



Greenbrier's par 3 tenth is popular with recuperating soldiers.

Golf Helps Army Rebuild War-torn Veterans

★ From the battle-torn fronts throughout the world to the peace and quiet of the 6,000 acre military reservation which contains the Ashford General Hospital in White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., is a long jump to make, but there are hundreds of patients here who have done just that.

These veterans of campaigns in North Africa, Sicily, Italy, the South Pacific, and India, have been sent back to the States to recuperate in body, in mind, and in spirit. It is the job of the Army physicians at Ashford to speed them along

the road to recovery by giving them the very best of medical care.

Colonel Clyde M. Beck, Medical Corps, U. S. Army, the Commanding Officer of this installation—the former Greenbrier Hotel—is cognizant of the fact however that medicine and surgery should be supplemented with outdoor recreation. Because of the Colonel's championship, all of the facilities which drew sports lovers to the Greenbrier in peace time are fully utilized.

Ashford General Hospital is fortunate

★ *Near miracles are being performed at military hospitals and golf is being effectively employed by Army and Navy medical authorities in many amazing jobs of rehabilitation of wounded veterans.*

Physically and mentally the veterans are picked up by the therapy of golf. A battered fellow who is enabled to shoot around a hundred

or better has his confidence revived and his sound social adjustment eased when he sees that most civilians can't do any better in scoring.

★ *This article tells how golf is being used for the rehabilitation of casualties who are receiving expert consideration at White Sulphur Springs, prewar one of the greatest of golfing resorts.*



With the Casino Golf Club as a background, and in the healthful Allegheny Mountains, veterans of far-flung battle lines recuperate from the horrors of war while playing on the former Greenbrier courses.

in having among its blessings, two 18 hole golf courses and one 9 hole course. This 45-hole layout is on the western end of the reservation and it is within walking distance of the hospital proper.

At the Casino Clubhouse, ambulatory patients and patients on crutches, are issued golf clubs and golf balls. There are approximately 100 sets of clubs which can be used. These sets were donated to the hospital by civilians. The Special Service Office has been fortunate in getting bucketsful of old golf balls which have been sent away for reprocessing. Recently, it was possible to buy additional reprocessed golf balls on the open market. From time to time additional golf balls are received from clubs and individuals for use by the patients.

The soldier-patients who play golf range from rank amateurs to skilled players. The beginners are encouraged to play on the 9 hole course where they can take their time.

Walking about the three courses you see groups of golfers. Village boys pack the golf bags for those patients who are unable to carry them. Over in one spot up by the Casino, Cpl. Peter S. Petroske, former pro at the Meriden (Conn.) CC, is instructing the beginners. Down by Howard's Creek which meanders through the well-kept courses, golfers are fishing out balls that went into the water. In the shade of the trees surrounding Swan Lake others rest and watch the swans and ducks glide gracefully by. Behind the Casino next to the tennis courts, several

Patients at Ashford General Hospital exercise muscles and enjoy fresh air and sunshine on one of the three golf courses at this military institution.—(U. S. Army Photo)





Cpl. Pete Petroske, former Pro at Meriden CC, Conn., readying a golf club in the work shop at the Casino at Ashford General Hospital before it is used by wounded patients.



Pfc. Charles Vella and Cpl. Petroske issue golf bags and golf balls to two patients at the Casino Golf Club, Ashford General Hospital.
—(U. S. Army Photos)

soldiers are on the putting green perfecting this important part of the game.

Almost every week-end there are tournaments arranged between patients, patients and duty personnel, and a combination of both against all comers. Interest runs high during these events and a large gallery follows the players.

Old timers appear from time to time to give exhibitions. Scheduled to play here early this summer are Gene Sarazen, Joe Kirkwood, Kay Byrne, and Katherine Fox. Others are on the list for later appearances.

"The importance of golf in the physical reconditioning of patients cannot be over-emphasized," says Colonel Beck who shoots in the seventies himself. "Muscles are exercised that have long been dormant. Eyes are strengthened and coordi-

nation of mind and muscles is re-developed.

"Not only does golf do this for our patients," continues the Colonel, "but this sport permits the men to get out into the fresh air and sunshine.

"While convalescing, they can take advantage of one of the most beautiful golf courses in the country. I might point out that the par 3 tenth hole of the 'Greenbrier' course is considered one of the most scenic golf holes on Eastern courses and has been chosen on an 'All-American' golf course.

"I heartily agree with Herb Graffis, Editor of GOLFDOM, when he says that the muscular and general health benefits and the restoration of confidence these casualties are acquiring from golf is not to be overlooked."

Golf Manufacturers Meet

The annual meeting of the National Association of Golf Club Manufacturers was held at the Yale Club in New York City on April 24, 1944. Camille L. Gairoard, president of The Kroydon Company, was re-elected president, a position which he has held for many years. Other officers elected were William F. King, vice president and Fred J. Bowman, secretary and treasurer, both of The Wilson Sporting Goods Company. At the annual meeting of the Golf Ball Manufacturers Association, April 24, 1944, all officers were re-elected by the directors. These officers are: President—L. E. Coleman, vice president A. G. Spalding & Bros.; vice president—Phillip E. Young, treasurer, Acushnet Process Sales Co.; secy.-treas.—James Brydon, vice president, The Worthington

Ball Co. Activities in connection with the nation-wide used golf ball salvage program were reviewed with the association members reporting their increased early season used ball receipts as indicating an awakening to the seriousness of the situation by the nation's players and all-out collection efforts by the golf professionals.

Jack Burgess, for the past 22 years pro at Lake Geneva (Wisc.) CC, died at his home the early part of April after several months illness. Jack, whose full name was John Steven Burgess, was born Christmas day, 1888, in Montrose, Scotland, and came to the United States in 1910. His congenial manner and rare sense of humor won Jack a wide circle of friends throughout golfdom. Golf lost one of its best boosters in Jack's passing.