

YALE GOLF COURSE OPENS THIS SPRING

Play on New 120-Acre Layout
on Tompkins Memorial Tract
to Begin at Early Date.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Jan. 30.—Yale's delayed opening of its new golf course of the Ray Tompkins Memorial tract was today announced for as early a date as feasible this Spring. Plans for enrolling a large club of alumni and lovers of golf who are not connected with the university, together with the undergraduates, were today announced by the Yale Athletic Association, which has formed a special Golf Committee as the unit under which they will be perfected.

The committee has engaged Bernard Thomson, professional at the Mount Kisco (N. Y.) Club, and it was stated that he will come here in March and will be at the new Yale club nine months of the year. Thomson is a Scotchman and comes to Yale with high recommendations. He fought through the World War as a member of the Black Watch and was wounded severely in action. After the close of the war he returned to this country.

The Golf Committee also announced the appointment of a Greens Committee for the course consisting of R. Selden Rose, '09; Carl A. Lohman, '10, and Ezekiel S. Bronson, 1900. Bronson has been Chairman of the Yale Alumni Graduate Baseball Committee for a decade, and was a member of the Yale nine and golf and hockey teams while in college.

The committee, which, as a unit of the Yale Athletic Committee, will direct the program for the development of the golf projects, was today announced as consisting of George T. Adee of New York City; Mortimer Buckner, New York City; John T. Blossom, Director of Yale athletics, and Professor George H. Nettleton, Chairman of the Athletic Board of Control.

120 Acres Set Aside.

About two years ago the project assumed definite form when a committee headed by Adee and Buckner was appointed to take charge of the preliminary plans. Since then about 120 acres of the 750-acre tract which was given to the university by the widow of Ray Tompkins, Yale '84, of Elmira, N. Y., a famous football captain, to be developed in his memory, have been set apart as the new golf grounds and the course has been laid out by Seth J. Raynor, the famous golf architect who died of pneumonia at Palm Beach recently, and whose work was under the general supervision of Charles B. Macdonald. It

will be one of the finest and most unique courses in the world. The committee today reported that about 100 graduates have become founders of the memorial or patrons of the course, and that the financial campaign which was carried on by the original committee will be continued by its successor, the permanent golf committee of the Yale Athletic Association.

On the recommendation of the original committee, in its report to the Board of Control, it will be discharged and the management and the operation of the course will be turned over to the Executive Committee of the board. In an elaborate report the committee reviewed the work on the course, its finances and every detail from the throwing of the first shovelful of dirt more than a year ago until the present time. The report shows that the course is practically completed.

The formal operation of the course will be in the hands of the Executive Committee of the Board of Control, but the Golf Committee will continue the campaign to cover expenditures already made and recommending additional equipment which the club may require. The committee will also act in an advisory capacity on golf.

It is the hope of the committee that a favorable ruling will come from Washington on the proposition to allow the founders of the memorial and other contributors to enjoy the privileges of the course without taxation. Congressman John Q. Tilson, floor leader of the House, has been cooperating with the committee in this respect and a ruling is expected soon.

Work Pushed Rapidly.

Much work on the course has been done the past Fall and Winter under the supervision of William E. Perkins, 1917, the superintendent, and when it is opened in a couple of months it will be in excellent condition. In November and December the rough was cleared and a vast amount of underbrush was cut from the wooded land adjacent to the fairways. The service roads were all top-dressed with gravel, and splendid results from top-dressing, seeding and fertilizing which took place in the early Autumn were noticeable before the first snowfall of the Winter.

During the building of the course 150 men were employed at times clearing away rocks, trees and brush and in the Spring of 1924 the course began to take shape. It has been created in one of the most magnificent settings imaginable. The total area of the greens is about 10,000 square feet, as compared with an average of about 3,600 square feet on some of the more prominent courses in this and other countries. With three tees at practically all holes, there are virtually three distinct courses on the property.

The yardage over the long course is 6,552, with par at 71, and over the middle or regular 6,107, with a par of 69. The short course covers 5,548 yards, also with a par of 60. There are six holes over which there is water play in whole or in part.