MAKING THE SWING

THE GOLF WORLD'S NEWS IN BRIEF

By HERB GRAFFIS

Travel restrictions during troop and war material movement to west coast is expected to sharply reduce class of summer tournament fields... But there'll be no beefing... The main competition is against Japan... Everything else is a sideline... Byron Nelson, who has played in considerably more war fund benefits, bond drive and military hospital appearances than any other pro athlete, is going to take a rest by doctor's orders.

There's talk about the USGA and R&A getting together on world standard post-war ball... Main problem is control of ball distance... Necessity of long courses so clubs could boast of championship class of courses resulted in property taxes far larger than ball expenses... However you've got to hit any ball before it'll go very far... And most golfers rarely hit a ball correctly.

Fred Knight of Pine Bluff is new pro at Hardscrable CC, Fort Smith, Ark... Fred Dinger is pro six days a week at Misquamicut GC and one day at Agawam Hunt club in Rhode Island... Holyoke (Colo.) CC is considering buying land for new course... Cooperstown, N. D., plans to reopen golf course... Potowomut GC, E. Greenwich, R. I., has bought land it has been leasing... Woodmere club, old Long Island organization, has bought more land including part of Rockaway Hunt club's course.

Springfield, Mo., park board is offered a money course by a builder if the board will allow him operating profits for seven years... Harry Kimber is new supervisor of Excelsior Springs, Mo., course... Extensive course alterations are planned in prospect of postwar golf boom.

July, 1945
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at the Missouri resort... Denison (Ia.) CC is planning a new clubhouse.

Hoke S. Cooley, formerly pro at Griffin (Ga.) Municipal course, has been killed in action... Carlsbad (N. Mex.) is planning a first-class country club... Doug Woodrow, many years pro at Berrien Hills CC, then in war work, has returned to golf as pro at Muskegon (Mich.) CC... Fred Annon and Sal DiBuono had to race through PGA NY Met district qualifying rounds to get back to their war plant jobs.

Crowley (La.) GC is being revived... Lt. Col. Ward J. Walker, former hotel manager, is out of the army now and mgr., Spokane (Wash.) CC... Arkansas City (Ark.) CC has paid off its mortgage... Harold McDoie, asst. pro, Griffith Park course, Los Angeles, died June 1 as result of a motorcycle accident occurring as he was leaving the course... Stamford (N. Y.) CC gave a free dinner for a party of four to first buyer of a $1000 bond at a recent bond rally.

Wannsee course near Berlin has gone to hay but the clubhouse is intact... British are constructing a 9-hole course at Bad Eilsen near Hanover for their occupation troops... Play of Allied soldiers is heavy at Royal Belgium and Waterloo courses near Brussels, Belgium... Royal and Ancient has decided there'll

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be no British Open or Amateur until after V-J Day. . . . Fred Pignon, internationally-known British golf writer, who managed the 1931 British Ryder Cup team, is rejoicing with Mrs. Pignon at the return of their son who was a prisoner of war in Germany since early in the war.

George Nicoll, noted clubmaker died recently in Scotland. . . . He was 82. . . . Nicoll visited the U. S. and built a big clubhead business in this country.

Many greenkeepers, even with war factory work easing up, still have two jobs. . . . One is at their club and the other, willingly done “for free” is construction of putting greens for military hospitals. . . . They’ve done great work on these installations. . . . They’re seldom getting deserved public recognition of the work. . . . But the pros who staged exhibition matches for financing the courses laud the greenkeepers. . . . Pros say the hospital course nation-wide movement couldn’t have been put across successfully without enthusiastic, expert collaboration of greenkeepers. . . . Greenkeepers are having a problem teaching hospital maintenance men to care for the greens. . . . In several cases German and Italian prisoners of war have been taught to maintain the greens very satisfactorily.

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Carl Bretzlaff has returned to Meridian Fields CC, Indianapolis, as supt. after being in charge of maintenance at Stout Field. He continues to serve the army air field in a supervisory capacity. Vet's hospital at St. Paul, Minn., is getting a practice green. Jock Hendry of Town & Country club heads the PGA committee on the job. Twin City greenkeepers have done the construction. Indiana greenkeepers are constructing a large driving range and practice green at Camp Atterbury, south of Indianapolis.

Easing of gasoline rationing is expected to restore greenkeeper sectional association summer meeting to nearly pre-war figures. The supt's have plenty of troubles to discuss together. Labor shortage and breakdowns of worn-out machinery years older than its expected life, are two of the painful headaches.

General Electric Co. has bought a 200 acre estate near Bridgeport, Conn. for an employees' club and will build golf course after the war. George Anderson, pro at Powelton club, Newburgh, N. Y., died in his sleep June 19. He was a brother of the late Willie, winner of the National Open of 1901, '03, '04, '05. Musconetcong CC, Netcong, N. J. site has been bought by Cronheim Realty.
Co. which will restore the 9-hole course. ... The company also owns Twin Brooks CC, Plainfield, N. J.

Members have bought Brookville CC, Matinecock, L. I., N. Y. ... North Hills CC, Douglaston, L. I., N. Y., has been bought by members. ... Oceanside (N. Y.) CC has changed owners. ... James Law now is pro-mgr, Concordia hotel course, Monticello, N. Y. ... Leonard Oberti is new pro at Hyannis (Mass.) CC. ... John Capello, at Hyannis for 18 years, now is pro at Bradford (Pa.) CC. ... Clarence Doser, Scarsdale (N. Y.) CC pro again is conducting his 2-hour Friday morning classes for juniors. ... Clarence says some of this year's students show signs of becoming star postwar amateur talent.

Sgt. Merle Lint, former Des Moines, Ia., pro is coaching U. S. Marines golf team at San Diego, Calif. ... Cigarettes, golf balls and liquor—a trio of scarce items—were offered as prizes in a tournament at Colonial CC, New Orleans, La. with proceeds to be used in remodeling and redecorating the clubhouse. ... If steaks had been put up as prizes they wouldn't have had enough room on the course for all entrants! ... Jack Redmond, trick shot artist, is touring the world again, this time with USO. ... Keesler Field, Miss., first post golf team decisively defeated Tulane University recently, 17½—9½ at Audubon GC at New Orleans. ... Sgt. Albert W. Vawter, formerly a pro at Oklahoma City, Okla., fell 2,000 feet when his chute failed to function right after a Fortress in which he was rear gunner was hit over Germany. ... Sgt. Vawter has had a leg amputated but is recovering from other injuries at Bushnell General hospital, Douglas, Ariz. ... Henry Bontempo, Franchon CC pro, is giving class lessons regularly to sailors at Springfield (Mass.) College naval hospital. ... Joe Zieman will become year-round pro at Bay Shore club, Miami Beach, Fla., when it reopens in the fall after being turned back by the Army. ... Jimmy Bryson of Miami Beach will be Bay Shore mgr. ... Portland, Ore., muny courses have been making money and will pay $25,000 water bill to the city. ... Coffeyville, Kan., Recreational commission has taken over Edgewood GC.

Many smaller town courses have been reopened this year because of marked increase of golf interest. ... Mena, Ark., is restoring golf course which has been
used for military purposes. . . Lisbon, N. D., sand-green 9 holes have been reclaimed from pasture by men and women golfers. . . Britain is rebuilding golf courses released from food production. . . Among these jobs is reconstruction of Longniddry course by Mackenzie Ross. Relaxing of gas rationing has been a big help to British course maintenance.

Wilmington (Del.) CC considers buying Concord CC to provide facilities for increased membership. . . Robt. F. Scott is now gkpr. at Glens Falls (N. Y.) CC. . . Gordon Richards, Broadmoor club, Seattle, Wash., pro is new pres., Pacific Northwest PGA. . . Meadowbrook GC, Sumner, Ia., buys land on which its 9-hole course is located.

Grassy Sprain GC, Yonkers, N. Y., will operate on pay-play basis this year. . . Rumors had slated Grassy Sprain for subdividing. . . Donald Ross is revamping Lenoir (N. C.) course. . . Joe Kaifas is new pro at Four Lakes CC, Adamsville, Mich. . . Mitchell (S. D.) CC plans extensive improvements after V-J Day. . . Bloomington, Ind., Cascades muny course to have new clubhouse. . . Small new clubhouse proposed by Mapleton (Ia.) GC.

. . . Denison (Ia.) CC is planning construction of new clubhouse.

Donald Ross will add 9 holes to Charlotte (N. C.) CC course, build a new 18 hole course for the Lenoir (N. C.) CC, build a new 18 hole course at Fayetteville, N. C., and practically rebuild the Myers Park course at Charlotte, N. C. . . . The postwar golf boom is budding in North Carolina. . . Donald is the gentleman who made golf one of North Carolina’s big businesses.

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**When the Weatherman Throws the Switch**

Hook and Slice, twin sons of Joe Kirkwood, trick-shot master, take after their pappy in fishing as a sideline. Joe said the kids caught fish on this surf fishing expedition. The lads are wearing a couple of snappy numbers in sportsman’s attire.