

Making the Swing

ALL AROUND GOLF

By HERB GRAFFIS

Leo Diegel in talking with J. M. Brennan, Long Island Star and Journal golf writer, suggested that Long Island pros adopt Philadelphia pros' and greenkeepers' idea of financing and building a small course at a local military hospital. . . . Illinois CC (Chicago district) has changed owners and now is operating as Green Acres CC.

Olympia Fields CC (Chicago district), world's largest private golf club with four 18-hole courses and huge clubhouse, has gone into receivership. Club has Illinois Central suburban station on its property, close to clubhouse. Expects to continue as private club after financial readjustment.

Ocean City (N. J.) CC bought at sheriff's sale by Charles A. Zimmerman, Philadelphia hardware merchant and owner of first mortgage of \$66,788.78. . . . Waverly CC (Portland, Ore.) reports 1943 as biggest playing year of its recent history. . . . Jimmy Thomson, veteran pro of Mohawk CC, Schenectady, N. Y., now is in his 20th winter season at Ormond Beach (Fla.) GC. . . . The other Jimmy Thomson, noted tourney pro, has lost 25 pounds as a Coast Guardsman and should be in great physical shape for return to postwar tourney play.

Ed R. Hurst, pioneer of the California CC (L. A. district) and former president of the Southern California GA and that region's senior organization, died last year at Mexico City of a heart attack. . . . Gene McDonough, 35, pro at Sylvania CC (Boston district) died in his home at Boston, following a prolonged illness. He is survived by his widow and three children.

Clear Lake (Ia.) has been asked by citizens to purchase Clear Lake CC from an estate and operate the club as a municipal plant. . . . Andy Gibson of Bonnie View (Baltimore district) is switching to pro job at Country Club of Maryland. . . . Opposition to County Board purchase of Altadena GC has been voiced by some residents of Pasadena, Calif., who claim that county would be financially better off if club were continued on private basis. Other citizens say club would be a rare bargain for county.

Drive has been started to save Merrill Hills CC, Waukesha, Wis., from being abandoned. . . . Play at Westchester County, N. Y., public courses in 1943 was 40% under 1942, due to gas rationing. George S. Haight, genl. park supt. said, notwithstanding slump, in considering all factors play was "pretty good."

Longview (Wash.) CC has refinanced and will improve course and expand clubhouse activities. . . . Algonquin GC (St. Louis district) reported full membership and a profit for 1943 operation. . . . Coronado (Calif.) city officials protest against Navy proposal to take over Coronado course for bureau of aeronautics storage space. Officials claim other and better storage property is obtainable, Navy move would ruin residential section, and deny "last outdoor recreation facility available and greatly used for nominal fee by officers and men convalescing."

Postwar plans of New York City's park department call for golf courses in the 1,792-acre Marine Park at Brooklyn. Park Commissioner Robert Moses expects greatly increased demand for public recreation after the war, both from men returning from the armed forces and from workers released from high pressure of war industry.

Everything happens at a country club. Burlington (Kan.) CC clubhouse party schedule was called off when Ernie, son of Mgr. Frank L. Powers, got his second case of scarlet fever and the clubhouse, in which the Powers family lives, was quarantined.

Macon (Mo.) GC recorded 1943 as one of the most successful in its history. Many other smaller town clubs had top years in 1943. . . . Pros and amateurs are looking forward eagerly

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to 1953 when the war bonds they won as prizes last year become due. Use of war bonds as golf prizes in 1943 made the year by far the biggest prize money year American golf ever has seen.

Miss Bess Fenn, returned to the Palm Beach (Fla.) for the 19th year in charge of the clubhouse. George Gordon of Providence, R. I., is back again as pro and Jack Walsh returned as caddiemaster. . . . This winter Daytona Beach (Fla.) has its first tourist season with its municipal course acquired last summer from private owners.

Caddie shortage is acute at some spots in the south. Players at several courses claim they ain't kidding when they say negro ex-caddies now are making more money than the majority of the players made in peacetime. . . . Country Club of Pittsfield (Mass.) reports 1943 as one of its best seasons. Club now is in an extensive winter sports program.

Jim Dante, who was selected six years ago from 129 applicants for the pro post at Suburban GC, Union, N. J., has resigned. . . . Springfield (Mo.) regards as unsuitable present airport site for municipal golf course intended to be civic tribute to Lt. Horton Smith, Springfield native and one of the finest young men in any sport. Course probably will be constructed after the war on better suited terrain.

Jimmy Demaret is back in his homeland as a pro at the River Oaks CC, Houston, Tex. . . . Matt Partridge, for 16 years with the Pawtucket (R. I.) GC has resigned as pro to go into another business. Matt split his time as pro and war industrial worker last year. . . . E. W. Harbert, Battle Creek (Mich.) pro in the summer is head pro at the Bobby Jones course, Sarasota, Fla., for the winter season. . . . M. G. Frampton, emeritus professor of English at Pomona college and president of the Indian Hill GC of Claremont, Calif., died late last year at his home. . . . Frank Gilholm, pro at Attleboro (Mass.) GC, is qualifying as one of golf's most entertaining luncheon orators. Frank's recent talk at the city's Rotary club was declared one of the top features of the organization's program for 1943.

Frank Strafacci, former USGA publicinx champion, now in the south Pa-

cific, says that as much as a pound in Australian money is being offered for golf balls. . . . Johnny Farrell's golf lesson given in television over WOR has given pro and amateur golfers a tip that television instruction after the war may be a big factor in the promotion of the game.

Pat Markovich, manager-pro, Richmond (Calif.) CC, has sent a considerable number of used golf balls, golf ball paint and clubheads to fellows overseas. . . . Pat also has turned in a standout performance in the used ball drive. . . . Spencer Murphy, pro at Glen Oaks CC (N. Y. Met. district), which is operating on a daily fee basis since the Army took over the clubhouse, rerouted the course. The new routing handled more play faster.

Hopeful sign for 1944: Lindsborg (Kan.) GC enthusiastically has decided to continue this year and expects an increase in members. Membership in 1933 was 15. Club expects "between five and ten new members who will assist with its maintenance." And you fear a help problem at your club!

T. E. Schramm, retiring pres. of Southern California G.A., in reviewing 1943's golf in that section, estimated value of country club property in that section as "more than \$100,000,000". . . . Reorganization of Lawrence Brook (N. J.) CC has been arranged. Club was taken over by players' group and continued operating in 1943 after owner had announced intention of discontinuing operation.

Moon Brook CC Jamestown, N. Y., has completed liquidation of debt. . . . King's County (Wash.) Public Links assn., Seattle Park Board, and Seattle Times have conducted successful campaigns collecting used golf balls for use of men in armed forces. . . . Tom Kerrigan, Siwanoy veteran pro, recently made his fourth ace in 28 years. . . . Danny Williams, Jersey pro vet, works seven nights a week in a war plant. Danny says golf's physical conditioning has helped him to do a good factory job.

Andy Welch, grand old-timer, has retired from golf after serving the past 20 years at Swartz Creek, first muni course at Flint, Mich. Scotch-born Welch was honored as the builder

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(Continued from Page 5)

of Flint public golf at a dinner sponsored by the city recreation dept. Andy will live in his St. Petersburg, Fla., home. . . . Paul Brown, Indianapolis (Ind.) park supt., has George Soutar, Broadmoor pro, planning revision of the city's public courses. Brown and Andy Miller, city horticulturist, expect the completed job to bring the courses close to private club standards.

With no chance to rebuild and fire protection diminished by the shortage and difficulty of keeping protective equipment in good condition, golf club fires past few months have been virtually complete losses. . . . Yakima (Wash.) CC clubhouse burned, with loss of building, equipment, and members' possessions amounting to \$50,000. Insurance coverage only partial. . . . Gary (Ind.) CC gutted by \$70,000 blaze. Loss included members clubs and \$5,000 stock of liquor. . . . St. Charles (Ill.) CC was completely destroyed by fire late in November.

First Lt. Walter Charles Hagen, jr., was married to Miss Helen Marjorie Leonard, at Watertown, N. J., Dec. 8. Best of luck and happiness to them. The Hague can be, and is, mighty proud of Walter, jr., who is a fine young man, and, like many other youngsters now in the Army and Navy, was making good in a business career when the war came along. . . . George S. May has mailed five copies of the brochure on the American Golf Foundation, the May golf club management organization, to every golf club in the U. S. and if a club has more than five directors, he'll mail additional copies on request.

An interesting feature of the Wampanoag CC Echo is a recipe Mgr. Donald H. Rapelye picks up as the preferred choices of other managers when he attends club managers' meetings. . . . More than 50% of Pinehurst's summer play was of servicemen. In the fall and this winter the percentage slumped, due to intensity of military training work and arrival of older civilian players on brief visits to the world's No. 1 golf resort. Large majority of the civilian players are near casualties from extreme and faithful application to war work. . . .

Republic Aviation Co. golfers at Evansville, Ind., and Farmington, N. Y. plants will continue the telegraph golf matches which were successfully played in 1943.

Denver (Colo.) CC served 103,995 meals in 1943 against 101,836 in 1942. Rounds played in 1943 were 15,494, which was an increase of 2,502 over 1942. Net income (before depreciation and interest) was \$15,973.82 in the fiscal year, over \$3,000 ahead of previous year. Club president Walter J. Morris, lauded Mgr. Howard H. Mehlman for "close application and high executive ability" in making the year's fine showing.

An index to Timely Turf Topics, USGA Green Section's valuable bulletin, has been compiled, covering 1940-43 inclusive. . . . Use of barium fluosilicate as a substitute for arsenicals in poison baits is being encouraged for the duration. . . . Pyrethrum shortage is more acute. . . . Rotenone imports from Latin America are larger but nicotine, of which there's plenty, is recommended as wartime substitute.

TIMELY TURF TIPS

Right now clubs should forget fairway fertilization. Milorganite fed courses will not fare too badly without being fertilized for a year or two. After the war, or when fertilizer is more plentiful, fairways can be restored quickly—with Milorganite alone—or by using Milarsenite first to curb weeds and clover.

Greens and tees should not be neglected. They should get enough fertilizer to ward off disease and maintain dense turf. We expect to furnish Milorganite in limited quantity for this purpose and hope before long chemical nitrogen will become available again for use on these vitally important areas.

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