The clubhouse at the Peninsula CC, formerly known as Beresford, has been renovated—inside and out. Pro Willie Nichol reports business is fine.

Nelson Cullenward, medically discharged Marine Corps lieutenant who has returned to his post as golf writer for the San Francisco Call-Bulletin, was the surprise of the recent Northern California Amateur Championships. Despite the triple handicap of his profession, chronic left-handedness and a back injury received while overseas, Cullenward defeated some of the State’s finest amateurs to reach the final. He shot far better than his normal seven-handicap game until the last nine holes of the 36-hole final match where the law of averages finally located him. The other golf writers in the area look like they have been drinking chlorophyll.

Dick Fry, one of California’s five golfing Fry brothers, has been transferred to an Army hospital in San Diego. Dick, who left the Oakland Municipal GC pro’s job for service as a private with the 99th Infantry, was wounded twice while fighting in France.

Tom Fry, the youngest of the clan, is back at home on a 30-day furlough after participating in the drive through France as a Signal Corp private. He was professional at the Healdsburg Muny course before entering the Army.

Earl Nagel, professional at Tilden Park, Berkeley, has a prodigy under his tutelage. The lad, Don Falconer, 11, already breaks 100 and will develop into a fine shotmaker once he adds weight.

Eddie Duino, of San Jose, president of the local PGA Section, reports that more than $3000 has been banked already for the Section’s veterans’ rehabilitation fund. Exhibition matches in San Jose and Alameda accounted for much of the money. All clubs are scheduling week-end competitions to add to the total.

Ted Robbins, pro at Harding Park, a San Francisco municipal course, reports something which is added proof that golfers are nice people.

Harding members, Hal Flanders and Ernie Woods, were on the 12th tee in their third flight match in a club tournament. Woods was two-up when he smacked a nice drive down the middle and collapsed. Flanders ran for help but Woods died from a heart attack in the ambulance.

When Flanders was informed that he must be considered the winner, he objected on the grounds he had been two-down and “Ernie would have beaten me.” The tournament committee insisted, however, and Flanders returned for three more Sundays until he won the cup. He took it to an engraver. The trophy now is in the home of Mrs. Ernest C. Woods. It bears this engraving:

Harding Park Directors’ Cup Tournament Third Flight Won by Ernie Woods.

“It was Ernie’s cup,” Flanders told the widow. “I could never have beaten him. It is fitting that you have his trophy.”

No Caddie Shortage In India

★ 1337 BU, Assam, India.—Fifteen thousand miles is a long way to travel to play a game of golf, but four Ordnance men assigned to this ICB base did just that.

Lt. Milton A. Waldman, Boston, Mass., S/Sgt. Howard Hullinger, Bluffs, Ill., Sgt. John Heping, Racine, Wis., and Corp. Anon Leard, Amarillo, Tex., all with 1½ years overseas duty, are getting to be regular customers at this picturesque little course which is located just a few miles from their field.

Owned by the planters of the surrounding tea plantations, the nine hole course was carved from the center of beautiful tea fields and bamboo jungles. A clear, winding river flanks one side. Indian caddies are always present in goodly numbers to dive and wade for stray balls.

The owners have thrown open the course, named “Bordubi”, free of green fees to all personnel. Clubs are furnished gratis by the Special Services section. However, the ball shortage has hit the game hard here as elsewhere, and the sight of two men alternating driving one ball is not unusual.

In India where manpower is cheap, each player has not one but two caddies. One carries the bag and tees up the ball, and the second, the “fore caddie”, has the sole duty of staying well in front of the players and watching the ball. The latter is a very important person, what with the bad combination of a critical ball situation and the dense jungles that grow near the fairways.

In drastic difference to the priceless nature of balls is the astoundingly cheap charge for a caddie. For nine holes a caddie receives 2 annas (about 4 cents American), and 4 annas for 18 holes. The fore caddies are paid the same. Club rules rigidly forbid exceeding this price.

Lt. Waldman is a beginner at the game. “Little did I know that I would start my golfing career in the Frank Buck country of India”, he laughed. Corporal Leard, who was a member of his school team and had won the district tournament at Canyon, Texas, near his home, helps his CO with much-needed lessons.