

Wealthy Texan Gets Credit for Open Meet at F.W.

Young Fort Worth Citizen
Given Major Credit for
Landing Big Tourney

Fort Worth, Texas, May 25 (AP)—A former vegetable peddler who was excluded from one of the city's most exclusive golf clubs was awarded major credit today for landing the first national open golf tournament in the South.

Marvin Leonard Young, good looking and tall, who working a small vegetable stand grew into the city's largest department store, today received the accolade from 16500 golfers throughout the Southwest for his work in bringing the 1941 national open to Colonial club here.

In 1934 Leonard started his golfing career, and, incidentally, he now ranks as one of the best amateur golfers in the city. Already he had earned a fortune. He applied for membership in one of the city's exclusive country clubs. Because of his humble start in life he was turned down.

Leonard was mad.

So in the spring of the next year he started work on his own club—the Colonial club.

Colonial club, which has been opened only four years, was the first course in the South to use bent grass greens. There is only one other course at the present time to use the exclusive and expensive grass covering.

The course was laid out to extend 6000 yards over 160 acres. It was designed by Perry Maxwell, nationally known golf course architect, and built by E. B. Brodman, San Antonio, well known Southwest golf course construction engineer.

Well studded with trees and framed by the clear blue of the Trinity river, Colonial boasts lush stretches of green benches.

The course record of 84 was set last summer by Ben Hogan, the local boy who made good.

For four years it has been Leonard's ambition to show the world of his club to the city. He worked long and hard during the past year to land the open.

Today he gave credit to the Fort Worth Golf association, Dr. Alden Coffey, its president, and to other Southwestern golfers.

"I'm very happy that Fort Worth will have the opportunity to play back to the nation's greatest sportsmen," Leonard said, "and I know we'll show them a real golf course and a real time here in the South-west."

Early preparations included re-tying of entire course, re-grubbing the tees by 200 yards—making it 200 yards over championship par—age.

But Marvin, club professional, said the tournament will attract approximately 275 golfers. Byron Nelson holds the 1939 title. The 1940 will be played at Oakmont Golf club at Warwick, Ohio.