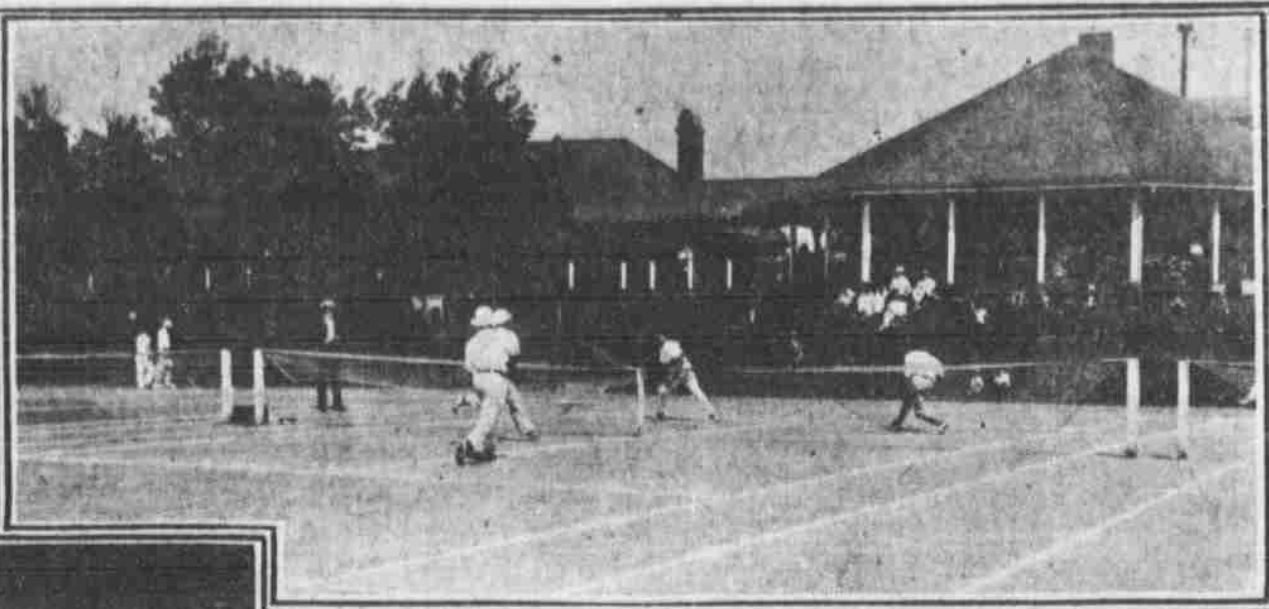


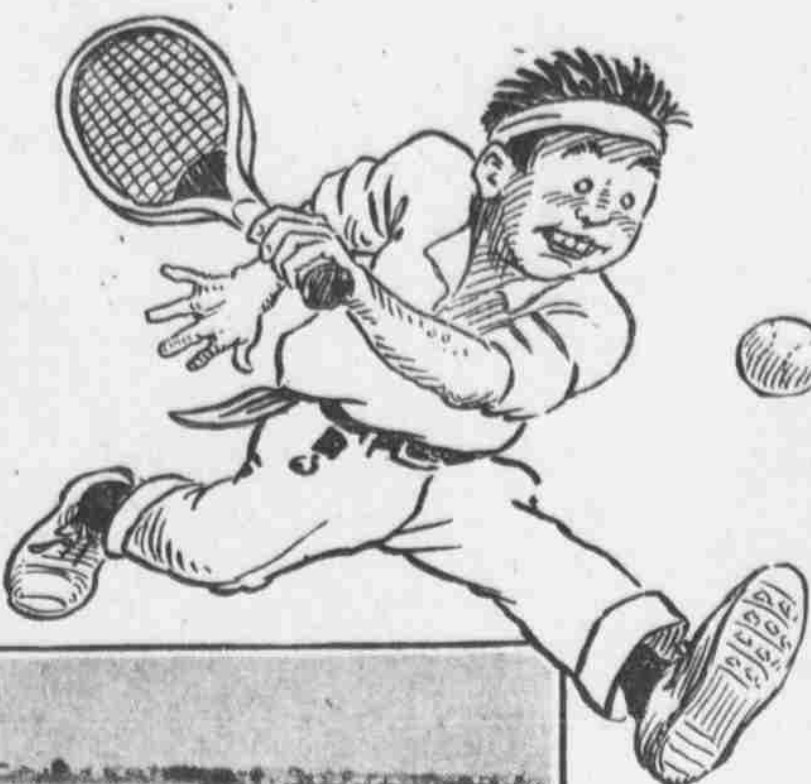
Outdoor Clubs of Omaha Source of Pride and Pleasure



ROBERT DEMPSTER
PRES. HAPPY HOLLOW CLUB



TENNIS AT THE FIELD CLUB



W.S. FOYE
PRES. OMAHA
COUNTRY CLUB



OUTDOOR recreation in Omaha has caught fast hold of young and old alike, and is having a development along most wholesome lines. The outdoor recreation to be discussed in this article comprises the organized effort of people of like tastes associated in congenial groups. It takes no account of the great heart hold that base ball, organized and amateur, has on all classes every day that games can be played.

How much financial strength is involved in the furthering of the campaign for outdoor recreation in Omaha and its immediate vicinity? Probably \$500,000. And the number of individuals and families directly affected must run far into the hundreds; indirectly, into the thousands.

Clubs that can properly be listed under the head of outdoor organizations in this city comprise the Omaha Country club, Happy Hollow club, Field club, Dietz club, Prairie Park club, Omaha Rod and Gun club, Omaha Gun club, South Omaha Country club, Miller Park club, Council Bluffs Rowing association and the recently organized Omaha Aero club. About every one in the list has its own particular grounds where its activities are carried on, and several of them have quite costly club houses.

Country Club is "High Society."

First in prominence, perhaps, though not in membership, is the Omaha Country club, having its grounds and club house on Military avenue, near Benson. By the completion recently of a purchase of the McShane tract the Country club now owns a beautiful stretch of seventy-eight acres, rolling, green and most elegantly calculated to make good golfers better. The property stands an assessment of \$65,000, \$20,000 of which represents improvements.

The Country club is made up more largely of society people than any of the others, yet it has the reputation of being a place where real good fellowship shines through the exercise of cordial hospitality on many occasions. Some of the functions carried out by this organization are on an elaborate scale; but it is on the links where its beaux shine with greatest satisfaction to themselves. Golf is the one great study at the Country club, with tennis, croquet and the like as the recreation features.

Beginning August 13, the Omaha Country club will be on its mettle as an entertainer, as well as in the line of athletic management. On that date the opening rounds will be played in the Transmississippi golf tournament, for which more golfers are expected to enter than in any similar event anywhere in the country.

The officers of the Country club this year are W. J. Foye, president; E. H. Sprague, vice president; Lawrence Brinker, secretary; Frank J. Burkley, treasurer; board of directors, W. J. Foye, E. H. Sprague, Frank J. Burkley, W. A. Redick, F. H. Gaines, Frank Colpeter, C. F. Montgomery, J. R. Scoble and Jerome P. Magee.

Happy Hollow an Elegant Club Home.

The Happy Hollow club, located on the old Patrick homestead, is also something of a whale in the society line, but it is also very strong on the more sober athletic exercises. There are men in this organization who have the reputation of being so wrapped up in the expert chase of the little white ball that they will forget to attend meetings where money is to be made. The club owns about twelve acres of ground surrounding the club house and leases eighty-six acres additional from the Dundee Realty company. The elegant and pretentious Patrick home adjusted itself most admirably to the purposes of high-toned club life, but the organization has had so healthy a growth that an addition costing \$4,000 is now being made for the better accommodation of the members and guests. Family parties, in the social line, are very popular among the Happy Hollow folk. The improvements at this recreation center are assessed for \$30,000, and the value of the grounds brings the total investment close up to \$100,000. Its officers are Robert Dempster, president; W. L. Selby, secretary and treasurer; A. T. Austin, vice president; board of directors, Robert Dempster, A. T. Austin, J. L. Webster, S. A. Searle, Joseph Folcar, W. L. Selby, W. B. T. Belt, E. A. Benson and H. K. Burket.

Field Club Large and Cosmopolitan.

Strongest in membership of all the outdoor clubs is the Field. This organization has its club house, golf links, tennis courts and base ball diamond on property owned by Douglas county. It is part of the tract originally bought for a poor farm, and the county hospital is located on one end of the land.



A.P. WHITMORE
PRES. ROD
AND GUN CLUB



The Field club has under lease 163 acres, which it has highly improved for its purposes. At the beginning of its occupancy some discouraging conditions existed, but the original minds of the then officers solved the difficulty by renting a brigade of goats, the most optimistic animal, aside from the mule, on four legs. Harry Morrill, then secretary, drove the goats up from the South Omaha stock yards and turned them loose on the succulent brush and bramble, refuse and tin cans, old paper and abandoned building material. With the quiet persistence of warriors laying siege to the castle wherein the sleeping beauty was immured, the goats, with gusty appetite, cleaned up the ground as slick as a new whistle. Then the landscape artists of the club enlarged the golf links, laid awake nights to frame up new hazards, and generally fixed things so that every new member assuming to master the game undergoes a rather stiff initiation.

The Field club gives a series of hops and other social functions throughout the season, and it has entertained very acceptably some large parties of a civic nature, as in the case of the visit of Colonel Roosevelt last year. The club has also managed a good many tournaments for the tennis cracks of the country, its courts having a high reputation. This year the Field club will be host for the National Clay Court tennis tournament, one of the greatest things of its kind in the world of genteel outdoor sport. The tournament will open August 5.

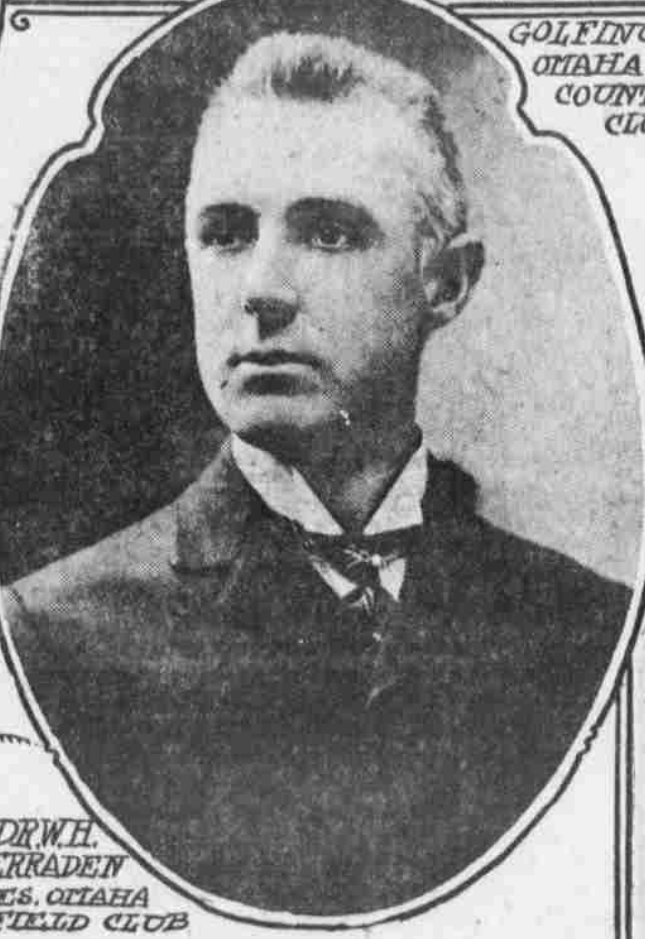
No prettier prospect lies outdoors than that offered in the Field club grounds. The organization has spent large sums of good coin in making its home place most attractive, and its improvements are assessed at \$25,000, which is a very conservative figure. The present officers are: Dr. W. H. Sherraden, president; L. D. Carrier, vice president; J. W. Hughes, secretary; Philip Potter, treasurer; board of directors: G. E. Haverstick, S. S. Caldwell, G. F. Epeneter, J. B. Lindsay.

Dietz Club a Pioneer in Outdoor Pleasures.

When one mentions the name of the Dietz club it recalls the fact that this group of lovers of outdoor sports was a pioneer in its line. Several of the original organizers are still connected with the club and they have the satisfaction of knowing that it has developed into a real live-wire center for real outdoor fans. At its new location, on the bank of Carter lake, the club has established what is really a community given over to the joy of sensible living, in which sport of a healthy and varied nature constitutes a principal element. Bungalows and boats are two main equipments of which the club is proud, and some of the married people on the club list have lived on the Dietz reservation all winter. For the younger members of the club base ball and tennis offer the



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DR. W.H. SHERRADEN
PRES. FIELD CLUB

greatest attraction, varied with dances and other social affairs, given at intervals winter and summer. Expert fishermen, and women, are not few in this organization, and they claim to know more about the family habits and tastes of the Carter lake denizens than even the oldest fishing sharp that frequents the shores of the lake.

On the Dietz club grounds, besides a pretty little clubhouse, are twenty-five more or less pretentious summer residences, which will easily average a value of \$250 each. The clubhouse cost \$2,500, and the club maintains a pumping system of its own. For lighting purposes it uses the current of the Omaha Electric Light company. The present officers are: President, George Johnson; vice president, E. E. Laferty; secretary, Percy E. Gwynne; treasurer, James R. Ward; board of directors: J. J. McMahon, Andrew Anderson, Charles O'Neill, E. E. Elsenhart, W. H. Platter.

Rod and Gun Club Has a Little Town.

For the Omaha Rod and Gun club it can be said that no livelier bunch lives on the shore of an enticing lake anywhere. The club owns several acres where it makes its home and has the use of considerable more ground. Its members have erected summer homes to the number of fifty, and some of them are good enough to live in all the year round were the owners so disposed. The grounds are well cared for, excellently lighted and running water is handy. The club members take a keen interest in the enforcement of the game and fishing laws of the state. A fleet of launches, rowboats and canoes is kept continually in service during the season, and many of the boys and girls have established fine reputations as sailors under the instruction of the old salts who honor the club with their patronage. Councilman Sheldon is official instructor in the art of angling, with City Engineer Craig as official reviser and censor of fish stories. The officers are: A. P. Whitmore, president; R. S. Bacon, vice president; A. E. Anderson, secretary; A. F. Bloom, treasurer; board of directors: G. N. Aulabaugh, G. W. Craig, S. S. Hamilton, W. S. Ting, W. Loftus, S. F. Prentiss, E. P. Berryman, C. A. Cline, D. C. Eldridge.

Prairie Parkers Are Esthetic.

The Prairie Park club is a neighborhood organization, composed of home owners in the pretty settlement of that name just north of Ames avenue and west of Twenty-fifth avenue. Several tennis courts are laid out in the park, and the younger men and the girls of Prairie Park can hold their own with the players of most any club. Horticulture and floriculture are the hobbies that engage the attention of the grownups of Prairie Park, the ambition of the members being to create a ten-acre prospect that will serve as an example not only for Omaha, but for the country. This club is affiliated with the American Civic association, which sends slides all over the country in a campaign to boost the city beautiful idea. At the beginning a decision was made to have no alleys, no fences, no ash piles or accumulations of any sort of rubbish, and the membership of the club finds its



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principal recreation in cultivating flower beds, shrubbery and hedges, with tennis and grass-cutting as side lines. Outdoor picnics and patriotic celebrations are features. The officers of the Prairie Park club are: President, John J. Ryder; vice president, S. M. Morgan; secretary, M. J. Curran; treasurer, O. T. Alvison.

Gun Club is One of the Best.

Just now the Omaha Gun club is concentrating its attention on the preparations necessary to carry off with eclat and high reputation the Western Handicap shooting tournament. This event will be opened August 8, and will bring the crack marksmen of the whole west to Omaha for a week. The club controls a ten-acre reservation just over the Douglas street bridge, on the Iowa side, where it will have high class accommodations prepared for its guests. Among the local membership of this club are some of the best trap and wing shots in this section, and some of the mightiest hunters of small and large game. They rove far afield during the open seasons, and some great bags have been placed to their credit as the result of good work on moor, meadow and upland, and in the mountains of adjoining states to the west. The present officers are: President, Henry S. McDonald; vice president, George Loomis; secretary-treasurer, W. B. Townsend.

Miller Park Club Has Free Links.

The Miller Park club maintains the only free golf links in Omaha at Miller park, through the courtesy of the park board. The club also has a tennis court, and has established a locker plant for its members in the basement of the Miller park pavilion. It has been carefully managed and is growing in membership steadily. Some improvements have been made this year in the links, and the club expects to have a most successful season. The officers are: President, W. S. Wilmoth; vice president, B. C. Miner; secretary, W. Lucas; treasurer, George Edwards.

South Omaha Club May Disband.

At this time the prospects are not bright for the continuation of the South Omaha Country club. Talk of disbandment and the placing of the grounds on the market is prominent, but an element of the membership is endeavoring to prevent disbandment, and seems to have some hope of succeeding. The club has maintained a very homelike clubhouse on the in-

terurban line below South Omaha and its golf links have been brought to a very satisfactory degree of completeness.

Aquatic Sport at Manawa.

Across the river one of the liveliest organizations for the encouragement of outdoor sport is the Council Bluffs Rowing association, which maintains a clubhouse and rowing course on Manawa. Its regattas have had the effect of arousing a healthy interest in sailing and rowing and other aquatic sports. The officers are: Emmet Tinley, president; F. P. Everest, vice president; Perry Badollet, secretary; Charles R. Hannan, Jr., treasurer; board of directors: H. J. Haws, commodore; B. L. Sanford, vice commodore; Charles E. Walters, Fred B. Emplie, Byron L. Reed.

Clubs Discharge a Large Duty.

All of these clubs, adding so much to the general pleasure of their members, fill a distinctive role in the social life of the city. While some hold the admission fees and dues so high that no family in ordinary circumstances can afford to belong, even if it cared to, most of them are democratic and cosmopolitan in the best sense. In all, character and conduct is held to be the essential element of eligibility, and the standard is well maintained throughout the whole membership. The commodious and excellently appointed club houses furnish the necessary room for the largest social functions, and the club kitchens are matters of boast among the numerous gourmets and minor connoisseurs who know and appreciate good cooking. The service, too, has been organized to the point where little or no fault can be found by the most captious. Stewards and house committees of the larger clubs are experts in their particular line, for when competent persons develop the right kind of talent they are kept.

Aside from the purely social side, the outdoor clubs—or, more properly, clubs which make outdoor sport and pastime the basis of their club life—furnish centers strong enough to organize and handle in good shape the local, interstate and national tournaments in the different lines of sport, and thus fill a large duty that reflects favorably on the hospitable reputation of Omaha. As will be noted from mention made above, three such great tournaments are already dated for Omaha this season, with club organizations as sponsors and managers.



CANOEING ON CARTER LAKE