

Study Plans to Equip Practice Ranges for Service Men

ACTING on information from officers and men at Army and Navy posts, GOLFDOM in November circulated among officials of men and women's district golf associations a proposal that the associations consider a plan to collect used clubs and balls to be turned over to servicemen for golf practice ranges.

Response from associations was extensive and enthusiastic. Women's golf organizations were especially responsive and suggested detailed workable plans.

Service officers were desirous of getting the equipment for immediate use at locations where weather permitted, as these authorities considered installation of golf practice ranges would be very effective in helping to solve the recreation and exercise problem.

A national plan, outlining methods of collection and distribution, was made from suggestions advanced by interested golf associations. Some PGA sections had volunteered to recondition clubs for us at the military naval posts.

Then came Dec. 7 and war compelling postponement of the nation-wide enterprise for service men.

However the soldiers and sailors golf practice range idea is to be carried out sectionally, according to such arrangements as sectional amateur associations, pros and greenkeepers learn are advisable after conference with post authorities.

Greenkeepers Volunteer Service

Greenkeepers have volunteered their design and supervision service in helping the posts get ranges installed.

Regional golf associations are advised to investigate possibilities of their service in providing and equipping golf practice ranges at posts in their vicinities. The Women's Golf Assn. of the Philadelphia District has outlined a campaign for collection and distribution of clubs, the latter per post officers' instructions, to posts adjacent to Philadelphia.

Since conditions at most posts differ, consultation with the post Commanding Officer, or the Athletic, Recreation or Morale officer, must determine the plan by which regional golf organizations may best help supply golf range operations.

At present personnel at the posts is frequently changing, and officers and men are

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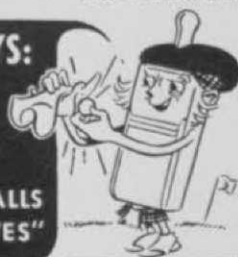
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hard at war work. Nevertheless, the plans for a rapidly expanding Army and Navy include outdoor recreation of the type ideally supplied by golf practice ranges.

Some army officers believe that, with war-time regulations keeping men on posts most of the time, the driving ranges will become exceedingly popular with the constantly increasing Army and Navy.

"Golf is the Perfect Sport"—"Golf is the perfect sport and deserves the front spot in our leisure hour program". So begins the foreword of the Southern California Gas Co. Employees' GA report for 1941. The Association exhibits the lively attraction and value of golf for office and shop employees. It provides one of numerous demonstrations of golf's service to workers' recreation programs which have been made highly important by war.

A feature of a recent meeting of the Southern California employees' group was a demonstration and blackboard talk on the PGA's golf instruction research, given by Joe Novak.

Managers Meet March 4-7 in Chicago for Annual Convention

War-time club operations as the theme of the 16th annual convention of the Club Managers' Assn. of America is expected to draw the organization's largest attendance to the Drake Hotel, Chicago, March 4-7.

If clubs justify themselves in performance and stabilize themselves to war-time conditions managers' jobs will be fortified. On that account managers intend to conduct at Chicago their most specifically valuable sessions.

Tax problems, of course, will be one of the big subjects. Ed Horgan of the Dept. of Internal Revenue and specialists from Horwath and Horwath will discuss and try to clarify the frequently bewildering subject of club taxes.

But operating, promoting and management matters will have the edge over the tax sessions for the reason that managers see the job of attracting patronage to the clubs and serving it with satisfaction, distinction and efficiency, is what's going to determine the destiny of many country and city clubs. Managers' attention is centering primarily on how to sell the club to the community during the rough months ahead.

Jacques DeJong of the Beach Point Club, Mamaroneck, N. Y., will preside over the country club managers' sessions. Golf and country club managers who have topics they'd like to have handled at these conferences are asked to send their suggestions to DeJong or to Frank Murray, Glen View Club, Glen View, Ill. Murray is on the program committee of the Chicago Chapter CMAA, which is host to the convention.

Much interest will be shown in the annual publicity contest exhibit. Managers are invited to send samples of their club publicity to C. R. Bangs, Club Mgrs. Convention, Drake Hotel, Chicago, in time for assembly and display.

Clubs Report War Plans

Many reports of club plans for war-time activities will be presented at the convention; considerable of this material coming from the research recently made by the National Golf Foundation.

Duncan Hines of Adventures in Better Eating fame, Ferre C. Watkins, president of the Union League Club of Chicago, and

Golfdom