at the age of 66. Strong was the first secretary of the PGA, having been active in the formation of the pro golf body. Strong, among other courses, designed Murray Bay (Can.), Braidburn and Mountain Ridge (N. J.) Metropolis and Engineers, L. I. He is survived by a wife and two young daughters, and a brother, Leonard, greenkeeper at Saucon Valley club, Penna. . . . Houvenkoff CC, Suffern, N. Y., went under the auctioneer’s gravel the early part of October . . . Charley Mayo, pro-greenkeeper has left Cherry Valley club and plans to go to California. Richmond GC (Calif.) keeps its members informed as to proposed clubhouse improvements by means of a large painting of the club “as it will be,” with a chart adjoining outlining both planned and completed improvements.

Pro Provides Golf For GI’s in Italy

“Lend Me Your Ears” by Jim Burchard in Stars and Stripes, Aug. 15, 1944.

Thanks to 1st Sgt. Dugan Aycock, the ancient game of golf again is flourishing in Italy.

To be sure, the nine-hole course isn’t exactly suitable for international competition. It’s a miniature layout, and the fairways are plain dirt mixed with oil. You could put the whole shebang in a good-sized hat. But the GI’s of an ordnance battalion near Naples think it’s the nuts, and they jam the lilliputian links each evening to waggle putters and bet their bucks.

Topkick Aycock, a golf pro from Lexington, N. C., was appalled when he first put foot on Italy’s shores. Not until he reached Rome did he see a single golf course. He found seven in the vicinity of the Eternal City, but the grass in fairways evidently hadn’t been clipped since Samson’s hair.

But Aycock is a versatile gent who believes in working overtime for the benefit of his men. So he decided to build his own golf course, well realizing that lot of lads who didn’t patronize the tennis, volleyball, badminton, ping-pong or pooltable facilities might like to dig up a few divots.

Aycock had some of the equipment to start. This included a few clubs and balls, mementos of his stay at Fedala near Casablanca. There, at the bequest of a general, he put an old golf course in playable shape, rebuilding tees and greens and fashioning 12 bags out of canvas. Soon the course became so popular the clientele had to be placed upon a limited basis.

With this experience behind him, Aycock went to work in Italy. He used old peach cans for the cups, put four cobelligerents to work on rollers and dug
TIMELY TURF TIPS

Right now clubs should forget fairway fertilization. Milorganite fed courses will not fare too badly without being fertilized for a year or two. After the war, or when fertilizer is more plentiful, fairways can be restored quickly—with Milorganite alone—or by using Milarsen- ite first to curb weeds and clover. Greens and tees should not be neglected. They should get enough fertilizer to ward off disease and maintain dense turf. Some Milorganite will be available for this purpose, but if you can’t get all you need, please remember that MILORGANITE, too, has gone to war... for increasing food production and for building turf on airfields.

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...out nine dirt “fairways.” Two are Par 2 and seven are Par 3. Flanked by pear trees and tents, the course does not lack for scenic appeal.

“It’s real satisfying to see the boys in action,” said Aycock. “A few side bets are harmless, and besides it keeps them out in the air. I’m figuring on putting in a few pipes and water hazards, and adding nine more holes. Then we’ll really have fun.”

Aycoc would be happy until he holds an Italian open championship. He figures it can be done in Rome. One of the courses there, he declares, could be put in good shape with a minimum of effort.

Golf Helps Infantrymen
★ Flat feet, march fractures, broken bones, sprains and strains are all part of the parade that come trudging through the orthopedic clinic, says the DISPATCH, Camp Roberts, Calif., army newspaper. March fracture is a common disability of the average foot soldier and comes from the walking the infantry man finds himself obliged to do. The common occurrence of this form of fracture seems to come in the later part of the training cycle and is mostly due to the excessive use of the automobile, prior to a man’s entry into service. Men who have conditioned themselves to walking before coming into the army, whether through golfing, or other business or social activities that required a considerable amount of footwork, do not usually develop march fractures.

Hard Work and Ingenuity
Keep Ft. Sill Courses in Shape

★ Ingenuity, enthusiasm and hard work are keeping Fort Sill’s two golf courses, the Enlisted Men’s course on the New Post parade grounds, and the Officers’ course adjoining the Officers’ Mess, in top shape.

The work on the courses is under the direction of Maj. Henry G. White, FAS Welfare and Recreation Officer, and Robert Mair, professional of the post links. The courses are under supervision of the Post Special Services Office.

Both courses are nine-hole, grass green layouts. The Enlisted Men’s course is 3,317 yards long and has a par of 36 while the Officers’ course is 2,740 yards long with a 34 par.

Equipment, manufactured from scrap material, has played a large part in the improvement on the two courses. A grader was rescued from the scrap heap and placed in serviceable condition. A cart was... made from old caisson wheels, no longer used in the field artil-