

Cleveland Close-In Clubs Had Active Year

By FRANK P. YOUNG

Sec. Cleveland District Golf Assn.

★ GOLF IN THE CLEVELAND district in 1944 depended in a great measure on the geographical location of the Clubs. All of the close-in clubs had filled memberships and waiting lists. Those further out did not fare so well. Gas rationing kept many men from visiting these clubs.

The Cleveland district suffered the worst drought in a good many years and as a natural result most of the courses were pretty well burned.

The public links courses did a very large business catering in the main to war workers.

Most of the better clubs had restrictions of one kind or another on number of guests and curtailed hours their bars and dining rooms were open.

Tournaments were practically all individual club events; the Cleveland District holding only three city-wide tournaments. Many of the clubs arranged parties for the servicemen and for wounded veterans from Crile Hospital.

It looks as though conditions will not change much for the coming year and I predict close-in clubs will again have a banner year and outlying clubs will stretch to make ends meet.

John L. Griffith Dies

★ Major John L. Griffith, Commissioner of Athletics for the Intercollegiate Conference (Collegiate Big Ten), President of The Athletic Institute, Inc., and one of America's most noted proponents of competitive sports and athletics succumbed to a heart attack the evening of December 5, 1944, in his office at the Sherman Hotel, Chicago, Ill.

Player, coach and educator he became Commissioner of Athletics for the Welfare Conference in 1922 and President of The Athletic Institute in 1940. For the Conference he was arbiter, advisor and director of policies; for The Athletic Institute he was proponent of healthy bodies for American youth through competitive sports, insisting that collegiate sports be continued during the war, and that a broad policy of sports for servicemen be incorporated in Army, Navy and Marine training.

Born in Mt. Carroll, Ill., Aug. 20, 1877 he received his bachelor of arts degree from Beloit College, Wis. He became athletic director at Drake University in 1908 where in addition to being coach, became dean of men for two years and president of the university for one.

At the outbreak of World War I he served at Camps Dodge and Pike as divisional athletic officer, later being pro-

moted to major and placed in command of physical education and bayonet instruction for the entire U. S. Army.

His many activities included the national presidency of the Rotary Club in 1934 and 1935; director of the National Golf Foundation; director of the Executive Club of Chicago.

Purdue Greens Course for Feb. 26-28

★ Annual greenkeeping short course at Purdue university, West Lafayette, Ind., will be held Feb. 26-28. Program is being completed under direction of Prof. M. L. Clevett, director of the Purdue short courses which have been valuable items of greenkeeping research and education in the midwest. Midwest, Indiana and other greenkeeper associations in the central states are collaborating in arranging the sessions. This year the USGA and Chicago District GA also will be represented at Purdue because of plans now under way to operate a regional turf station at Purdue.

Opening session of the Purdue short course will be held the evening of the 26th. The annual dinner will be held Feb. 27.

Reservations for hotel rooms and short course attendance should be sent without delay to M. L. Clevett at Purdue.

Postwar Golf to Test Club's Business Methods

By GEORGE S. MAY

President, Tam O'Shanter CC

★ WE HAVEN'T SEEN ANYTHING YET! The tremendous interest shown in golf during the war will snowball in peace times. My prediction is based on a careful study of tournament attendance figures, letters from hundreds of new golf enthusiasts, and the wide-spread interest in the game evidenced by our men in uniform all over the world. After the war, there is every indication that high taxes will put an end to "luxury money" and that golf clubs will have to offer entertainment for the entire family if they are to succeed. In short, the golf club of the future will have to be run as a business if it is to be successful.

Rickey in Auto Crash.—Clarence Rickey, pres., MacGregor Golf, Inc., Dayton, O., was severely injured, as was Mrs. Rickey, in an automobile accident near Cincinnati, O., late afternoon, Dec. 19. Mr. and Mrs. Rickey were taken to Christ hospital, Cincinnati, where they are expected to be until at least mid-January. Clarence suffered a broken knee-cap, broken ribs, bruises and cuts. Mrs. Rickey has a slight concussion, a dislocated shoulder and cuts.