

Yank Fighter Golfers Get British Hospitality

NUMEROUS LETTERS received from Americans in England and Scotland testify to the warmth of welcome our fighters have been receiving from British golfers and clubs. American airmen who are encouraged to golf as a let-down and recovery from strain of their missions, have especially commented on the British hospitality.

One American army airman wrote home:

"After all I'd heard at home about St. Andrews I expected to have to take my shoes off as though I were entering one of the holy places south of the Mediterranean. We got up to play it and for my money we have several better courses around Chicago. Some of the greens are so big you have to pivot on your putts and the greens are much faster than ours at home. The wind makes it a tough course. But we had a great time and that is the answer to everything. The Scots we met would turn themselves inside out to see that we enjoyed ourselves."



A. U. S. Ninth Air Force Bomber Base, England.—Yanks in England discover that the wartime golfer in addition to the usual sand-trap and rough hazards, is confronted with herds of sheep which wander around the fairways. Periodic "baas" in the middle of a shot don't help either, but it is still golf. The sheep serve as animated lawn mowers and fortunately they don't like the taste of golf balls.

Americans stationed in England have honorary memberships to the clubs and English hospitality at the various clubs is tops. Reading (left to right) are: S/Sgt. Ted Hancock, former Rhode Island golf champion, from Providence; Pvt. Bob Burt, of Long Beach, Calif., and Cpl. Frank Coole, from Boston, Mass., all stationed at a B-26 Marauder base somewhere in England."

Teams of American servicemen have been playing regular Sunday events with English club and uniformed American groups.

Golf Monthly, Edinburgh, commented recently under the head, "Americans on Our Golf Courses":

"Golf clubs in this country gladly gave courtesy of course and clubhouse to men of the forces of all our allies, and place clubs at the disposal of those who were not equipped. Those facilities, we know, have been appreciated—here and there clubs have departed with visitors, excusable for there persists the desire to take away treasured souvenirs—and it is interesting to record here that the United States Army Headquarters issued this order for the guidance of their personnel:

"To us as Americans there is a most important phase of the game, universally known as etiquette. It governs our actions from the first tee to the 18th green and even follows us into the clubhouse. A few points are listed below.

(a) Replace all divots. (Turf dug up by clubs.)

(b) Smooth all sand-traps of both club marks and footprints after making a shot.

(c) Always be courteous; let people behind you play through if they appear to be playing faster than you are.

(d) Be quiet on the course. Both here and at home golf galleries at championships are marvelled at by laymen because of the fact that three thousand people never utter a sound during a shot.

(e) You are requested not to enter a bar except by invitation of a member and under no circumstances whatsoever to enter a dining room.

"The reasons for the above, in a land of rigid rationing, requires no further explanation.

"The British people are extremely fond of their courses. They are lending us their son's clubs and in many cases their own. Treat both carefully. Nearly 40 per cent of their people play golf and love it. *Let us show them that golf and manners as well are on the same high plane in the United States as they are here.*"

"We assure United States readers of *Golf Monthly* that their soldier sons have lived up when here to the etiquette and the traditions of the game."

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