

part of a feature of whatever twilight golf those members may be able to get.

Back of the consolidation negotiations and deals is the conviction that golf is going to be highly important this year to the class of men who constitute the private club membership. The great increase in employee absenteeism has forced attention to the wartime value of recreation plans that keep the employee in physical shape to work and in mental eagerness to keep at the tasks which frequently are monotonous.

However, the executives and engineering staffs generally are not considered in the employees' recreation planning. These men have had heavy responsibilities and long hour work for more than a year. Their intensity, without change of pace, is beginning to show in the quality and quantity of their work. Unless they begin to take care of themselves with the kind of reconditioning golf can supply, they'll crack under the strain.

Some of them already are so lagging in spirit and strength required for their own good that it'll be tough enough to get them to go to some inconvenience to

get the golf they need. Probably, in some cases, the novelty of the proposed consolidations may be a factor in getting them out to the courses.

Admittedly the consolidation proposition has many problems to solve, but to the sort of brains demanded in winning the war the problems shouldn't be too stiff. And there is a fair chance that these golf club consolidations may work out like a similar situation has worked out in the medical field. The doctors who aren't in the service have all the patients they can handle. That will probably be what happens to the golf clubs that are left.

So far, no information regarding daily fee course combinations—to allow survival of outlying courses—has come to GOLFDOM's notice. Because these establishments are privately owned enterprises, there probably won't be any mutual planning to preserve the outlying establishments, although there are cases where co-ordinated working arrangements might be mutually helpful to course owners and a considerable service to the public that counts on golf to keep itself in best condition for the war effort.

USGA Re-Affirms Golf's All-Out for War

By JACK FULTON

THE United States Golf Association at this, its annual meeting, believing that sportsmanship is implicit in the name of golf and that there is also implicit in sportsmanship those qualities which best serve our country in both peace and war, hereby dedicates all it may possess in influence, in organization and in facilities to whatever service or sacrifice may best serve the cause of the United Nations."

This resolution, adopted by the USGA at its annual meeting in New York City, Jan. 9, and conveyed to President Roosevelt, paints in a few words the course the USGA will take in the year ahead—and hence the attitude of golf generally this coming season.

In more detail, as outlined by re-elected

President George W. Blossom, the USGA for 1943 will cancel its traditional championships, will interest itself only in such tournaments as are patterned to the war effort, and will continue to urge its member clubs to contribute the greatest possible service to the nation. This policy is strictly along the lines laid down at the 1942 USGA meeting a year ago, when golf was the first sport to recognize the need for alignment to the war effort

Late in 1942, in an endeavor to measure golf's service during the past year, the USGA sent questionnaires to the country's 5,200 golf courses; 1,296 organizations returned the questionnaires. Of these, 698 clubs and courses gave complete replies and from the data supplied (which should be regarded as indicative of golf's service

rather than a record of golf's total service, since it is based on only 13 per cent of U. S. courses), President Blossom presented the following summary:

\$309,367.92 raised for war relief and recreation funds:

\$3,796,156.08 worth of War Bonds and Stamps bought, sold or invested.

Golf equipment donated to the armed service: 14,873 clubs, 10,186 balls, 1,175 bags

370 courses gave free playing privileges to various categories of service men and 296 reduced dues or fees.

Help was given in establishing driving ranges and other golf facilities at some Army camps for recreation purposes.

122 courses loaned their quarters or otherwise helped in active work of Red Cross, Civilian Defense, State Guard, United Service Organizations, etc. (This has nothing to do with fund-raising.)

The Hale America National Open Golf tournament was the largest event of the year. It was set up with two qualifying series throughout the country and had an entry list of 1,540, which was 138 larger than the Open Championship record. Final play at Ridgemoor CC (Chicago distr.), was jointly sponsored by the USGA, the Chicago DGA and the PGA, attracted huge galleries and was won by Ben Hogan with a 72-hole score of 271, including a 62 on his second round. In all its phases, the Hale America raised \$25,745.27 for the Navy Relief Society and the USO.

Second largest amount raised for war charity was \$19,815.76, given to the Red Cross Detroit chapter from a match at Oakland Hills CC between the PGA's Ryder Cup team and a team of "Challengers."

Publinx Raises \$3,000

The USGA's Public Links Section sponsored a Pearl Harbor tournament at public courses to raise funds for the Red Cross in Hawaii. Some 6,000 public links players entered the event, which was scheduled by 126 layouts, and a total of \$2,988 was raised through entry fees of 50c per player, in most cases.

These, of course, were but three of the many charity events sponsored by various

golfing bodies, and the \$309,000 reported to the USGA in no sense represents golf's total effort in this field. It does not include, for example, the large amount raised through exhibition matches with PGA members, such as the Bing Crosby-Bob Hope tour, or locally arranged exhibitions by PGA members and amateurs.

Bonds, Stamps As Prizes

Early in 1942 the USGA, GOLFDOM and others urged clubs to award War Bonds and Stamps as tournament prizes in place of the usual sort of trophies, and golf clubs generally responded wholeheartedly to the suggestion; many clubs gave bonds and stamps exclusively. A ruling more than a year ago by the USGA executive committee that war bonds up to \$100 face value might be given without violating the amateur regulations was helpful in boosting the total awarded during the year. The reported total of bond and stamp awards from 13 per cent of the nation's courses was \$110,390. Through golf an additional \$3,796,156 worth of bonds and stamps were bought and sold through these 13 per cent of our courses.

Much aid was given by golf to the men in the armed forces who wished to play golf.

Proceeds from the Masters' Tournament of the Augusta National Golf Club were allocated to the construction of a full-sized driving range and an immense practice putting green at Camp Gordon, Ga. At Camp Chaffee, Ark., a driving range with lights for night use was made possible through tournaments at the three golf clubs of Fort Smith, Ark. At Camp Forrest, Tenn., authorities constructed a nine-hole course and a driving range. A nine-hole resort golf course and clubhouse was turned over to Army authorities of Camp Langdon, New Castle, N. H. At Fort Sheridan, Ill., a driving range was constructed by military authorities with the help of the nearby Shoreacres club. Fort McClellan, Ala., put in a driving range with 35 tees, and Camp Croft, S. C., also established a range. There are golf facilities at the Naval Air Station at Pensacola, Fla., and, of course, regulation courses of long standing at a number of other military and naval establishments.

A survey of 698 sources shows that 370 gave free privileges to various categories of service men and 296 reduced dues or fees. The Massachusetts Golf Association

reported that 58 of its 90 member clubs made some form of new arrangement.

Fourteen public courses in and around Los Angeles give free golf to men in uniform from Monday to Friday, and lend clubs gratis; thirty-five clubs give complimentary privileges at any time to a service man with a club member, and games are arranged through USO centers. Members of clubs in the Southern California Public Links Golf Association have made their playing equipment available to service men during the week.

On the civilian side of golf's war picture, President Blossom said:

"The civilian men and women of this country are just as necessarily a part of the war effort as our fighting forces. No man or woman, either in the armed forces or civilian life, should work seven days a week without some form of relaxation.

"Golf plays a dual role for those who find it their form of relaxation. It is a participation sport where one has the benefits of physical exertion outdoors, coupled with the pleasant companionship of one's friends.

"The USGA would like to make it very clear that it is our firm conviction that

golf is a patriotic and proper form of exercise for the men and women of this country and that one should not have the feeling that it is in poor taste to play a game of golf in serious times like these—provided, of course, that it doesn't interfere with the war effort.

"It is my considered opinion that all who can afford it should continue, financially and otherwise, to sponsor their clubs—private, semi-private and public—thereby making them available for the men in the armed services as well as for themselves.

"As the months and possibly years roll by, the men and the women at home are going to be under more and more of a strain, and I think we would be derelict in our duty to our country if we failed to carry out some program of relaxation at intervals.

"We are going to need all the enthusiasm, vitality and stamina we can muster to get through this trying period, and I can't help but feel that we will all be better able to carry on if we do plan on a few hours each week for recreation and exercise. It is surprising how morale is benefited and troubles dissipate on a golf course."

BRIEFS FROM USGA COMMITTEE REPORTS

Rules of Golf: Committee has received and answered somewhat fewer inquiries than normal. Some novel questions indicate possible need for rules changes, but these must wait until after the war, when the R&A can be consulted. Meanwhile, footnotes to the rules will clarify many of these situations.

Implements and Ball: Golf ball testing machine has been dismantled and stored at Illinois Institute of Technology for the duration of the war, but not until after the USGA had had an opportunity to test the "carry" of reprocessed balls; they are reported almost as long on carry as new balls. Sixteen various types and designs of clubs were presented for approval; few met the specifications set forth under the rules.

Amateur Status and Conduct: Only 32 requests for amateur reinstatement were received during the year (as compared with 51 in 1941 and 57 in 1940); of the 32, approval was given to 23 applicants.

Membership: 1942 losses outnumbered

gains, with the result the USGA roster dropped from 835 on Nov. 30, 1941, to 779 on Nov. 30, 1942. The latter figure include 21 clubs in the new \$5.00 per year Public Links Section membership classification, which carries all privileges except voting at USGA meetings, Green Section services and eligibility of members to compete in the National Amateur and Women's National

Museum: During the year, 16 donors augmented the golf museum and library of the USGA with an assortment of relics, including clubs and balls of early vintage, prints, photos, books and clubs used by famous golfers. The museum fund to buy items not otherwise obtainable now stands at \$370.45.

Sectional Affairs: Larger than ever before, with 55 members, this committee had much to do as the major link between the executive committee and the member clubs and sectional associations.

Handicap: Worked to develop a sound method of handicapping. Decided the first