

Pros Report Smooth Progress in '40

Quiet 24th conclave displays notable teamwork and unity in PGA activities.

ANOTHER PGA convention on the constructive side went into the records as the pro association held its 24th annual meeting at the Morrison hotel, Chicago, early in November.

Tom Walsh was re-elected president. Only change in the official batting order was retirement of Capt. Charles Clarke for Frank Sprogell, Kent CC, Grand Rapids, Mich., as sec. The old political extravaganza was displaced by the themes of how to make a living and how to strengthen the game and the clubs.

The only controversy worthy of note concerned American citizenship as an essential of PGA of America membership, and it was handled calmly and impersonally. The matter was highlighted because some old-timers are partially dependent on British war pensions, therefore an ironclad rule could be an edict unbecoming to sportsmen in passing judgment on unfortunate colleagues whose torsos might be ballasted with slugs, whose lungs might be shrivelled by gas, and whose incomes might be puckered by the vicissitudes of pro golf.

An educational session at which pros and amateurs reviewed pro business and education progress and suggested lines for future work was a feature of the convention's concluding hours.

The President's dinner again was one of the highlights of the meeting, with 309 dinners being served. Master of ceremonies was Frank T. Sprogell, who introduced an impressive list of local and national golf officials, and radio and newspapermen. Tom Kelly's kids put on some swell entertainment as part of a show staged by the Illinois section, with Alex Cunningham acting as chairman of the entertainment committee.

High spots of various reports:

President Tom Walsh—PGA ball deal being ironed out in accord with Federal Trade Commission opinion.

Silver anniversary of the Association to be celebrated at the 1941 PGA Seniors championship.

Recommended cash award to medalist in PGA championship, in addition to Alex Smith memorial medal.

PGA sections have been responsible for approximately \$50,000 to American Red Cross. The Detroit match netted over \$12,-

000. Acting on suggestion from Jack Fox, pres., New Jersey section, PGA of America also contributed a Red Cross ambulance to Britain.

PGA caddie educational program lauded by USGA officials and many club officials and members, and the press.

Educational conferences of PGA in collaboration with various colleges and universities were inaugurated with great success and promise of tremendous potentialities.

Advised planning for PGA members to cooperate in government's physical fitness campaign.

Suggested assistance, when needed, to drafted PGA members.

Senior PGA Committee—Field in 1940 championship 50 per cent larger than 1939. Sarasota, Fla., is to have 1941 Senior PGA championship Jan. 10-12.

Section Boundaries Committee—Propose neutral zones of 40-50 mile width at present boundary lines. Members living within such neutral zones permitted to select section most suitable for him.

PGA 1941 Officers

Pres., TOM WALSH, Westgate Valley CC., Worth, Illinois.

Sec'y, FRANK T. SPROGELL, Kent CC., Grand Rapids, Mich.

Treas., WILLIE MAGUIRE, Houston CC., Houston, Texas.

Hon. Pres., GEORGE R. JACOBUS, Ridgewood CC, Ridgewood, N. J.

Hon. Vice-Pres., ROBERT T. JONES, WALTER HAGEN.

Vice-Pres., Howard Beckett, Capital City Club, Atlanta, Ga.; Capt. Charles Clarke, Willowick GC., Willoughby, Ohio; Charles Congdon, Tacoma G&CC., Tacoma, Wash.; Alex Cunningham, North Shore CC., Glenview, Ill.; Jimmy Hines, Lakeville CC., Great Neck, L. I., N. Y.; Larry Nabholz, Lakewood CC., Dallas, Tex.; George Schneiter, Ogden G&CC., Ogden, Utah; Ernest Smith, Ely Park GC., Binghamton, N. Y.; Eugene Wogan, Essex County CC., Manchester, Mass.