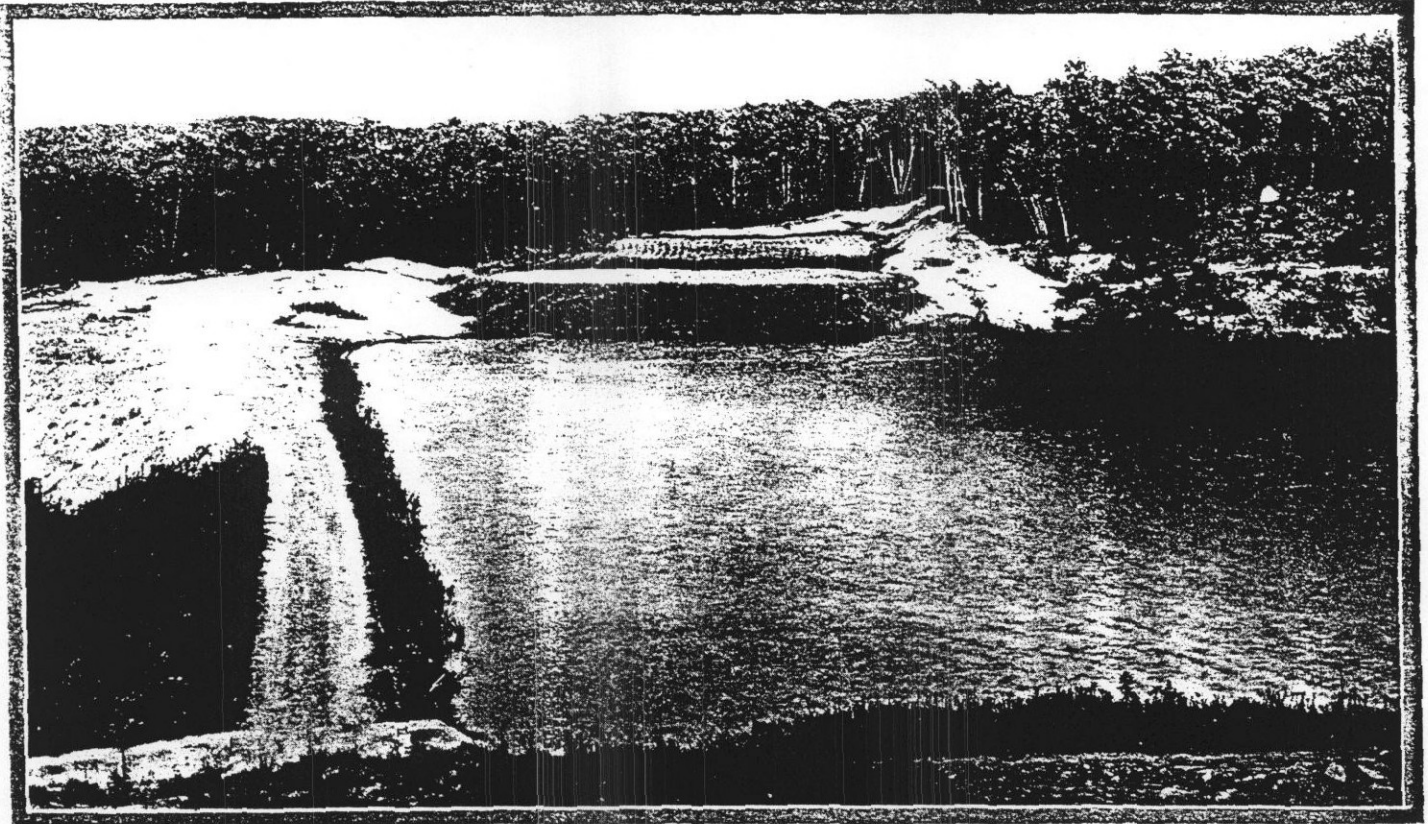


Yale's Varsity Course

New Haven University Now Has Its Own Layout for Eli Golfers

By Joe Val



A view of the lake which requires a water carry of some 160 yards in playing the ninth hole. The ninth putting green appears in the background. This hole is largely a reproduction of one of the famous holes on the course at Biarritz, France

YALE undergraduates, returning to college after the summer's vacation, are marveling at the new and expansive golf course which has sprung almost overnight at the back door of their campus. What was once a wooded tract of 700 acres, within twenty minutes of the college, has been transformed into a gigantic playground for Yale men, with one of the largest golf courses in America as the central point for recreation.

The huge tract was the largest forest preserve in Connecticut, the John Milton Greist woodland estate, and for two decades was devoted to use as the home of deer, elk and other animals of the wilds; to fish breeding in two ponds that now form water golf hazards, and to bird sanctuaries. The entire estate has been set off by a heavy wire fence, nine feet high. The project of building a huge center of recreation for Yale men was undertaken as a memorial to one of Yale's greatest athletes, Ray Tompkins, of Elmira, N. Y., captain of the 1884 football eleven, and the estate was presented to Yale by his widow.

Seth J. Raynor, designer of the course, had an immense tract with which to work and he utilized about one hundred and twenty acres for the course. This is an indication of its magnitude. The building was under the supervision of Charles B. MacDonald.

Raynor and MacDonald started actual work on the estate in January 1924, and in a little over

a year and a half, the former woodland has undergone a remarkable transformation. Beautiful fairways, velvety greens and fascinating water hazards have replaced huge boulders, ledges of rock, swamps and woodland waste.

The course itself is practically complete; all that remains to be done is the building of a clubhouse on the knoll to the east overlooking Greist Lake, over which holes Nos. 1 and 9 will be played. Nos. 1 and 9 are but two of the water holes on a course which is long in water holes, no less than six of the eighteen requiring water play. Nos. 1 and 9 require a water carry of 163 yards.

Other characteristics of the links make it unique and unlike any course in America. Two foreign courses, Mid-Ocean in Bermuda and Gleneagles in Scotland, were built to take advantage of the wide and bold variation of contours, as has the Yale course, but there the comparison stops, because of the different settings.

An interesting feature is the building of three separate tees at each hole, permitting three more or less distinctive courses. These courses will be known as the long, the regular, and the short courses, the long course being planned for championship play. The yardage over the long course is 6,552, with par of 71; for the regular course 6,107, par 69, and the short course 5,548.

The committee in charge of the building of the course was made up of the following: George T.

Adee, '95, Chairman; George H. Nettleton, '96; Mortimer N. Buckner, '95; George Parmly Day, '97; John T. Blossom, '14; Harold F. Woodcock, J. Frederic Byers, '04; Robert A. Gardner, '12, and Jess W. Sweetser, '24S.

Other parts of the Ray Tompkins Memorial tract will be developed in the near future to provide a center for winter sports, including tobogganing, skiing and skating.

The following figures show the distance and par of each hole for the three courses:

No.	Long. Yds. Par.	Regular. Yds. Par.	Short. Yds. Par.
1.....	410 4	399 4	379 4
2.....	365 4	349 4	338 4
3.....	380 4	370 4	310 4
4.....	440 5	426 4	284 4
5.....	135 3	131 3	117 3
6.....	350 4	342 4	318 4
7.....	368 4	348 4	323 4
8.....	415 4	409 4	372 4
9.....	225 3	210 3	190 3
	3088 35	2984 34	2631 34
10.....	405 4	373 4	342 4
11.....	425 4	370 4	295 4
12.....	406 4	340 4	340 4
13.....	190 3	190 3	190 3
14.....	372 4	335 4	320 4
15.....	188 3	170 3	135 3
16.....	445 5	420 4	410 4
17.....	425 4	415 4	415 4
18.....	608 5	510 5	470 5
	3464 36	3123 35	2917 35
Totals..	6552 71	6107 69	5548 69