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Army, Navy and Marine Corps Country Club Has Made Remarkable Advance

‘Man Behind Guns’ Is Gen. Summerall

**Boasts 2,300 Members With 800 Residents – Others All Over Globe
(No By Line)**

The far flung dream of a four-star general for a united service county club near the Capital of the United States is fast becoming a cogent fact.

Organized only three or four years ago, with its aim a great country club to which officers of the Army, Navy and Marine Corps would belong, the new country club, fashioned of dreams and woven of that sterner stuff which makes the services the fine organizations they are is fast becoming one of the biggest factors in country club life around Washington.

Any organization that has increased its membership from a mere handful in less than three years to something more than 2,300 members scattered all over the globe wherever the American flag flies, has done something few clubs ever have done before.

And a resident membership of nearly 800 officers points the way to the dream of Gen. Charles P. Summerall, U.S.A., retired, that someday nearly officer of every service detailed in Washington will belong to this newest giant among country clubs around the Capital. Civilians are allowed to join the club only in one way, through the medium of a life membership. Officers of the services constitute practically the entire membership.

Maj. Newman On the Job

Three years ago Maj. Richard D. Newman, Cavalry officer, was brought to Washington by the ten chief of staff, Gen. Summerall, whose life dream was to see a united service country club located near Washington, and ordered to go to work and look over property in nearby Virginia with a view to the establishment of such a club. Flying over the terrain in an airplane, he looked down on rugged country over near the wireless towers at Arlington and found thereon a commodious club house used for years as a Knights of Columbus country club. The organization purchased this property and Newman again with the aid of the airplane built thereon a unique golf course.

Stretching out a distance of more than 6,000 yards, this golf course has not a trap on it and yet the best professionals have barely been able to beat par on the layout. Newman built better than

he knew for now the course is in first-class shape and the natural difficulties are such that no traps are needed. Only one drawback remains on the club course. This is a piece of property located between the ninth green, which is owned by a private individual and which the club cannot purchase because of the prohibitive price. Failure of the organization to secure this property has resulted in short ninth and tenth holes, both would be two shotters.

Occupies Historic Ground

The course is laid out over historic ground for it was up the valley in which a major portion of the golf course is laid that an advance squadron of a Confederate raiding force came in the middle days of the Civil War to stand upon the hills on which some of the tees are located and look across the Potomac into the Federal capital. Had they known that the outposts along that portion of Virginia were few and the Federal defenders of the Capital concentrated mostly on the northwest side of the city, they might have made an entrance into the Capital, but a sentry fired on them from an eminence located within the club boundaries of today and, afraid of an ambush and disaster, they withdrew toward Culpeper.

Over the spot where their horses trod men of the united services today strive to drive golf balls toward an elusive hole. Thus have the pleasures and sports of peace taken the place of the clash of arms and the roar of battle.

Only two major changes have been made in the golf course since Maj. Newman, equipped with a topographic map, laid out the holes from the elevation of his airplane cockpit. These are the seventh, a short hole of about 170 yards, which formerly was a blind hole where a hill has been cut down to give a clear view of the green and the fourteenth, where an ordinary straightaway hole has been converted into a fine hole whose water hazard in front of the green has caused all sorts of tangles and snarls in the smoothly operating machinery of golf as played by the officers of the services. This deep water hazard stretches across the entire front of the green and catches many a golf ball. With the exception of a rebuilt sixteenth green, the course stands today as Dick Newman laid it out bunkerless, but abounding in natural hazards which do not need bunkers to add to the terror of the slice or hook.

Capt. Menzies Now Here

Up in the club house and indeed on the golf course too, Maj. Newman's successor presides with the same knowledge and ability that the constructor of the course had. Newman is now attending classes at the Army War College preparing to go on to higher things in the Cavalry, while Capt. J.T. Menzies, his successor, carries on as manager of the Army Navy Country Club. Newman and Menzies have been together in many spots of the globe and think and act alike. Both are thoroughly imbued with the spirit that here is one of the coming country clubs of America and Menzies is carrying on where Newman left off. Within the past two months two massive wings have been completed on the original club house, commodious and ample to take care of the large membership. A unique touch in the new construction is the fact that the masts of ships which once plowed the seven seas now up hold the porches of the new wings. A swimming pool is under construction to be ready for use next year and far down in a corner of the property a polo field, where Army polo matches will be played one day, is taking form. Yes, the Army Navy

Country Club is moving along. Not many years have we seen such rapid and satisfactory progress in a country club.