

## Public Play Is Booming

FURTHER evidence that the base of golf is broadening on the lower income brackets comes from public course play in the winter resort areas. Especially in Los Angeles is the condition apparent. There's been great play on Griffith Park's 3 courses, Sunset Fields' 2 courses, Western Avenue course, Santa Anita course, and the former private courses: Rancho, Potrero, Baldwin Hills and Brentwood. Santa Monica's public course and the Brookside Park course at Pasadena likewise are having increasing play.

Among the L. A. district private clubs Los Angeles CC, Hillcrest, Riviera, Bel Air, San Gabriel, Wilshire, Lakeside and Oakmont are doing well.

Los Angeles Junior Chamber of Commerce golf promotion has been a substantial element in keeping the game flourishing, the L. A. Open in particular being definitely responsible for an increase in public course play.

Phoenix and adjacent territory also is having an upsurge in golf. The Western Open contributes to the promotion. Arizona Biltmore advance booking is greatly in excess of last season. More than half the guests play on the Biltmore course. At San Marcos, Chandler, Ariz., where a distinguished roster of guests has a fine course adjacent to the hotel, bookings are satisfactory, though not phenomenal. It's early, too, for getting definite record on Boca Raton (Fla.) Club, probably the nation's largest high-cost winter golf establishment. Nevertheless, by mid-February a full house is expected, which will hold through March. For February, Hotel Charlotte Harbor at Punta Gorda, Fla., one of the top Florida West Coast resorts is 75 per cent sold out, and at Bellair, Fla., too, advance bookings for February and March have been heavy.

### Miami Play Soars

Indian Creek CC, a deluxe spot of the Miami Beach area, had December play 30 per cent above that of December 1939. Willie Klein at La Gorce GC, Miami Beach, reports play picking up with bright promise of a "real good season." Miami Biltmore CC started off its season's schedule of tournaments with entry 15 per cent larger than the same event had the preceding season. Ned Everhart, Miami Bilt-

more pro, makes the almost general comment of winter golf resort pros in stating that convention business does not loom as big as in some previous years but that individual patronage may hit a new record.

Pinehurst, N. C., one of the most accurate barometers of fall, winter and spring golf resort business is continuing the fall showing which revealed more business than the noted resort had had since autumn, 1928.

## Jack Burke's 142 Wins PGA Seniors Event

JACK BURKE, River Oaks CC, Houston, Tex., continued his demonstration of enduring skill by taking the PGA Seniors tournament at Sarasota with an impressive 142. Two decades ago at the Inverness Club, Toledo, Jack finished in a tie at 296, with Leo Diegel, Jock Hutchison and Harry Vardon, one stroke behind Ted Ray, the winner of the 1920 National Open. In the interim Texas PGA titles were wrested by Jack from fast fields of youngsters whose linen was being changed by their mamas away back when Jack was a playing topnotcher.

Jack opened with a 75 over the Sarasota Bay course to tie with Eddie Williams, to lead H. C. Hackbarth and Jack Gordon by a stroke, and Jock Hutchison, Sr., Jim Barnes, Dave Livie and Tom Bonnar by a couple of shots.

The final round, on the Bobby Jones course, brought forth a beautiful 67 by Jack. Willie Ogg got a 70 in the final round, and Freddie McLeod a 71. Freddie's brilliant finish yanked him up from a slow start to a tie with Jim Barnes for sixth place in the largest field of seniors the four-year old championship of the PGA Seniors has drawn.

Leading scores, other than Burke's, were: Eddie Williams, 149; H. C. Hackbarth, Jock Hutchison and Jack Gordon, 150; Fred McLeod and Jim Barnes, 151; Willie Ogg and Alex Taylor, 153; George Sargent and Tom Bonnar, 154; Dave Livie, 155; Willie Maguire and Fred Miley, 156; Gil Nichols, Milton Theobald, Frank Coltart, Wendell Kay and George Morris, 157.