

PGA's 27th Annual Meeting, Chicago, Nov. 15-17

TWENTY-SEVENTH annual meeting of the PGA of America delegates and executive committee will be held at the Medinah club, 505 N. Michigan ave., Chicago, November 15, 16 and 17.

In addition to the sessions at which the executive committee and delegates will consider matters of organization concern, there will be outside speakers addressing the meeting of the pro's relationship to the general golf situation of wartime.

Reports from various sections of the country indicate that the gathering will be comparatively free from matters of a highly controversial nature, the boys being of the opinion that this is a time for concentrated battle action against the nation's enemies. The arguments slated to come before the convention concern misunderstandings that should be settled to mutual satisfaction and without fiery outbursts.

Pros of several sections express the conviction that the ball situation for 1944 may determine the fate of golf for the duration, and say that they are none too optimistic about the prospects inasmuch as they have had difficulty in getting all PGA members to appreciate the threat and to work continuously in acquiring balls for reconditioning. However, these men doubt that the PGA meeting can do more than to repeat the previous warnings and pleas of PGA officials who are aware that the ball situation looks dark.

PGA leaders of some sections advise GOLFDOM that they hope the matter of postwar planning for pro golf will receive considerable attention at the pros' Chicago sessions. These pros point out that the curtailment of merchandise business at many clubs has already meant a reduction in income below the point that makes pro golf a business at which a man can support a family. Consequently the old basis of pro contracts no longer has equity. Notwithstanding the uncertain prospects of shop income, resourceful pros have managed to continue valuable service to their clubs by maintaining their income, including salary guarantees, by various means.

Discussion and careful study of these means and intense consideration of the factors effecting golf club operations for the duration and after the war, these men believe to be a top item on the agenda of the PGA's annual meeting.

This far there have been no electioneering activities of the sort that preceded prewar PGA conventions. Ed Dudley, whose administrations have been notably tranquil, has not said whether or not he'll be a candidate for reelection to the presidency. Ed has been especially busy in war benefit matches, in which the PGA has done an outstanding job, and in affairs to promote the public's saving and investment of funds in war bonds. Other PGA members and officials also have given unstintingly of their services to these activities. But this persistent effort of the PGA probably will be dismissed by a formal, factual report at the convention, the pros being realists who look at the lengthy list of their members in armed service as pro golf's major contribution to war effort.

Golf Work Is Proposed for Veterans' Rehabilitation

CAPT. CHARLES CLARKE, Cleveland (O.), daily fee course operator and veteran of four wars, recently suggested to the USGA that golf make an organized effort to provide employment on golf courses for partially disabled soldiers and sailors.

Acting on Clarke's suggestion, the USGA has sent a notice to golf clubs and associations throughout the country urging the employment of war veterans. The release reads:

"Golf can do a constructive human service by employing war veterans. Veterans needing rehabilitation can, in many cases, be helped back to normalcy by mild outdoor work, such as that of golf course workers, caddie-masters and caddies.

"Clubs which can cooperate should get in touch with the nearest local office of the United States Employment Service. In each office there is a local Veterans' Employment representative.

"There is real merit in this idea for golf to serve men who have served us all, in the view of Mr. O. D. Hollenbeck, Chief, Veterans' Employment Service, War Manpower Commission. He has advised the United States Golf Association:

"You will be interested to know that the Veterans' Employment Service, in cooperation with the U. S. Army and the U. S. Navy, currently is conducting a program whereby disabled members of the armed forces are registered at service hos-