

Tournament activities were reduced to one day events put on by individual clubs in different parts of the state. The State Golf Association for men and women do not anticipate any extensive tournament revival until the end of the war with Germany.

With the return of servicemen and women and the release of war restrictions I look forward to a great and glorious postwar golf era.

Western GA Extends Its Caddie Welfare Plans

By WILLIAM T. WOODSON

President, Western Golf Association

★ THE WESTERN Golf Assn. did not hold any tournament during 1944. The principal activity of the Association was launching a campaign to raise funds for sponsoring Caddie Scholarships on a national scale.

For the past ten years the Association has been sponsoring caddie scholarships at Northwestern university. The caddies awarded these scholarships were boys who would not have been able to obtain college education without financial help.

The idea of caddie scholarships was suggested by Chick Evans and taken up by the Western GA. In order to give Chick the honor he so justly deserves, these scholarships are known as the Charles Evans, Jr., Scholarships of the Western Golf Association and the caddies who receive them will be known as "Evans Scholars."

It is the purpose of the Western GA to establish these scholarships in a number of universities throughout the country. The Association hopes to raise \$100,000 in the Chicago area as working capital for the purpose of maintaining these scholarships.

The membership of the Western association is now made up of individuals instead of golf clubs, and it is hoped that as soon as the story of Evans caddie scholarships comes to the attention of golfers throughout the country, they will be eager to join the association and pay their annual dues of \$5.00. It is hoped that proceeds from membership dues, from tournaments and from all other activities of the association will be sufficient to underwrite this large program.

At a recent meeting of its directors the Western GA went on record as being receptive to bids for the Western Open for 1945. It is now negotiating with several clubs for the tournament. It is undecided as to whether the Western Amateur and Junior Tournaments will be held this year. If the war is not over before the golf season is, it is not likely that these tournaments will be held.

I predict that golf will have a great revival after the war. Many golfers have

been so hard pressed for time on account of their war activities, not only in active service but in the production of war material and serving in various wartime organizations, that they will take to golf with eagerness when they feel free to relax again.

It is the aim of the Western association to help in every way possible to improve caddie conditions at the golf clubs. We feel that the incentive of caddie scholarships will not only make better caddies out of our boys, but will help make them better citizens.

Detroit District Shows Cost Rise Up to 57 Per Cent

By HAL. A. WHITE

Sec., Detroit District Golf Assn.

★ INCREASED EXPENSES of clubs in the Detroit area as reported in a questionnaire circulated by the DDGA were as high as 57 per cent in 1944 over 1943. For the third consecutive year the association recommended an increase in caddie rates. The 1944 figures were at \$1.35 for 18 holes, \$2.20 for double 18 holes and 75 cents for 9 holes during usual daytime hours. Twilight rates starting after 6 PM or finishing after 8:30 PM were 80 cents for 9 holes and \$1.50 for 18 holes. Considerable attention was given recruiting caddies over the Michigan minimum age of 14 years and to making golf club employment a factor in the recreation and citizenship development of the boys.

Play increased somewhat in 1944 as contrasted with an estimated 33 per cent slump in 1943 under 1942. Play on five Detroit district muni courses increased 5.056 per cent over 1943, with a \$35,-462.35 increase in public course receipts.

After a wet spring a dry summer and fall accounted for about a 40 per cent increase in 1944 watering costs over those of the preceding year.

It was impossible to compile a record of war bonds and stamps and Red Cross and other war organization funds raised by Detroit district golfers last year, but it is definitely known that more than \$10,000,000 was subscribed to the Fifth war loan by Detroit district clubs, which is a fairly clear indication that the club members were not backward about realizing their obligations.

Due to war industrial operations having become set on a high plane of efficiency and production in the Detroit district the workers and executives had more time in 1944 than in previous years to take the recreation that they had begun to need badly after the high pressure of 1942 and 1943.

The district association plans to slightly increase its tournament schedule this year, resuming district team league play

(Continued on Page 29)