

# Maxwell Designed Ada Golf Course

**A**DA—One of the many golf jewels in the links crown of the late Perry Maxwell, Oak Hill Golf and Country Club here has some of Oklahoma's finest greens.

Maxwell was called in to lay out, engineer and build the course in the pre-depression days of 1926 when the world was rosier than a flower garden. The bloom fell off the vine in 1929 with Chick Clark, the pro-superintendent, absorbing most of the headaches.

But Clark had a lot of help in trying times and there is still plenty of help around when a quick buck is needed to make things hum for the betterment of the course or anything else that confronts this thriving and important community.

Big boosters — past, present and future — have ev-

ery under complete control.

The list of big men who have done and will do big things



for the course includes the late R. W. Simpson, the late Frank Fleet, the late Frank Norris, the late Johnny Norris, Frank Finley, M. O. Matthews, Harry Lundgaard and Sid Katz.

One great lady has also been a big and continuing factor in the success and growth of Oak Hill. She is Mrs. P. A. Norris upon whose property all of the course, with the exception of 10 acres upon which the clubhouse stands, is located.

It is a well designed layout with plenty of golf shots for both expert and dud. Transition to bent grass greens came in 1936.

Clark, with the assistance of his boosters and some experts on grass, came up with fine carpets and the success of the course was assured. At the time there were no more than two dozen lockers in the men's room and many of them were unused. Right now there are about 100 lockers and there is a waiting list.

The latest ice storm gave Clark and his greenskeeper, Julio Hernandez, some bad times. Snow mold hit the greens. The tractor broke down during spraying operations. The fine, big greens appeared to be doomed. But the problem was

licked in characteristic fashion with more than a little help from the outside.

About all you need to do here in Ada when you're in trouble is yell: "Help!" Before you can say: "Gimme two-up a side," help's on the way. It's a community trademark.

And it's not patented. Other communities in the state have unrestricted rights to follow the same course.

Last year when the drought struck a crippling blow to every golf course in the state Harold Criswell showed how you do it. Cut off from all sources of water the big greens were about to be lost. But Criswell had other ideas.

There was a large lake not far away. In less than two days arrangements had been made for use of lake water and Criswell had a crew of men lay a pipeline from a pump at the lake that hooked into the Oak Hill mains.

The greens were saved and this spring the course will be in tip-top condition for early and heavy play.

On the work agenda now is fertilization and spiking of fairways, usual conditioning of greens and tees, some outside

work on the clubhouse plus interior redecoration and improvement.

Present officers are Lester Cummings, president, and Cartwright English, secretary-treasurer. Cummings' father was the club president when Clark joined the organization 23 years ago.

Club directors are: Cummings, English, Criswell, Benton Browning, Frank Fleet jr., Vernon Roberts, Dave Howell, Rutledge Beesley, Jack Fentem, James E. Bell, Dr. C. P. Taylor and Tom A. Thomas jr.

The women's organization of 40 members is headed by Mrs. Bubba Southard. Mrs. Virginia Ramsey is vice-president and Mrs. Patty Harris secretary.

The Ada highschool links squad uses the course for practice and its home matches. A graduate of the Cougar golf squad is Terry Wilcox, now at Oklahoma A&M. A junior who is coming fast is Johnny Braley.

Club champion is a man with the golfing-like name of Bobby Jones.

The club has an excellent swimming pool and many other recreational activities outside the clubhouse and in which are presided over by Mrs. Ira Bobbitt who serves as manager.