

Playfield—Then and Now

With practically every piece of acreage of any size near the borders of Winnetka either in the hands of the subdividers or embraced within the confines of the numerous golf courses which dot this territory, the Village of Winnetka and the Winnetka Playfield association are realizing more and more the value to the community of the ninety odd acres comprising the Playfield golf course.

Furthermore, this tract is at the very threshold of the village. It is just across Hibbard road, at the western terminus of Elm street. To locate another tract of this size and convenience as to accessibility, would be impossible, and especially at anywhere near the price at which the village was enabled to acquire Playfield a few years back.

Not alone is this fact attributable to the ever increasing appreciation of Playfield's worth as a community golf course. The rapid increase in the interest in the game of golf throughout the nation and particularly in the Chicago area, naturally makes of every golf course a greater and more valuable asset to its owner or owners.



F. Richardson, Jr.

The Chicago territory has become within the past few years the greatest golfing district in the world, it is said, and boasts the greatest number of golf courses of any other city.

The Winnetka Playfield course is a part of the great park system of Winnetka, being under the direction of the Winnetka Park Board, to which the Winnetka Playfield association is responsible. The latter association was organized in 1919, at which time the course comprised only nine holes and was under only partial development. Today, it is a splendid eighteen hole course, with enlarged clubhouse facilities and plans in the offing for other improvements.

The association started off seven years ago under the most encouraging conditions, with an early enrollment of 142 members, which, today has increased to 842.

Organized in 1919

The assemblage of Winnetka citizens, back on the evening of April 10, 1919, when the Playfield association was formally launched and christened, anticipated gratifying results from their efforts. There have been times intervening, when a renewal of the 1919 enthusiasm was necessary on the part of those who have the welfare of Playfield at heart, to give the movement added impetus, and, even today, it is essential that the citizens of the village, in general, keep ever in mind the worth of their possessions in Playfield, that their support and interest may insure its continued growth and development as increased membership and new conditions demand.

The very first meeting looking toward the formation of Playfield association was held at Community House on the evening of February 20, 1919, when a committee comprising S. Bowles King, Cuthbert C. Adams, C. C. Anderson, C. L. Byron, A. V. Horsman, M. K. Meyer, G. H. Roehm, Edward S. Rogers and Arthur Woods was appointed to formulate a plan of organization. This committee's report was made and accepted at the meeting on the evening of April 10, following; the association was named, the constitution adopted and the first officers elected.

First President

Wallace D. Rumsey was the first president; Charles J. Eastman, vice-president; Alfred V. Horsman, secretary, and M. K. Meyer, treasurer.

B. W. Blow, A. B. McDougal and John Ritchie were chosen directors for one year and Mrs. H. H. Barnum, Darrell S. Boyd and Fred T. Richardson, Jr., for the two year term.

The first chairmen of the various permanent committees, whose labors and guiding hands have meant so

for the general benefit of the community. Thus, Skokie Playfield association.

The First Members

The first members of Skokie Playfield association back in 1919 were as follows:

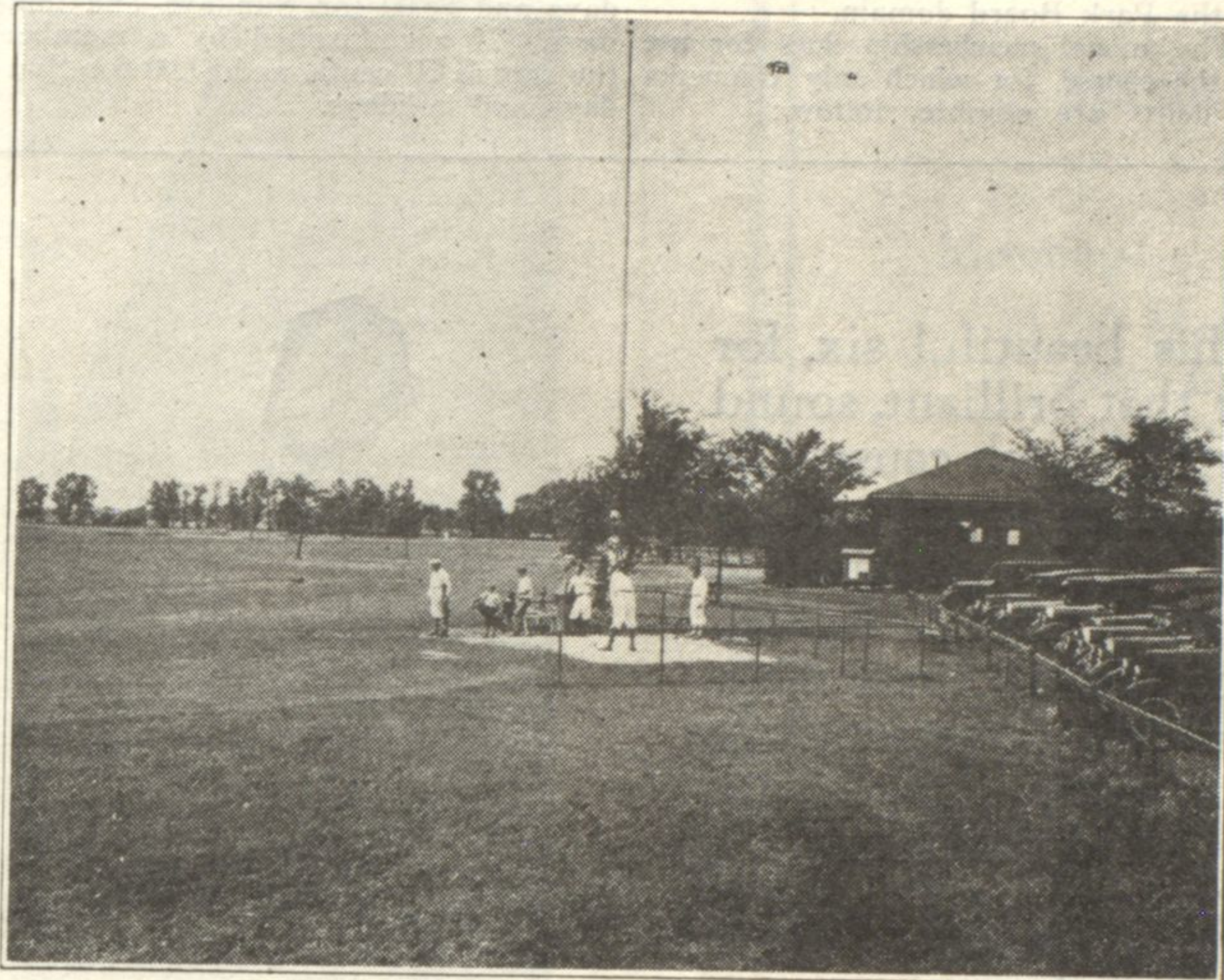
F. Jackett, H. F. Moses, H. T. Spies-

Daniels, Walter F. Wallace, Wm. D. McKenzie, Ayres Boal, Dr. C. Ayres, Park E. Simmons, John W. Scott C. D. Dallas, R. W. Bell, Nathan Klee, F. W. Burlingham, S. Bowles King, John Stuart, A. W. Converse, Lawrence Howe, Morris L. Greeley, Wm. S. Elliott, J. Roy West, George W. Gordon, John R. Leonard, Wm. H. Martin, Barret Conway, Cuthbert C. Adams, Allen F. Withers, Alfred Runnfeldt, F. Goddard Cheney, Henry P. Crowell, Robert S. Laird, Roger S. Sherman, N. A. Ritchie, A. C. Madden, M. Brady, A. D. Kaplan, Mr. Jacobson, H. Hartman, H. E. Silverman, Mable Murrie, James Schimer, B. Ransome, M. Knox, G. Lindwall, A. Damaski, A. A. Tilroe, H. Hale, E. Kloepfer, Dr. J. W. F. Davies, F. Dickinson, Harry Anderson, T. Weinstock, C. Rahning, C. H. Coffin, Louis Schramm, Ed Knapp, A. I. Wolf, Pat Dean, Dan Conley, George Walker, Elmer Nelson, Stanley Nelson, Mr. O'Keith, Miss Jefferies, Wm. Danner, John Kassner, E. C. Weissenberg, B. W. Blow, Edwin T. Runnfeldt, Albert Eckart, Fred Eckart, Wm. Kloepfer, Alfred Ulbright, A. Mac Dougal, Olaf Watson, Pete Smith, John Smith, Frank Smith, Jake Smith, A. Trapp, E. S. Harrold, D. S. Boyd



Sanborn Hale

Teeing Off at The Playfield



The above picture shows the first tee at the Winnetka Playfield golf course, as well as the clubhouse and a portion of the parking space. The greens and fairways are in excellent shape this year and many residents are enjoying their very own community course. Hundreds of players use the course each week.

Early Tournaments

Playfield association in the very first year of its organization started off with a number of interesting tournaments, which have since featured the management of the course every season. In 1919, the sports and pastime committee conducted successful events on May 30, in the form of a Decoration day handicap affair; on the Fourth of July was held a handicap flag tournament; during the month of July was held the Park board cup tournament; in August came the Golfers' magazine cup handicap tournament. The first season closed in September with the Martin challenge cup tournament.

These events were won by Elmer Nelson, F. Richardson, Jr., Art Woods and A. Tilroe, respectively. Monthly class tournaments have since been features, as have also the Harvest Home tournament each year; the Rogers cup tournament on a handicap basis and the Park board trophy. At Playfield, par is 66, with 33 on each nine holes. The course record is held jointly by Harold Fossum and Elmer Nelson, at 64. Playfield is a member of the Western Golf association.

The present officers of the Skokie Playfield association are, George W. Perrigo, president; Dr. Ralph S. Childs, vice-president; Seward F. McKenney, secretary, and Allen Weinstock, treasurer. Al Runnfeldt is caretaker and superintendent of grounds. Walter Stelzel, professional at Skokie Playfield since 1922, devotes his entire time to golf and the instruction of players, has had during these years of service at Playfield, the pleasure of giving scores of young people of the village their first instruction in this interesting and healthful sport. In addition, his services are frequently sought by more or less experienced players, who appreciate his technical knowledge of the game and his pleasing manner in the discharge of his official duties. Prior to coming to Playfield, Mr. Stelzel was at Woodstock Country club, Indianapolis, Ind., in similar capacity.

Winnetka Park Board

The present commissioners and of- (Continued on Page 8)

Playfield Pro



Walter Stelzel, Professional at Skokie Playfield

much to Playfield, were D. S. Boyd, chairman of the finance committee; M. Rosenthal, Arthur Wood, S. J. A. B. McDougall, chairman of the Goldstein, Max J. Stein, A. W. Sevy, grounds committee; John Ritchie, C. J. Eastman, Clarence Fossum, Oliver Voltz, John Dethloff, Walter Dehmlow, F. L. Mahoney, E. S. Parr, Louis Anderson, C. Van Duersen, J. Dahl, T. Hirschberg, T. E. Grubb, Mrs. C. Dieboldt, Ethel Feldkirchner, A. W. Rosenheimer, Mr. Walden, H. W. Sherman, Martin Kloepfer, J. J. Kelly, Mr. Solomon, E. B. Friedlander, N. M. Clark, B. Beach, H. W. Miller, Leo Schornhorn, M. Newman, H. N. Gottlieb, Mr. Nederstrom, J. T. Ritchie, J. Roe, J. Monash, T. Hill, C. S. Dupee, R. Conner, Mr. Brokerson, H. Hudson, W. Smith, H. Luensman, L. De Santo, F. Salmon, L. Bell, C. Grunlund, George Gon-salves, Wm. Jenkins, Alfred V. Horsman, Carroll D. Murphy, Hugh A. Foresman, James H. Prentiss, Francis M. Phelps, Louis P. Mercer, James Prindiville, Hans Kuhn, Francis B.

The Winnetka Park district, with the object of making available for public use and recreation to the fullest extent the areas under its control, had laid out and was maintaining a golf course, baseball field and other facilities and had constructed a field house for the convenience of the public. At the meeting of citizens and park commissioners on the evening of February 20, 1919, the decision was reached to form an association of citizens to aid the park board in furthering and controlling the use of these areas and improvements