

Begin Private Campaigns for Green Section Support

By HERB GRAFFIS

NOW THE FUTURE of the Midwest Turf Garden of the USGA Green Section and continuance of other research activities of the Green Section is strictly up to the golfers and clubs that have been crying and shivering at the prospect of curtailment of the Green Section's valuable work.

Official word from Herbert Jaques, president of the USGA, and Ganson Depew, chairman of the USGA Green Section, advises that contributions will be received specifically for Green Section work. Such contributions will be devoted to work in the territories from which the money is received, insofar as possible, although such work as the continuance of weed control work of national character probably will require that whatever of the money is devoted to this particular work be placed where it will do the most good generally. Weed control experiments, which are of special value since reduction of course budgets gave weeds a chance to take command, is one of the big jobs of the Green Section that was laid low by enforced curtailment of the Green Section budget by the USGA.

The United States Golf Association last year devoted more money to Green Section work than it took in from member dues. This year the budget had to be hacked. Golf club officials will understand.

The USGA functions of seeing that golf is played by uniform rules, with legal equipment, and that major championships are officially conducted, require plenty of dough even on a depression budget basis of acute thrift.

The Green Section work, which intimately affects every golfer who wants true putting surfaces, good fairway lies and proper tees, actually calls for more money than the USGA ever has been able to devote to it. The hell of the USGA's job with the Green Section is that everybody who plays golf gets definite benefits from the Green Section, but only a comparatively few of the golfers, through their

clubs, contribute to the cost of the Green Section's work.

It's Up to You

With the major problem of the USGA now being to get more members at the low rate of \$30 a year, the USGA is not going to figure itself in the solicitation of subscriptions for Green Section work. That will be done sectionally and every sectional golf organization of clubs, greenkeepers and pros is expected to show enough acquaintance with the requirements and value of Green Section work in its territory to start campaigning for funds on its own initiative. Those who do not know now what the Green Section work has done for golf are not fully qualified as sectional association officials until they inquire around and learn the score.

In the midwestern district John McGregor, former president of the Midwest Greenkeepers' Assn.; Joe G. Davis, secretary of the Chicago District GA; Wade Franklin, sports writer of the Chicago *Evening American*, and Herb Graffis, editor of GOLFDOM, have been appointed as the committee in charge of passing the hat.

They have begun to enlist the various sectional groups of golf clubs (private and fee), greenkeepers and pros in furnishing funds for the continuance of the Midwest Turf Garden on a basis of selling one of the most valuable services in golf. Plan involved is to keep USGA members and contributors in midwest territory in closer contact with the Green Section's work at the station than ever before.

Live golf interests in the midwest territory already have given indication of substantial contributions, and it is expected that the campaign will have a decidedly favorable effect on the renewal of USGA memberships by many of the clubs that have dropped out. Certainly \$30 a year for USGA membership is an expense that a well-operated club of any size can assume for the promotion of the game and its own direct benefit.