

"Why Pick on Golf" Asks Soldier's Dad

IF GOLF retards the war effort let every course in the country be closed, and immediately!

But evidence is plain that since war is fought by people with munitions produced by people, and golf preserves and increases the physical capacity of Americans, let's be properly aggressive about maintaining the game as an aid to war effort. Those who sit down and damn the necessary escape and personal rebuilding and refreshing operations of Good Americans who happen to be making proper use of golf in wartime show more of a desire to be bossy than to use common sense. And they are getting away with it, to no good of the nation, because golf hasn't boldly and persistently championed its logical wartime case.

In the newspapers now and then appears a strong and challenging statement of golf's position. One such presentation was made by John Brennan in his "Off the Fairway" column in the *Jamaica (N. Y.), Long Island Press*. Brennan wrote:

"It seems rather ironic in view of all golf has done and intends to do for the service organizations that the Man Power Commission doesn't take some steps to improve the lot of the harassed operators of the thousands of golf courses," complains Ed Walsh of Great Neck.

"All that is required to keep a course on fairly good condition is four or five men, but the average laborer between 38 and 45 lives in fear of being tapped on the shoulder by his local draft board and won't work on the course. It doesn't seem logical for Paul V. McNutt to endorse golf as a morale builder and have a sport that ranks second in the nation for donations to the Red Cross, USO and similar

You need "your country home" more than ever because you have been going at a pretty stiff pace and have been cooped up all winter. You must relax if you want to put your best efforts into the war effort. Every physical breakdown is powder for the common enemy. Don't be a physical gremlin."

Charles E. Curtiss, 2nd, Pres., Wampanoag GC.

agencies. What was done down at the Texas open last weekend when \$2,300,000 in war bonds were sold to spectators can be done in every section of the country. Why discriminate against golf?"

"While making the rounds last weekend, we met a man who shall have to remain anonymous. The man recently lost a son in the Pacific fighting and has two sons about to be inducted. 'If it wasn't for the few hours of relaxation I can get out on the course once or twice a week I don't know what I'd do,' observed the father of one of our heroes who gave his life that his dad and the rest of us can continue to play golf.

"As one manager pointed out the other night in discussing the man-power enigma facing bunkerland, 'every family in our club and most clubs of the country is vitally affected by the war, with sons, daughters and others in the service.' Officials in bunkerland confidently expect the WMC to relax its edict classing greensmen non-essential."

Editorial Warns Don't Be "Dull Patriot"

THE Fort Wayne (Ind.) Journal-Gazette in a recent editorial commented:

"All work and no play makes soldier or civilian a dull patriot.

"Especially in wartime, recreation and relaxation are essential to those who wish to turn in an efficient performance. The army realizes this and is at great pains to keep the men in the service entertained and in high morale. Morale and good spirits are just as essential to the defense plant workers and all others who are fighting on the home front.

"The golf courses are expected to receive a big play this summer from those who want and need more sunshine and fresh air to keep them in good health and condition. Golf has become an established American exercise and recreation. It is no longer the game of the few. Nine holes of golf do wonders for those who spend most of their time indoors and will prove especially helpful to those on the night shifts in war plants.

"Exercise and recreation will do everybody good. Those things are important in peace time. They are doubly important during the strain and stress of war when maximum efficiency and mental alertness are required of everyone.