received scholarships since 1936.

George S. May and the Tam O'Shanter club of Chicago gave the WGA \$10,000 this year.

Credit Island, December 1951

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