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I never realized how near golf comes to being an essential in American life until I got put on overtime at the plant and had to give up the work I had been handling at my club in the evening. The income was fine for me, but I must say that the quality and quantity of my work wasn't as good as it had been when I had been working the regular 8 hours and then going to the club for 4 or 5 hours instruction. That made a long day, but I kept in good shape and kept very much alive on both jobs.

But when I was working so I got no golf at all, my energy and spirits sagged. I wasn't getting the outdoor balance golf provides.

War Workers Learn Game

There has been a lot of golf played by war plant workers this season. It hasn't been the result of much planned promotion on the part of golf. This increase in play has been caused by the workers finally realizing they needed just what golf has to offer. They came to golf rather than golf going after them. It was their good luck that they now have money they can spend for golf in keeping them fit to carry their load of war work.

They are going to continue at golf, although they won't be making the wages after the war that they are now. The soldiers and sailors who have been introduced to golf as part of the armed forces' recreation, also will be playing the game when peace comes. With millions more playing golf, it is sure that the price of golf goods and golf playing fees are going to come down. The biggest selling price class of golf balls probably will be not over 50 cents. The biggest selling price class of clubs also will be lower than it has been. That is going to require a readjustment of pro pay at the private clubs that restrict membership rosters, but generally it should mean more money for pros and manufacturers, for the same reason that Chevrolet and Ford companies have made more money than the Cadillac outfit.

It is going to mean a drastic change in the extent and nature of duties of the pro who keeps his job at a first-class private club. He will have to be a much better trained executive than he now generally is.

And it also is going to mean a great change in the jobs of pros at public and privately-owned fee courses. Before the war we already were able to see that

some of these public and semi-public jobs were in a class with a number of the best private course jobs in the country, for pro income. But, as a usual thing, the possibilities of these pay-as-you-play course jobs were muffed by the pros. One reason was that a man at a public course was looked down on as a social and professional inferior by the pro at a private club. That was foolish, but there is no use of our kidding ourselves; it did and does happen. Another reason why the pay-as-you-play course job possibilities for pros never were developed was that these courses are run as businesses and not often did such courses get a pro who was a businessman. Consequently the courses soured on pros and it is surprising how many of the pay-as-you-play courses don't have pros on their staffs.

However, there is going to be a very greatly changed picture in golf after the war and I believe the pro who knows how to work as intelligently as men in other businesses have to work to be successes, is going to have a much larger net income than now is general in pro golf.

I know that what I have learned by getting in war work is going to make me a lot better pro for my club and myself when I get back on a golf job in peacetime.

Pros who have been able to stay at clubs during the war and who are keeping alive the PGA had better begin planning the postwar future of pro golf right now. Otherwise they will be out of luck individually, and they will be open to plenty of criticism from pros now in armed service for not having been on the job protecting the future of young men who are protecting them the hard way right now.

Houston Holds Big Tourney—Houston, Tex., had 516 men and 57 women enter the city-wide War Bond tournament played at Memorial Park. It was the largest tournament ever held in the city. Starting times were arranged by Hugh Watson, gen. chm., and the tournament committee, so the competition completely avoided any conflict with war workers work-schedules. There were 17 flights for men and two flights for women.

Houston newspapers in printing the pairings gave the telephone number of each contestant after the contestant's name, thus making it easy for competitors to adjust playing time to mutual convenience.