

The GOLF COURSE

PUBLISHED AT

25 WEST 45TH STREET, NEW YORK

BY

PETERSON, SINCLAIRE & MILLER, Inc.

IN CONJUNCTION WITH

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Vol. II APRIL-MAY, 1917 No. 4-5

War and Golf

WHAT effect can the War have upon Golf? This question has been asked frequently and answered variously.

But what effect is it having?

On the surface but little thus far. True tournaments are not as frequent as in past years, the National association's action of abandoning the Championships being followed generally by the various sectional associations. But over the courses every day fully as many play as ordinarily. No matter how long the War lasts golf will be played in America. Surely many will not play if the War's duration is longer than we anticipate.

However, there has been some proposed construction postponed until after the War is ended. This was not unexpected. Owing to the abnormal conditions labor is high and scarce. The materials which are necessary have advanced greatly in price. Despite this many new courses are building and undoubtedly will continue to build.

But despite War conditions the thousands of courses in America must be preserved. They must not be per-

mitted to "go back." It has taken years of patient labor to bring them to excellence and millions have been spent. If by any hysterical move of mistaken zeal, every course in the Country was deserted, one year would find them overgrown with weeds, and well nigh past redemption. Of course this is an absurd suggestion, but let us drive home this thought,—no matter what the cost, at least keep our courses where they are.

EDITOR'S NOTE.—Owing to the general uncertainty caused by the recent declaration of war, the Publishers were delayed in bringing out the April issue of *THE GOLF COURSE*, and it was therefore thought best to combine that number with the one for May.

Down Clubs

The New York Tribune printed the following a few days ago:

"To the Editor of The Tribune:

"Sir: There are about 5,000 golf clubs in the country. At an average of 100 acres, this means 500,000 acres of farm land held out of use.

"Golf incites to profanity, lying about the score, wife neglect, inattention to business, Sabbath breaking, and other vices.

"Why not prohibit golf during the war?

"On the redeemed links 100,000,000 bushels of potatoes might be grown. This quantity would furnish 3,000,000,000 messes of French fried potatoes.

"Professor Dumkopf, of Yale University, estimates that 8,168,432 foot-pounds of energy are daily wasted by golfers. The same energy applied to hoeing corn would produce enough corn for 13,941,687,403 muffins.

"Abolish golf during the war!

"MORAL REFORM."