

slightly less toil than lugging an Army weapon might be at their advanced years.

Club restaurants had more patronage than in previous years but whether this was an advantage in view of clubhouse labor and food shortages it's difficult to tell. Notwithstanding the handicaps course and clubhouse operation was maintained at surprisingly high standards.

Our tournament activity in 1945 tentatively is scheduled to be about the same as that of 1944. With the ban on horse racing and increased demands for manpower as reminders, the Metropolitan GA again is making very realistic re-examination of golf's position. As previously, Metropolitan association officials and officials and members of the association's member clubs are firmly and clearly determined to push golf in wartime only as it positively helps in advancing the war effort. Any diverting of time and expense that golf might require which would not result in a definite and direct contribution of efficiency and economy to winning the war, we are against.

Chicago Golf Stronger With War Tie-up

By **LOWELL D. RUTHERFORD**
Pres., Chicago District Golf Assn.

★ **AGAIN, IN 1944**, golf in the Chicago District showed surprisingly strong wartime condition. As every action of the clubs was geared primarily to wartime effort the conclusion is inevitable that the game's merits are demonstrated most clearly by its capacity to condition men and women for the heavy strains of war work on the home front.

The vast majority of members of Chicago District clubs are men of an age when they'd normally be easing up in their work and worries. However in wartime they've taken on (and willingly so) far more work and business strain than they've ever had before. The required balance of toil and recreation seems to have been satisfactorily supplied by golf. In the case of women golfers wartime volunteer work, also has been reflected at golf clubs in reduced volume of women's play but increased clubhouse business.

Limited amount of labor obtainable and limitations on materials and supplies that normally would be used in maintenance and building have kept operating costs disproportionately low to income in most cases and put clubs in condition to do spending in helping the conversion from war to peace employment.

Naturally, because of record national income and shortage of consumer goods, together with the instinctive demand for wartime recreational balance, golf clubs in an industrial area such as Chicago were bound to see great activity. However, it is the sharply defined policy of Chicago dis-

trict clubs to insist that such a showing in wartime be accompanied by direct war effort of golfers greater, we hope, than that of any other civilian sports group in wartime.

In addition to the constant bond and stamp selling campaigns at Chicago district private and public courses other results of 1944's activities in the area have been:

Chicago Victory championship net proceeds of \$17,172.59 for construction of putting greens, pitch and putt courses, and other recreational facilities and supply of golf playing equipment to army and navy hospitals in Illinois. Midwest Greenkeepers Assn. has provided invaluable work in the design and construction of these courses. Illinois PGA members have made their services available for exhibitions for fund raising and at hospital demonstrations and instruction sessions.

Chicago Servicemen's centers received \$15,319.26 from the CDGA dime-a-round program. Although this is a fairly substantial sum from an unique phase of golf's wartime tie-up, we are by no means satisfied with the showing which is considerably short of the ultimate dime-a-round figure.

More than 9,000 complimentary golf passes were issued through 45 substations to military personnel for play at CDGA private clubs and on the district's daily fee courses.

The CDGA is considering a plan for a regional greens experimental station at Purdue university. Membership in the CDGA increased two clubs during year.

There was vigorous competitive relationship between clubs in the Chicago district to see what new and more effective plans could be made in contributing to war effort and the association's work in extending this activity constituted a valuable part of the year's work.

Competitive events were maintained on a schedule compatible with wartime conditions. Adjustments were made to meet caddie and transportation difficulties but no complaints were registered. As a matter of fact, golfers in the Chicago district were grateful that they have been able to play in keeping themselves keen for the wartime jobs they are determined to handle in topmost efficiency.

Because we do not figure on an early ending of war we set our plans on increasing Chicago district golf's participation in war effort during 1945.

Colorado Golf Spurred by Wartime Pressure

By **N. C. MORRIS**

Sec., Colorado Golf Assn.

★ **THE PAST YEAR**, despite wartime handicaps, was just as good as, if not better, than any previous year I have

known in Colorado golf circles. Larger entries were in all the men's tournaments and the class of play was fully up to standards of the past. There was more enthusiastic response in the way of accepting bonds and stamps as prizes instead of the traditional trophies. The women, too, enjoyed a better year at most clubs. The outlook for 1945 looks still better at this moment. All of our clubs are making plans for a big season and there is no thought of letting down. Players are playing, too, under a bigger handicap in that there is a shortage of caddies but we hear mighty few complaints about packing their own clubs. It has had the effect of cutting the number of clubs per bag and yet there seems to be no ill results on the play.

Our golfers have done well for the war efforts. Most of the prizes have been given in bonds and stamps.

The first of our major events in Denver was the interclub team matches. These netted \$550 in stamps and bonds; the next event was the Denver Metropolitan championship with double the entry of any previous year and \$600 in stamps and bonds given. The Colorado Public Links championship netted \$125 in stamps and bonds. The Park Hill Invitation with its large entry brought \$1000 in stamps and bonds. The Colorado women's championship netted close to \$200. The Broadmoor Invitation netted \$1500.00. The Colorado State championship \$700; the Pike's Peak Open \$2000; the Rocky Mountain Open at Grand Junction \$2000.

There were numerous club tournaments and sweepstakes held throughout the summer. I do not as yet have complete reports on these but they will run to more than \$5000 in war bonds and stamps.

I mentioned that the class of our tournaments had not gone down. This may seem odd in the face of war conditions but we have been rather fortunate around here in not losing our best golfers with but few exceptions. For those that we have lost the army has furnished us with ample replacements. For example we have Staff Sgt. Pat Abbott, duration holder of the Western, who has been at Lowry field here since the spring of 1942. We have Arthur Doering who is very well known. There was Lt. Tommy Sheehan formerly of Notre Dame; Cpl. Gordon, who was runner-up in the national public links championship at Baltimore in 1939. About the only high class performer that we lost was Charles "Babe" Lind who is now in the army.

Our clubs have generally shown an increase in play despite gas rationing handicaps altho none of our clubs are very far, none being more than a couple of miles beyond our city limits and some in the city.

I do not believe clubhouse patronage

has been increased a great deal, if any, except at the Denver Country Club. This club is in the heart of Denver, as you know, and has reflected shortage of domestic help. Cherry Hills had no manager early in the season but has done well through most of the year and has a full membership. Lakewood has kept open all the time and clubhouse patronage fell off part of the time but has now recovered under the very able management of Fred L. Wood, formerly of the Denver Athletic Club. Management was the reason for the falling off earlier in the year. Of course food scarcity has played its part too.

All of our clubs are very hospitable to service men. They have, of course, access to all the municipal clubs, and the private clubs give them a low rate of fifty cents to one dollar but with an invitation so that some control may be exercised. The invitations incidentally, are not hard to get.

The outlook in this region is very rosy right now. I find most club officers enthusiastic and laying plans for better years ahead. I believe we have a bright future for the game.

Balancing War Strain Makes Hoosier Golf Busy

By CLIFFORD E. WAGONER
Sec., Indiana Golf Assn.

★ GOLF IN INDIANA has been very successful during the war years. Our only answer for this is that undoubtedly men are seeking one form or another of relaxation from the worries and pressure under the present emergency. Our tournaments have hit a new high in entries, even with increased entry fees, the larger part of which went to the Red Cross. We have not given anything for prizes except war bonds.

The play of service men has been quite heavy in some sections, but many clubs control days and hours of this type of play because of their own traffic of members. Most of our private clubs have a membership waiting list, which as you will agree, is quite unusual.

We believe that golf and country clubs will play a more important part than ever in this section.

Iowa Slumps in Pay—Play Golf

By H. L. SANI
Sec.-Treas., Iowa Golf Assn.

★ MOST GOLF CLUBS in Iowa showed quite a decrease in play in 1944. The public and fee courses suffered the most. However, the private clubs "with service" showed an increase in clubhouse patronage and many have had the best season in years.