Census Reveals Golf Leads Other Sports

Golf goods outranked all other types of sports equipment in terms of total factory value of 1939 production, according to a report just issued by the U. S. Bureau of the Census. A preliminary compilation of returns from the Census of Manufacturers taken during 1940, it shows 1939 value of golf goods to have been $15,644,612, as compared with $13,797,080 for 1937.

This is above the figure of $12,574,758 in 1939 for fishing tackle, and $6,268,588 for baseball goods.

Output of golf goods was divided as follows in 1939: 2,881,667 dozen balls, valued at $5,602,611; 2,855,837 clubs, with a value of $6,557,548; 3,218,002 shafts, valued at $1,550,737; 244,979 golf bags valued at $957,976 and an unreported number valued at $583,923; other golf goods, including parts, $411,817.

All of these items show increases in both quantity and value over 1937, except shafts. The number of shafts produced rose from 3,151,289 to 3,218,002, but fell in value from $1,716,185 to $1,530,737.

Golf and other sporting goods were made in 1939 by 350 establishments, with products having a total value of $64,753,813. This compares with 247 plants in 1937, and output of $52,074,270. During 1939 the industry employed in manufacturing operations 13,816 wage earners, receiving a payroll of $14,220,581, and 1,780 salaried employees, earnings $3,899,997. For materials, supplies, fuel, purchased electric energy, and contract work, it spent $26,689,795.

Newsletter Editor Retires—Guy C. West, editor of the Newsletter the past 12 years, retired from office at the end of 1940. The Newsletter, official organ of the Greenkeepers' Club of New England, has been published since 1929. West, who has edited all 12 volumes of the magazine, is now employed on the sales force of Woodworth Bradley, Inc., seedsmen of Providence, R. I.

New editor of the Newsletter is expected to be George J. Rommell, Jr., who for some time has served the paper as business manager. Assisting Rommell, will be Henry C. Mitchell, greenkeeper at the Walpole (Mass.) CC.