

1944 will show a decided increase of Victory Gardens at golf clubs of the Northwest.

Red Cross work and other war charity duties kept women golfers from the fairways to a great extent, but they got relaxation from these chores by competing in club contests and city sweepstakes. And the attendances were most encouraging, too.

The big majority of golf professionals confine their club duties of weekends or just Sundays because they are working in shipyards or other war industries during week days. How's business with golf professionals? Swell! At least that's the unanimous answer yours truly gets from them.

While women's tournament golf of major importance appears dead-for-the-duration in these parts, the men folks, professionals and amateurs, have no cause to be tournament-hungry, although the majority of the six-day pre-war annuals have shrunk to weekend battles.

The richest event of the Northwest 1943 golf calendar was the \$1,500 "Esmeralda" Open staged at Downriver, Spokane, and sponsored by that city's largest world-famed Athletic Round Table, the organization that gave the universe a belly-laugh with "Bundles for Congress" gag. That two-day Esmeralda Open attracted a field of close to 150 professionals and amateurs and was won by Seattle's Harry Givan, who has a long chain of major links to his credit.

Together with doing everything possible to make golf cheap for servicemen, the men in uniform are cordially invited to compete in tournaments that were open only to members of clubs belonging to the associations sponsoring such events in pre-war days.

And to top off that good old Pacific Northwest hospitality the Seattle War Athletic Council sponsored the Pacific

Northwest servicemen's golf championship at the swanky Seattle Golf Club one Sunday last summer. It was a great event and attracted a large and star-studded field of entrants. Pfc. Louie Ferrando, stationed in the Seattle area and well known in Northern California amateur circles won. Aside from the titular test division comprised of low-handicap amateurs and professionals, there was a division for the higher-handicap entrants.

Another highly-successful tournament was the Washington State amateur championship held at Rainier GC, Seattle, and won by the entertaining club's ace, Harry Umbinetti.

The Pacific Northwest professional-amateur titular event was staged at the very testing Olympic View course in Seattle and resulted in the veteran star professional Neil Christian, and his amateur partner, Irv Cornell, representing Spokane's Downriver GC, leading the large and strong field of contestants at the close of the 36-hole test of best-ball scoring.

Jack Walters of Tacoma, fine shotmaker and exceedingly long hitter, now in the service, won the annual Tacoma open and became the first amateur linksman ever to cop that title.

Northwest and state senior tournaments were held during the year and, all in all, the men folks, young and old, enjoyed a very busy competitive 1943 year.

Looking back over the past two years it is this observer's say-so that golf throughout the Pacific Northwest has stood up extremely well along all departments and against any and all odds. And, in closing, I'll stick out my chin and predict, when Hitler & Co. finally become convinced they're confronted by unplayable lies, golf throughout these United States will tee-up and embark on the biggest popularity spree it has had since it migrated frae Scotland. Speed that day!

THIS MONTH'S COVER

Official U. S. Marine Corps photo



The Navy battles it out the American way on Yankee Bee C.C. course Sea Bee's hewed among cocconut palms and coral

rock in the war-torn South Pacific. If golf means this much to our boys over there, we back here ought to see they get the equipment they need. If you want to help, write to Golfdom and we'll tell you how.