

# MAKING THE Swing

## THE GOLF NEWS IN BRIEF

By **HERB GRAFFIS**

Sequoyah CC, Oakland, Calif. recently fined \$250 for possession of slot machines . . . Englewood (Colo.) citizens are opposed to plan of city of Denver for extending Denver boundaries to include an Englewood muni course . . . Oakland (Calif.) public course has gone 100 per cent mechanical having sold its last three teams of horses . . . City administration of Cheyenne (Wyo.) is petitioning U. S. veterans administration for use of 160 acres near the hospital as a course to add to the city's 9-hole over-crowded facilities . . . Victoria CC, San Diego, Cal. clubhouse destroyed by a fire late in November 1944 at an estimated loss of \$50,000 will be rebuilt as soon as materials are available.

Full elections to presidencies of clubs included John W. Latham, Menlo CC, Sacramento, Cal.; Earl E. Orner, Evans-ton (Ill.) Community GC; George H. Treadwell, Memphis (Tenn.) CC; George Fellman, Junction City (Kans.) CC; Edwin M. Beebe, Hampton (Ia.) CC; Paul W. Price, Anthony (N. Mex.) CC; H. Frank Fischer, Forest Park GC Baltimore, Md.

Service barn of Wilmington, (Del) CC containing fertilizer and tools valued at \$5,000 recently destroyed by fire.

Tommy Shannon will continue as pro at the Orchard Lake CC, Detroit, Mich. . . . Plans for re-organization of the Sedalia (Mo.) muni course were recently made at a meeting of City's Lions Club . . . Statesville, N. C. and Belleville, Kans. are planning construction of golf courses in the near future . . . Robert Trent Jones, is architect of the Nassau County Park course at Salisbury, L. I., New York . . . Richmond (Calif.) GC, has received its first entry for its 1945 tournament from its pro, Ernie Durand, Jr., "somewhere in the Pacific." He returned the 1944 entry signed but with the date changed to this year.

It is rumored that the sponsors of the

Portland (Ore.) Open, which was so successful despite bad weather, are planning to bid on the 1945 PGA Open. . . Altadena (Cal.) golfers are up in arms over a proposed city ordinance that might allow subdivision of their property and loss of their golf course. . . Jack Goodale has been elected president for 1945 of the Westmoor CC, Milwaukee. . . Birmingham, Mich., city officials are planning to erect a new clubhouse on the site of the one that burned down at Springdale Park. . . Plans have been approved to spend \$150,000 on the Alexandria (La.) G&CC, \$30,000 of which will be earmarked for the course, the balance to be used for club furnishings, swimming pool and tennis courts. . . The City of Los Angeles has cleared up legal difficulties surrounding the purchase of the Rancho GC, which will be turned into a public recreation park and many course. . . Pete Garcia, well known in Southern California golf circles, is now caddiemaster at Oakmont (Cal.). . . C. E. Bradley is the new president of the Clarinda (Ia.) CC. . . Ward Smith, caretaker of the Augusta (Kans.) golf course, was presented a gold watch and chain by local golfers for his fine care of the property. . . "Stepped" press tables, private telephone connections, fluorescent lighting, two glass-sided press room, movable nameboards for each contestant, card index system for all entries and a high 45x12 scoreboard were innovations at the recent Portland (Ore.) Open. . . It's George Pontillon, not Poutillon, pro at Longmeadow CC (Mass.), as we recently reported. . . Sture Nelson is the 1944 club champ at Longmeadow. . . The teen-agers are coming through. . . Bob Keeler, 15-year-old golfer is the new club champion at the Egyptian GC, Cairo (Ill.). . . The Washington State GA has awarded the 1945 state tourney to the Tacoma G&CC, and reports three new clubs, bringing their total membership to 26 clubs. . . The "Soot and Cinders Club" of the Twin Oaks GC, Columbus (Ohio) is making their winter schedule and activities a big success with membership at \$5 each in return for a party and dance every four weeks. . . Tommy Wilson did not resign from the Ansley Park, Atlanta (Ga.) GC, "due to ill health", which is good news to all of us, and neither is Ansley a muni course, but privately owned.

The Minnesota Greenkeepers Assn. is laying plans to establish a memorial in commemoration of Charley Erickson, late Minikahda Club superintendent. . . Arthur Burton, Mountain Ridge CC superintendent, traveled 50 miles and used three buses to attend a meeting of the N. J. Greenkeeping Supts., held at Suburban GC. The distance as the crow flies is 15 miles—and no waiting. . . A resolution in tribute to the late Fred J. Roth was entered

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upon the minutes of the November meeting of the Plainsfield CC, where Fred served as greenkeeper for 25 years, many of them under the late J. E. Erickson, who served as the club's green chairman for 18 years. John Kinder, club pro, has been assigned the additional duties of green superintendent; E. D. Horgan is green chairman.

Pvt. Geo. L. Rommell, Jr., grpr. Wellesley (Mass.) CC., wounded in the Normandie invasion, was brought back to England, with the only personal belongings on him a photo of his wife, his bible, and a letter from Carlton E. Treat, Supt. Montclair (N. J.) GC. Prior to being employed at Wellesley, Rommell worked at Woodland (Mass.) CC under Treat; later he had charge of USGA experimental plots at Charles River (Mass.) CC, under Frank Wilson. . . Fred Moore is back at his pro job at Dunwoodie G. C., Yonkers, N. Y. Moore has been on leave of absence with the Red Cross as a field director in Africa and Italy.

William D. Collins, veteran pro, died at home in Demarest, N. J., Nov. 20, at the age of 70. He was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, came to the U. S. A. in 1896 with the Jock Hobens Golfers. Collins taught the late President Woodrow Wilson, Dwight Morrow, Bernard M. Baruch and Charles Murphy. He designed, and was pro at Oakland GC, Bayside, L. I., N. Y., Princeton University Golf Course, Princeton, N. J., and the Knickebocker CC in Tenafly, N. J. He retired from golf in 1924 to enter the real estate business, and was city councilman three terms in Demarest. He is survived by his wife and son, Donald, both of Demarest, N. J.

Fred W. Grieve, manager and pro has left Leewood GC, Tuckahoe, N. Y. . . Joseph Flynn returned in November '44 to his greenkeeping work at Metropolis CC in Dobbs Ferry, N. Y., after serving about a year with the U. S. Navy . . . Michael Vechiolle, greenkeeper at Apawamus Club, Rye, N. Y., died December 8 at the age of 53. He had been ailing for about two years and underwent several operations. He is survived by his wife, a daughter and several sons, some of whom are in military service . . . The New Shelter Rock CC, Roslyn, L. I., N. Y., sold out course maintenance equipment December 20th. Two attempts to revive the club failed this year . . . Alex McKay is new pro and greenkeeper at Cherry Valley CC, Garden City, L. I., N. Y. McKay, who took over December 1st, came to USA in 1923 from Aberdeen, Scotland. Designed courses at Jamestown, R. I., Louisville, Ky., and Charleston, W. Va. For the past 10 years he has been greenkeeper and pro at Edgewood CC, Charlestown, W. Va. . . James

Lonegan is new greenkeeper at Glen Oaks CC, Little Neck, L. I. The course is being operated on a daily fee basis by Spencer Murphy, pro at Glen Oaks-in-Lakeville CC. Considerable fairway revamping work was done in fall of '44, and Spencer Murphy looks toward heavy play at the "old" Glen Oaks Club in '45.

## GOLF in the SERVICES

Mather Field Army Air Field, Calif. golf team consisting of Pvt. Verne Callison, Pvt. Chet Goldberg, Lt. Neil King and Corp. Ed Wysowski, captured the Central California Servicemen's league November 1944 tournament . . . Bob Sederstrom, former Oregon junior champ and winner of the Salem, Ore. city title five days before joining the service is now at Camp Gordon, Ga. . . With Bobby Jones now released from Army service the Augusta (Ga.) National Golf course may be re-opened . . . it is now being used as a turkey farm.

Duration amateur golf champ Marvin "Bud" Ward was recently promoted to temporary rank of captain and is now abroad with the AAF . . . 2nd Lt. Gerry Bert, Jr., winner of Seattle (Wash.) city, Seattle high schools and junior championships and a co-medalist in the 1939 national muni contest fell the victim of a Jap sniper's bullet in the invasion of Tinian Island . . . In answer to requests from New Guinea, India and undisclosed areas, Cincinnati (O.) men and women golfers have sent 500 used golf balls to the USGA for shipment to the overseas men . . . Marines searching Guam ruins found American made golf and ping pong balls.

Pvt. Don Gardner, Camp Shelby, Miss. while furloughing in Hattiesburg, Miss. shot a 69 on the final 18 holes to win an open meet with a 211 total . . . Cpl. Jimmy Graves, 78th Sig. Bn. annexed the Fort Dix, N. J. golf championship with a 4 and 2 win over Pvt. William Montgomery . . . The WAVE golf championship of the Pensacola, Fla. NAS was won by PhM2c Carolyn Tesavis, Cranston, R. I. She defeated PhM2c Marge Houston, Concord, Mass. 7 and 6 . . . Eighth Service Command's 1944 golf title went to Pvt. Leonard White, Camp Barkeley, Texas who outshot a field of 252 golfing officers and EMs.

Camp Gordon, Ga. has started one day putting tournaments with war bonds, sweaters and theatre book-tickets as prizes . . . an 80 by S. Sgt. George A.

January, 1945

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