

# PRO'S PLAN MAKES MATCHES

By FRED E. KUNKEL

**A** BLACKBOARD, a few typewritten notes—and twosomes, threesomes and foursomes are made up and drive off chuckling and completely happy. It all started when one of those phenomena appeared, known as a golf bug, who does his dozen and a half daily on the golf links, regardless of weather.

The golf bug arrived and complained he didn't have a game. He had tried to call up some of his friends but was unsuccessful in contacting them, or inducing them to play.

The assistant pro was sympathetic but noncommittal. He didn't want to play. The weather was unfriendly. It was cloudy and stormy. The wind was blowing a gale. Old Sol hadn't shown his face all day. The pro-shop was cozy and warm. But the member was in good standing so he reluctantly laid aside a golf club head he was sand papering and played golf.

But out of that came an idea. Why not organize this group of men who played almost every day, bring them together, and get them to gang up? He talked it over while they were chasing their drives down the fairway, and his plan met with an enthusiastic reception.

That same evening the assistant pro jotted down a few ideas on a sheet of paper which read something like this: "There are a number of more or less elderly golf players who play nearly every day for the joy of the game and for small stakes. To make up a foursome requires much use of the telephone. It has to be repeated daily. It is a nuisance to the player. And on occasions, in a telephone call, a few minutes delay in the call leaves out someone with whom others desire to play. All play about alike and none objects to being partner to any other. The only fear is leaving somebody out or not getting a game.

"Now, if they will telephone me that they are going to play I can put their name down on a blackboard in the golf shop and make up matches as the names are given me, seeing that no one is left out.

"Thus I can help to arrange a game in the group at any time. All a man needs to do is to call me up. He doesn't have

to telephone anybody else. Then when they come out they have a game arranged.

"They let me know what time they expect to start and when they are going to play. Their names go on the blackboard and any one in that group will understand on arrival who is going to play that day.

"When they arrive they know who is here and I can make up their twosomes or threesomes or foursomes, or they can make it up as they wish. In the event I should get five names, I am to see that four of them don't go out and leave one man stranded but that two go out in one group and three in the other.

"Its going to be an excellent idea. Heretofore they had to wait around for a game or for somebody to show up—and maybe that somebody would be a stranger to them and they like to play in their own group.

Matches will start weekdays at any time between 1:30 and 2 p. m. at the convenience of the players and in accordance with notice given to the pro. Anyone is free to make up any other match he desires, without calling up.

These notes made, the pro then set down these rules in 1, 2, 3 fashion on a typewritten sheet of paper and handed it to a group of 12 or 15 players and they all agreed to the plan. Provision was made that additional members might be nominated by any three and accepted, automatically; unless there was an objection.

At the bottom of the rules appeared the names of the various players, their score or handicap, and their playing habits, such as "regular," "two or three times a week," "occasionally," "once or twice a week."

And now everybody's happy and everybody knows that they are almost sure of a game if they call up the pro and let him know they are coming out.

And this continues good for every day in the year, 365 days, not once in a while.