

PERRY MAXWELL VISITS ARDMORE

Ardmore Man Directs Construction of Golf Course at Philadelphia.

Perry D. Maxwell, former Ardmore banker, but now a golf course engineer of national reputation, spent the week-end with his family in Ardmore, but on Monday afternoon started on his return to Philadelphia, Pa., where he is constructing the Melrose golf course, for a golf club of that name.

This new course in Philadelphia is unique in several particulars. It is being built within the city limits of Philadelphia, on a 155 acre tract of virgin forest land, which has been held by a family since colonial days, and occupied as a farm, although it and an adjacent tract of 512 acres lie within the almost central portion of that city of more than two million inhabitants. The 155 acres is said to have been acquired by the Melrose club at a cost of \$200,000, and \$1,000,000 more is to be spent in its development.

Tract Forest Covered.

Mr. Maxwell told a representative of the Ardmoreite that the forest that covers the tract with the exception of a few small plots around the family dwelling, and an occasional cultivated spot, is one of the most beautiful imaginable. Native forest trees often more than four feet across the stump, and a hundred feet in height, cover most of the tract, and in clearing out fairways through it for the golf course, a crew of Canadian lumber-jacks were imported. Saw mills were set up on the property and the splendid logs of oak, ash, hickory and similar growth, are cut into lumber which will largely be made use of in construction of a clubhouse and other buildings on the grounds. He says it looks—to an Oklahoman—like sacrilege to cut these many century old trees that have withstood the march of the city's progress until it has surrounded the "farm" on every side.

Associated with MacKenzie.

Mr. Maxwell is associated as engineer of construction with Dr. A. MacKenzie, of London, England, who is the recognized "dean of golf engineers" of all countries. When Dr. MacKenzie was called to this country to consult with the officials of Melrose club regarding the planning and construction of this course, he told them that he must have an American associate to give direction to, and take charge of, the work. He was told to make a tour of the United States and see the golf courses in all states, and then from among the American engineers who constructed them, make his choice of an associate engineer. He did this, and after inspection of the leading golf courses of this country he said he would select Perry D. Maxwell, of Ardmore, the man who planned and constructed the Dornick Hills club at Ardmore, the Twin Hills club at Oklahoma City and the club at Paducah, Kentucky, which he regarded as outstanding in architectural design and engineering construction among the golf courses in America. The engineering and construction work was then given over by the Melrose club to Messrs. MacKenzie and Maxwell, and Mr. Maxwell given charge of it. Dr. MacKenzie acting in an advisory capacity.

Dean Woods Building Course.

The work of actual construction was placed by Mr. Maxwell under the charge of Dean Woods, formerly of Ardmore, who is a brother-in-law of Mr. Maxwell, and was in charge of construction of Twin Hills club at Oklahoma City and of the links built by Maxwell at Paducah, Ky. Mr. Dean Woods is also a brother of Mort Woods, proprietor of the Prinrose dairy farm, here at Ardmore.

Work on the Melrose club links at Philadelphia was started about the first of the present year, and it is expected at least three years will be required to complete the building of the links and the improvements on the club property, the cost of which it is estimated will reach at least a million dollars. And when completed, Mr. Maxwell thinks, it will be one of the best, and most imposing 18 hole courses in the United States.