PGA Plans Constructive Year

★ WAR WAS BROUGHT into sharp focus at the PGA's 1944 annual meeting by talks of Capt. Orval Bradford of the Thayer General hospital on the rehabilitation needs of veterans, in which the pro organization has been active through its work of establishing courses at several hospitals. Probable prominence of golf in the rehabilitation of wounded veterans first became a subject of extended discussion among Army and Navy doctors when results of golf at military hospitals at Coral Gables, Fla., White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., and Great Lakes, Ill., were surveyed. Many pros and greenkeepers were quick to offer their services free in extension of this benefit which some authorities say may rank as golf's leading direct contribution to war effort.

The PGA's Teaching committee sessions also featured the convention's constructive phases and presented strong promise of a revival in public interest and gain from instruction to a degree that may partially offset pro reduced sales of equipment. A preview of the Golf Stars in Action film was shown to the convention. Chairman Joe Novak of the committee hopes to be able to show this film to servicemen audiences on a basis comparable with the wide distribution of baseball's movie.

Considerable development of the PGA interest in caddie welfare was forecast by the report and recommendations made by Ernie Shave, chairman of the committee the association has in this field.

George Aulbach, long a leading businessman in pro ranks, proposed a movement for a pro business short course at some university as an educational effort parallel with the greenkeeping short courses which have been so valuable to greenkeepers and to golf. The association also further considered purchase of a PGA course at Dunedin, Fla.

The tournament report showed the able promotion efforts of Fred Corcoran and presented a story that justified the financial support extended the tournament bureau by the Athletic Institute when the future of the circus circuit was somewhat uncertain.

Elders in the PGA ranks made their liveliness known in announcing at the PGA's annual convention resumption of the pro seniors' national championship, Jan. 15-19 at the Dunedin Isles (Fla.) GC, and formation of the Quarter Century Club for PGA members who have been pros 25 years or more.

An interesting indication of an extension of the convention to the public was the showing in Chicago of a PGA instructional film. "Golf Stars in Action," the new PGA instruction movie made its premier during the clinic on golf teaching at the association's recent annual meeting in Chicago. The film was completed under the direction of Vice President Joe Novak, chairman of the PGA teaching Program Committee, consists of three 400-foot reels and includes shots of more than 100 participants in the 1943 Chicago Victory Open and the Tam O'Shanter tournaments. It represents a grouping of especially selected swing shots culled from an original 3,200 feet of film.

The pictures offer 60 minutes of highly instructive entertainment for clubs and public gatherings and can be used by PGA sections as a basis of discussion and exchange of ideas on form. A lively stimulus to the game, they are assured of an enthusiastic welcome throughout the United States. Each section may purchase a copy of the film for such use as they see fit. All requests for their use should be referred to officers of the sections in which they originate. Army and Navy requests should be referred to the PGA Chicago office. As one order, including all copies desired, will be placed in the near future, PGA sections are asked to place their order early.

Son of W. T. Brown Dies in Italy

William Thayer Brown, Jr., a son of the widely known Spalding official, died in November in Italy. He was 23. He went from Yale after his graduation in 1943 into the war. At the time of his death he was attached to the Office of Strategic Services. He had been manager of Yale's football team.

Besides his parents he is survived by three brothers; one of them in the Marines and another in the Navy.