

and maintenance and of clubhouse facilities, have become higher in the past half century. But there is plenty of room for temporary sacrifice of the progress without closing courses for what, in actuality are minor inconveniences and don't destroy the inherent interest and refreshment of the game.

Eaton says: "Confronted with a shortage of all three (machinery, gasoline and manpower), at any price we are told that many golf clubs will have to close up and let their expensive fairways go back to hay—a completely unmarketable commodity these days. It is a gloomy picture, especially for the middle-aged men among us who rely on the game to keep us fit."

Some of Prof. Eaton's suggestions and criticisms are open to controversy, but his

main theme that golf could be kept through the war in healthy condition by reverting to simpler standards of its growing days, looks to be air-tight.

As a matter of fact the hale and hearty performance of a lot of veterans now in senior golf associations indicate that the old breed of golfers may have been a much more rugged bunch than some of today's flock who find current mild inconvenience too much for them.

It has been interesting this year to see how many of the senior golfers are back in business harness working hard at important war industry jobs. They still keep in great shape by taking some of their recreation time on a golf course that they have to reach without using their rubber and gas to drive virtually to the first tee.

## Wartime Economies Preserve Varsity Golf

By JACK PHILLIPS

THE Stanford University GC is not alone in being faced by the task of trying to continue operations in a satisfactory manner under difficult conditions. Its annual income for the 1942 fiscal year dropped \$3,000 below that of the previous year, however operational costs showed a corresponding decrease of \$5,300. Since most of the large overhead figures—rent, taxes and water charges—remain fixed, the greatest part of this reduction had to be made by cutting costs in course maintenance.

This was partly taken care of by the lack of available labor, which reduced the amount spent for wages. During the summer of 1941, 14 men were putting in a full 48-hour week, while in the summer of 1942 only six men were working full-time and a seventh just part-time. Wages had to be substantially increased, however, to hold these remaining key men with the idea that a few experienced men were worth the cost. This factor brought a new headache to E. W. VanGorder, course superintendent, who had to figure out a new routine which would provide a way to keep the course in suitable condition with the necessary economy of labor, and still cut expenses further.

His new plan called for a reduction of expenditures for equipment maintenance, including gas and oil. Previously the fairways had been cut twice a week right up

to the edge of the tees. Now they are cut three times every two weeks beginning about 75 yards in front of the tees and are narrowed.

The greens are mowed three times weekly instead of four. The cups are changed less often than in normal times. Reduction in the use of equipment saved wear and lowered repair costs as well as expenses for operation, and produced much of the needed labor economy.

No equipment was purchased during 1942. VanGorder had to cut down on the use of fertilizer and seed. Although reduced use of water did not reduce the fixed water charges, it helped keep grass from growing rapidly. Now watering is only done once a week in the evening, while previously it was done on two and three nights.

By limiting the maintenance of sand-traps to a bare minimum, VanGorder has saved considerable money previously spent for sand, as well as reducing the amount of time required for upkeep.

Despite all this maintenance reduction, the course still remains in good condition. The narrowing of the fairways makes it even more testing. The fact that winter rules need be used only during two of the very wettest months of the year speaks for itself.

Decline in the number of yearly memberships was a hard problem to face. In

December 1941, they totalled 132, while by the following July the figure had dropped to 98. In an attempt to compensate for this, all new and renewed memberships were put on a monthly cash basis to bring in potential members who did not want to pay by the year, and to enable them to choose the months when they wanted to play. The cash payment eliminated the cost of bookkeeping. This plan has worked very satisfactorily and membership revenues are increasing.

### Fawcett Leaves Lake Shore to Operate Hotel

**HARRY J. FAWCETT**, gen. mgr. of Lake Shore CC, Glencoe, Ill., after seven years of his third term as manager of this outstanding club has resigned, effective July 1. As happened when Harry left Lake Shore in 1925 to become president of the Shoreland Hotel Co. and build in Chicago The Shoreland, America's finest residential hotel, he is again entering the hotel business. He has purchased the Graystone at Elyria, Ohio. Also, as in 1925, Harry was asked to name his own successor and to remain associated with the Lake Shore CC in an advisory capacity through this current season.

Fawcett's successor at Lake Shore will be Edward Neuhart, for the past 17 years manager of the neighboring Knollwood Club, and in winter manager of the Bath and Tennis Club of Miami Beach.

### Young Recalls Golf Club Tasks of World War I

**L. A. YOUNG**, Detroit industrialist, golf enthusiast and financial sponsor of the company that made the Hagen line of golf playing equipment, when golf playing equipment was made, recalls some phases of golf club operation a quarter century ago during the Warm-up War. L. A. writes:

"The cover on April *GOLFDOM* reminded me of experiences during the first World War. At that time I was president of Red Run G. C. and I turned farmer, gardener, golfer, and what have you, for the duration. We were successful in growing enough vegetables for our table and enough hay, etc. for the horses. This was done by making war gardens where the rough had formerly been. It was surprising what we accomplished and we hired no one but men too old for any other

service or boys too young for the armed service.

"Mr. White was manager of the club at that time. He was quite a schemer and knew how to get this work done. We made a ruling that caddies and players must not go in the gardens to look for the ball, and that all gardens would be treated the same as out of bounds. We asked our members to put their names on their golf balls and all golf balls found in the various gardens by our gardeners were returned to members. I received a grand letter from the Secretary of War who had received a report from the local authorities telling of the job that we had done at Red Run. Besides, as Mr. White said, 'It made the club a lot of money,' and that is never to be sniffed at. I believe every golf course holds the same possibilities.

"In addition to our war gardens we allowed all officers and enlisted men to play free of charge, and a great many of the caddies offered their services at half price for uniformed men. I cultivated that because the caddies of yesterday and today are the fighters of tomorrow. They, too, owed something to the men in uniform, and that was their way of paying it."

**Finds Mower; Course Now Okay**—Sgt. Dave D. Hendry, who had added to his other army duties the job of keeping a course in operation for golfers at a Texas army post, had his one ancient mower break up on him. He managed to locate a rarity, a used fairway mower. Now the camp's course is in surprisingly good playing condition.

**Lawson Fills 3 Jobs**—Jimmy Lawson is now manager, as well as pro-greenkeeper at the Country Club of Indianapolis. The club is curtailing to sandwich service in the clubhouse and providing fine facilities for family picnic sessions on clubhouse grounds. Jimmy is one of the grand Scotch-American pro vets who served in the first World War. Three of the fighting Lawson brothers were lost in that war.

**Hold Mixed Event**—The second annual Long Beach (Calif.) Pro-Lady-Amateur sponsored by the Recreation Park GC will be played June 27. Prizes will be \$500 in war bonds and stamps. Gallery fee will be 50 cents, which will go to the Red Cross.

Play will be in foursomes consisting of a professional, a lady, and two amateurs. They will form two teams: pro-lady-amateur, and pro-lady-and-other-amateur.