

operation, our club's eighth year was just as busy as its first year. And when I told that club president I was making more money at my small club than I could make at his, I wasn't kidding. We close now for a month each year during January. When I left last week they handed me a bonus check for \$1,000.00. Perhaps that will give you an idea.

I must have looked a bit bewildered. "That's all," grinned Eddie. "There aint no more."

"Okay." I made a future golf date with Eddie, bid him goodnight, and headed the Oldsmobile toward Coral Gables. At about 22nd and Coral Way the thought occurred to me:

"Just what is wrong with pro golf?" Then suddenly it dawned on me that Eddie had the answer. Nothing.

## Short Courses Prevented Golf Wartime Slump

By MAURICE WHITE

Supt., La Grange (Ill.) CC

**G**REENKEEPING short courses most certainly have been a major reason why golf has kept up so well during the war. Directly as the result of what greenkeepers have learned at short courses the standard of wartime course condition is higher than it was in peacetime 15 years ago.

The short course influence has extended even to courses whose men haven't attended these sessions because the short course students have established maintenance standards and freely passed along what they've learned.

In this time of ball shortage who would be inclined to risk ball loss on courses infested with weeds and with soggy areas

that would engulf a wild shot? Many of us have heard during this early summer's dandelion season how play dropped off at courses due to lost balls or time spent looking for balls. But I know that what I had learned at short courses about large scale weed control and applied at La Grange eliminated the dandelion as a source of ball trouble to our players. Others have had the same experience.

The short course lectures and discussions on drainage have paid out especially well during wartime when players haven't much leisure time. In these times players simply wouldn't wait as they used to have to, in order to have a course dry out so play would be possible.

Now we know enough about drainage to get rid of surplus water soon without interfering with maintenance of good turf condition. The drainage methods extended by short course education also have made it possible for us to cut grass after rains instead of being compelled to wait until the grass grew so long in wet places that it would be difficult to locate balls.

Another very valuable aid to wartime maintenance that has been extended by the short courses is the correction of soil conditions. Rebuilding a green in wartime very seldom would be possible but what we've learned about changing soil condition by top dressing, etc., from the talks of experts and our discussions at short courses has enabled us in many cases to improve our greens despite lack of labor these days.

Like many another course supt. who is using every expedient and idea he ever learned or decreed, in order to keep a course in good condition these days, I am constantly reminded of how frequently the short course sessions are paying dividends now. Golf certainly would have been out of luck in wartime without this advance in maintenance knowledge.



## GOLF IN THE ALEUTIANS

This golf practice net was made by Army air force men in the Aleutians to make it possible for the fliers who get to a rest base to keep the feel of golf. A few balls and a few clubs are in steady use. The spots on the illustration are the result of a photographic dark room mishap.