

Despite the general belief that golf club resignations are caused mainly by members leaving town or suffering sharp reductions in incomes, careful investigations by representative clubs have determined that the majority of resignations result from some dissatisfaction with club operations.

Inasmuch as each member represents a considerable amount of annual income for the average club, it plainly is unwise to let the points of dissatisfaction develop. The questionnaire method not only gives the officials and department heads a clear picture of what the members are thinking about the club, but shows each member that he is regarded as one who has an important part in determining the club's operation policies and methods.

**Youngstown Increases Open Purse—** Purse for this season's playing of the Youngstown Open has been increased from \$250 to \$1,000. Jack Miskell, pro at the 9-hole Poland Golf course where the tournament is held, reports that the first Open, held last year, did so well that

tournament officials decided to put the event on a larger, and an annual basis. Youngstown lies between Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Akron, and last year drew heavily from these districts, both in players and gallery attendance.

Ted Luther, Churchill Valley CC pro, won the 1938 event with a score of 137 for the 36 holes. Sam Parks, former National Open champion, and Al Espinosa, Akron, were also included in the field. Miskell says many additional "name" stars have already indicated they will take part in this year's meet, which will be held July 24-25.

## New York Caddies Are Under Unemployment Rules

ACCORDING to a decision of the New York Unemployment Insurance Appeal Board, made March 8, caddies in that state are employees of clubs, and the clubs are liable for payment of unemployment insurance contributions based on the caddies' earnings. The decision said earnings included all amounts paid to caddies,

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whether in the form of fees per round or fees per hour, given by golf players or others, whether members or guests of the club.

The New York board said that since the Unemployment Insurance Law was passed in 1935, many clubs denied their liability for payment of contributions on the ground that caddies were not employed and paid by the clubs, and that the decision it made was on appeal from the Industrial Commissioner's ruling that clubs must pay contributions on earnings of caddies. Two members of the board signed the affirming decision, with one dissenting opinion being filed.

The majority opinion in part, said: "We cannot agree with the appellants' contention that the services of the caddie do not commence until he actually goes out on

the golf course with a player, and that he therefore can only be the employee of the player. The contention that the caddie-master does not act for the club, but merely as an employment agency on behalf of the player, is likewise untenable.

"The fact is that the appellants undertook to make available to members and players the services of caddies. Such services are essential to the operation of a golf course. The hiring and assignment of the caddies was done by appellants. . . . We attach little importance to the fact that the caddies may receive their compensation from the players. Under the unemployment insurance law, direct payment by the employer is not essential to the employer-employee relationship."

The dissenting opinion said, in part, "The caddie is allowed access to the course solely by sufferance of the club. . . . Although the club fixes the fee to be paid the caddie and sometimes makes the physical payment thereof, this is done solely as a convenience to the player. . . . Caddies are under no compulsion to report at any time. . . . Their earnings are dependent solely upon their own initiative and diligence. I believe the relationship of employer and employee, if it exists at all, is only to the player and the caddie."

**40 Years Old**—Minikahda, Minneapolis' famous country club, commemorated its fortieth year in a handsome booklet giving word and picture history of the establishment, its members and events. Of the 58 charter members, 6 survive in the roster.

Among interesting details in the book is mention of Robert Taylor, pro; Charles Erickson, greenkeeper, and Emil Anderson, engineer, who have a combined service of 115 years and 8 months with Minikahda.

**Jack Mackie, Jr., Is Married**—Jack Mackie, Jr., son of the veteran treasurer of the PGA, and widely known among golfers, was married to Virginia Dare Hill, March 5, at the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Maywood, N. J.

The nuptials brought together two of the great names in history. Jack's middle name is Bruce, one of Scotland's top men. Virginia Dare, of course, was one of America's first ladies.

The honeymoon was spent at Pinehurst.