

GREENSBORO'S NEW MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE . . . it's present layout of nine holes for the public's use.

## New Municipal Golf Course Will Be Opened Next Saturday With Ernest Edwards As Pro

Par For Course Is 35-35—70, Greens Excellent; Edwards Will Serve As Manager As Well As Pro

By SMITH BARBER.

I played the city's new Municipal golf course yesterday, that 65-65—70 par layout with its 5,670 yards, but I didn't use a ball.

Reasons were obvious: 1. the course won't be opened for play until Saturday, November 1, at 12:30 p. m.; 2. the greens haven't been cupped yet; and 3. my score is better without a ball.

Before we teed off at temporary No. 1, it was explained that the present assignment of numbers to the current nine holes is only temporary. The wooden house now serving as a clubhouse will be replaced by a new building within 60 days, and then the present No. 5 will be the No. 1 hole. Then you will reach the first tee by turning to the right at Pennsylvania street off Asheboro street instead of a driveway just opposite Oxford street off Asheboro now.

But for the time being—and that starts officially at 12:30 next Saturday when Mayor Hugo King tees off the first ball—the arrangement of holes in the above layout (pictured) will be used.

**Edwards Pro-Manager.** It opens with the No. 1 where we were standing ready to tee off with our imaginary ball. Ernest Edwards will be the pro-manager of the new course, and he leaves his assistant's job at Starmount Forest Country club to take up his new work Tuesday. He will supervise the finishing touches, while brother, Virgil, who was the assistant greens keeper at the Greensboro Country club, will have charge of that division at the new course.

This is a public course, officials want it understood. Everyone is eligible to play. Green fees will be 50 cents for the entire day, and that is for nine holes, 18 or 36—all day in other words. On Saturdays, Sundays and holidays green fees will be one dollar. Caddy fees will be 35 cents for nine holes, 60 for the full 18. And caddies will be required only on the week-ends.

But here we are still teeing-off on No. 1. It's straightaway down the fairway, the green a short dog-leg to the left. A hook will take you into the trees on the edge of the Cillepie school grounds, a slice into the rough or on the No. 9 fairway. There is a general slope to the left about 200 yards out. Approaching the green the land falls sharply to the right, and the only thing to catch a fast-kicking shot is plenty of rough.

**Wide Green.** The No. 1 green is wide and has two levels. There's a trap to the right in front but it shouldn't be much trouble. If you want trouble, though, overshoot the green and land in the trees or the rough just in back of No. 1. It is 380 yards long, a par 4.

No. 2 presents a mental hazard in its very narrow fairway. It's rolling land to the green, a slight kick to the right after the second knoll from the tee. Trees are to both sides. The hole is 275 yards, and just about 25 yards short of the green's edge is a ditch. There's a trap to the left in front and one to the right at the back, both having a fine grade of beach sand. It was brought from a special section near Aberdeen. The back of the green is dangerous territory, plenty of rough. No. 2 is 275 yards, a par 4.

No. 3 favors a slice on the drive. If it's not too long, a rolling hill protecting from the woods. There's not much trouble. The hole is 335 yards, a par 4. Long drivers will play this one recklessly. They will hook over the woods toward the green, but if they are not careful, the shot will kick sharply to the right—and there's that bad ditch again.

**Trouble Behind.** The approach can be safe for the fellow who plays it safe on the drive and even safer for the one who drives over the trees and has his ball stick on the shelf. A trap at the right guards the green, but

again the big trouble is behind it. Pine and a sharp drop may be trouble. No. 3 is 335 yards, a par 4.

I pondered, everything from a five to a seven iron on No. 4, the short hole, and finally used a putter since we weren't using any balls. It's an ideal tee-to-green shot with trouble being at a minimum on either a slight hook or slice. Top holes will get nowhere, the fairway being particularly rough at the present time. And there's a ditch some 75 yards down.

A sand trap guards on the left while an over-shot will get into the rough or the trees. No. 4 is 135 yards, a par 3.

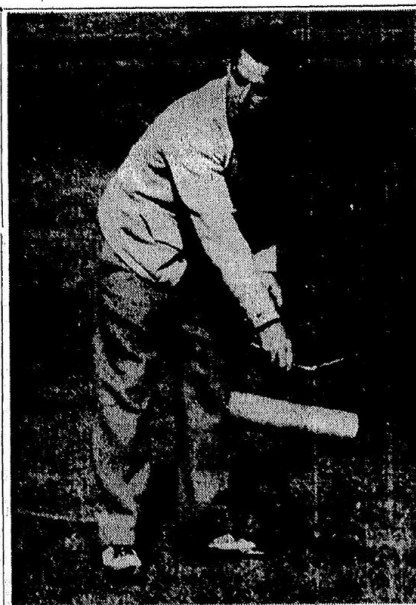
No. 5 is the hole that slopes them all. It is the one which will be No. 1 upon the completion of the new clubhouse, and if there's a back-slicer this is it. Just look! There's a creek about 175 yards from the tee, and at that spot the fairway takes a sharp break to the right. The green is still well over 300 yards away.

**No. Hook.** Mr. Hooker is completely out of luck on this one. A short slice will be tree-bound. Just on the other side of the creek is a level spot at the head of the main fairway and that is where the safe player will drive for. But the slugger, the fellow like Johnny Bull, will tee off over the trees, a slight slice to fall well up the fairway alongside the parallel creek.

The main fairway slopes sharply to the right into the creek and it bottlenecks about two-thirds of the way up. There's rough to the right of the green.

The green itself is peculiar, dangerous and unique. It's shaped like a watermelon; it almost requires a hook on your approach shot. It's long and narrow, plenty of room for cupping, backed by two very small (but, bothyomol!) traps. Trees to the left partially block an entrance, and they may be cut down soon. There's a downhill slant in the background.

**Excellent Greens.** Here would be a good place to talk about the greens. They are already in wonderful shape with a good blanket of grass needing only the final mowing. The course officials have spent more time and money on the greens, and they don't mind telling you they have the best greens in the state now. Perry Maxwell, a professional golf architect from Oklahoma City, laid out the course and the well-spotted greens. The WPA cleared the fair-



**PRO EDWARDS**—New pro-manager of the Greensboro Municipal golf course will be Ernest Edwards, shown above helping with last minute grounds work. He has the sprinkler busy. Edwards leaves a post as assistant to George Corcoran at Starmount to assume the dual job at the Municipal course. He serves as both professional and course manager. (Staff photo by Martin).

ways, planted them and constructed the greens. On August 1 the city took over.

No. 5 is 610 yards long, a par 5. The only turtle-back fairway on the course is No. 5, but today the fairway is in bad shape. If it would only rain, the course—not to mention all the others in this section—would spring up green overnight. But it hasn't rained and that leaves the grass thin.

The green cannot be sighted from the tee, but the red flag will likely be visible when it is erected. The fairway is narrow, the ball likely to kick to either side into danger. Just over the hill, the crest of which is about 250 yards out, is the slope into the green. Two traps are to the left, and the house to the right now will be torn down before Saturday. It's a rolling green as they all are, this rolling away from the tee and into rough

to the back. No. 6 is 285 yards, a par 4.

No. 7 is another short hole. Right now the fairway is very rough, but then you should only use that for walking purposes. There's a ditch at the bottom of the hill, 30 yards below the tee. Traps are to the right and the left of the green, but they leave a 15-yard clear entrance to the carpet. An over-shot would give a good lie as the background slopes onto the green. No. 7 is 125 yards, a par 3.

Once again the long, sloping fairways rise up on No. 8. The green is barely visible from the tee with a slight dog-leg to the right. The fairway is rolling and narrow. It has a decided kick to the right. The green is dropped behind a sloping mound on the left, but with plenty of trouble to the right. There are two traps to the right but they hide more trouble, a creek and trees just beyond. The green drops sharply in the rear. No. 8 is 405 yards, a par 4.

Coming into the temporary clubhouse on No. 9 there's a dog-leg to the left, a cluster of tall pines obstructing view of the green. These pines are about 100 yards away so that a good drive would clear them into the green. There's a sharp slope to the left, however. A slice would not be in bad shape at all with a broad level to the right, high on the hill.

Shots fall away from the green, however, with the left slope aided by natural drain ditches. On the top of the hill protecting the green from the right is a half-moon sand trap. Shots must come under it. The green slopes downhill as the fairway, that means to the left, and there's a sudden drop at the lower and rear edge. No. 9 is 335 yards, a par 4.

That completes the nine holes, a par of 35 and a yardage of 2,635. About the other nine? They might not be completed until next year but the plans have already been approved by the proper officials.

Rain is needed more than anything else right now, especially for the fairways. Work will continue day by day on the rough spots, but the greens are rating and ready to go. So is Pro Ernest Edwards. So is Mr. Greensboro Golfer.