

Jim Haines, ingenious course supt. at Denver CC has the leaf problem solved by a rake 11 ft. wide operated from a tractor... Jim's greatest new production, though, is a red-headed new son.... Wartime production at the Denver club has been notable, Jim's new son being matched by the new baby daughter in the family of the club's manager, Howard Mehlman.

WITH THE PROS AROUND

* Stanley Davies, Omaha (Neb.) Field club veteran, always comes up with an idea for the good of the cause. Last month Stanley took his first time off in two years and took a quick trip to Florida. He says Jack Ross, George Gordon and Steve Ploudre were among the many who treated him to a most sincere and cordial welcome. He remarked that he realized the imperative need that all pros keep their conduct up to the high standard of gentlemen sportsmen to merit the appreciation of such hospitality.

Stanley tells of a very interesting visit with Ned Everhart at Miami Biltmore. Although Miami Biltmore has been taken over by the government as a rehabilitation hospital Ned is still kept busy healing the battered soldiers with golf. Ned told Stanley of a colonel who had an arm shot away. The officer was virtually essential in an impor-tant job. In getting him back into shape Ned had the colonel shooting a pretty fair game of golf with one arm, and by that means restored the man's confidence and built up compensating dexterity with the man's remaining arm. Ned said it was a job that he's prouder of than any other individual case he's handled in many years as a pro, and Everhart has turned out some good golfers.

Ned further told Davies that after talking with doctors and seeing the work golf has done at that rehabilitation hospital he is sure that very few

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of us in the golf business realize what a marvelous job golf can do in restoring war casualties to a high degree of mental and physical fitness.

* *

J. H. Taylor is authority for the statement that Arnaud Massy, only Frenchman ever to win the British Open (1907), had an English vocabulary then limited to "Ladies and gentlemen, I thank you very much." . . . Massy married a North Berwick girl. . . . His daughter, born while he was winning the British Open at Hoylake, was christened Hoylake Massy. . . . James Braid, "Golf Monthly," also reminds, had a son born while he was winning the British Open at Muirfield the year before, and named this firstborn Harry Muirfield Braid. . . . Damned good thing the same circumstances didn't occur during the U. S. Open resulting in babies named Shinnecock, Myopia, Baltusrol, Winged Foot, Canterbury or Colonial.

One fellow who has a tough new job ahead of him and who will do it well is Bruce Herd, recently appointed genl. mgr. of Flossmoor CC (Chicago district) where the 1923 National Amateur was played. That grand old gentleman, Frank

That grand old gentleman, Frank Brunner, who's been the club's manager for more than 20 years, retired and Bruce was ordered to take over. Bruce is one of the soundest businessmen in pro circles. He has fine judgment, can read the story in figures, and has been a close companion and keen student of the managers and greenkeepers at clubs to which he's been attached, so he's learned a lot from some of the best men in the business.

The appointment of Bruce Herd as general manager of a first class, large country club is an indication that the fellow in pro golf who considers himself to be in a big business rather than merely the operator of a little teaching, sales and caddie-management department, doesn't need to worry about golf not having a future for him.

Floyd Farley, pro at the Woodlawn Public GC, Inc., Oklahoma City, Okla., says that the pro who thinks that his players are ball hoarders and won't turn in old balls for reconditioning is not going after the used balls in the right way.

Farley sent out 1000 letters that gave his members the real close-up on the ball situation. Results astonish him. He says that when the "tennis shoe" golfers will respond it's proof that the private club members can be sold on cooperating in the used ball collection

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campaign. The job, Floyd says, is to get across to the players that unless they kick in there won't be any golf and they do want golf.

An interesting combination sales idea comes from By Chamberlain. By makes an offer of lunch at the club and a golf lesson at one price. He says pros who intend to use the idea had better be sure that transportation is such that the players can get out to the club for lunch.

* * *

Amel Lentz and his wife, who make a great team in conducting pro dept. operations at the Interlaken GC, Fairmount, Minn., haven't sold a member or guest more than two balls per round since the manufacture of new balls was discontinued. When the necessity of collecting used balls for reconditioning became sharp, the Lentz' insisted on having a used ball turned in before a reconditioned ball could be purchased.

By proving to the members that the ball situation really was tough Amel says that he and his wife have the members in the habit of helping in the ball campaign and keeping the game going.

Mike Murra, pro at the Wichita (Kan.) CC is one of the smartest pros among the bright lot in the midcontinent. To give you a tip on how Mike doesn't overlook any bets: He has been giving free classes for women once a week this winter. The women turn out in large numbers and appreciate Mike's thoughtfulness because most of them are so busy in Red Cross and other war work that their golf has been slumping, and their recreation opportunities are few.

Mike did a great job at his shop last year by keeping it well stocked with what equipment he could get and with accessories. It took a lot of writing around and shopping but it paid off by having attractive and ample stock. Murra asks his members to turn in an old ball for every reconditioned one bought, and gives them the same credit he's given by the makers.

He followed up on instruction closely last year; checking to see that his time was made convenient for members so each of them could get a lesson about every two weeks. He supplied the practice balls. Mike's big worry last year was the caddie shortage but by making up the shortage of boys with kaddie karts he managed to keep his players satisfied.

* * *

In about 15—or maybe 50—years Joe Golfdom Novak of Bel Air may receive due recognition as the one who got the PGA really going in organizing golf instruction on a generally effective basis comparable to instruction in other sports. It has been a hell of a tough job and only a guy of Joe's diplomacy and high standing with his brother pros could have carried the PGA instruction committee activities as far as they have gone.

The positive individualistic opinions of many pros regarding instruction have made Novak's job difficult, as he has to reconcile conflicting ideas without getting operatic temperaments so riled the artists won't cooperate. But the groundwork nationally has been established firmly by Joe and his committee.

Right now, in our opinion, the PGA is missing the biggest opportunity of its history by not having an instruction and entertainment film on the order of baseball's magnificent films widely distributed to soldiers and sailors. That should be among the first of golf's link with war effort.

We recently have seen returns to an Esquire magazine poll which gets tremendous response from civilians and American soldiers and sailors in this country and at all overseas bases. One of the questions asked was whether golf instruction measured up to instruction in other sports. The majority of answers would be a shock to the pros and impressively indicated that the instruction committee should be recognized by pros and manufacturers as the most important of the PGA public contact committees and strongly financed.

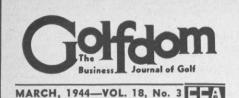
But, the foregoing is aside from the swell job Joe's doing at his own club. One of the standout features at Bel Air is the way caddies are handled. As the caddie still is regarded as virtually essential at the private club and as there is very little twilight in California, golf games must be started at noon instead of the start being delayed until after school hours. This means the clubs are forced to use fulltime boys as caddies.

In order to make the job attractive to these caddies Bel Air has a clubroom for them, and operates a lunch room for them; a lunch room in which they can get everything from ham and eggs in the morning to steaks (if available) at night. The caddie restaurant very often offers, in addition to its own menu, some item from the club's main restaurant.

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A Rainy Day fund is maintained at Bel Air so the caddies, who come to the club hoping the California sunshine will stop running down the gutters, get paid if they can't go out. Most first class California private clubs have these two features hot grub and rainy day pay—but at Bel Air they handle it so they get as ample a supply of good caddies as can be assembled anywhere.

Iowa Greenkeeprs to Meet at Des Moines, March 21-22

 \star H. L. Lantz in his newsletter to Iowa greenkeepers announces:

"Spring meeting of the Iowa Greenkeepers assn. will be held at Des Moines, Tuesday and Wednesday, March 21 and 22 in the auditorium of the Globe Machinery Co., East First and Court Ave.

"O. J. Noer will speak on Tuesday at 3:45 and will present a lantern slide lecture Tuesday evening following the dinner. Noer also will outline a complete fertilizer program for greens based on the use of organics.

"Many golf courses last year were the scene of considerable Victory garden activity. Prof. B. S. Pickett will appear on the program to discuss the need for an even larger Victory garden program for 1944 and how golf clubs may make their contribution.

"After the war, the prediction is that we Americans will face a greatly changed world. One idea not entirely new is that of chemical weed control. Only recently several new weed killers have been introduced which are reported to give remarkable results. Dr. A. L. Bakke of the Botany Section of the Iowa Agri. Exp. Sta. has done a great deal of work with chemical weed killers. Clearing fairways, roughs, fence rows, ditches, etc. of weeds by the use of suitable chemical weed killers is something that may prove to be of great value in the near future. Dr. Bakke has had a number of years experience and is exceptionally well qualified to discuss this subject.

"Advise T. E. Adams, 1000 Polk Blvd., Des Moines, if you plan to attend. Make your reservation early."

