

MORaine AWAITs PGA CLASSIC



MORaine CC, Dayton, Ohio, where the nation's stars will battle it out for the 27th annual PGA championship, July 9 through 15 is down in the books as (1)—a club that began as a private day school; (2)—a golf course laid out upon the terminal moraine gravel of history's three glacial slides, and (3)—the club was conceived by a man who never played golf in his life.

Moraine was selected by the PGA because it was up to the standard required, in a centrally-located spot. And Moraine bid for the event because its officers knew that the Dayton area wanted it and would

support it. This city, best known today as the central hub of the Army Air Service Technical Command, is a real golf town. The top officials of the mammoth industries and the thousands of industrial workers take their golf as a high-ranking recreation, to play and to watch.

It was not intended, at the very beginning, that Moraine should be a "difficult" course. Rather, it was the plan of E. A. Deeds, C. F. Kettering and others that the course itself would merely be a recreational adjunct to the clubhouse itself, to meet the need for a place of release from business worries.



Tommy Bryant
Moraine's pro

In 1928, the 720 acres surrounding the Moraine Day Private Park Day School offered nucleus of an attractive rambling clubhouse, and while architects worried with its adaptation, the late Alex "Nipper" Campbell put his transit and dividers on the terrain. But, though the hills were much avoided in order that the club's novices should not be

overly-taxed or penalized, nature and the skill of Nipper combined to produce a club of PGA character.

For, not all of the organizing group were strangers to golf—people like ex-Governor James M. Cox, S. C. Allyn, now president of National Cash Register Company, Fred Rike, (pioneer mercantile retailer)—and others represented the nucleus of an active golf playing membership with its share of scratch players.

But, as for founder Deeds, his drol-

eries about the game he never learned are suggested by an incident that occurred in 1941 when Byron Nelson, Chic Harbert, Tony Penna and Jimmy Demaret were Moraine's dinner guests following an exhibition match. Said Deeds: "It is certainly gratifying to Ket and me to see you golfers really using the fairways. We've spent much time and money in maintaining them through the years, but not until today did I ever see them actually used. Our members simply have no use for them."

Moraine presents 18 holes that will challenge the skill of the masters. Although the normal length of the course is 6695 yards, the tees can be set to bring the course up around 7,000, making it a tough par 72. The course record at Moraine was set by Sgt. E. J. "Dutch" Harrison, last year with a 64. Nelson's best at Moraine is a recent 68.



Orville Young
Greenkeeping
superintendent
at Moraine CC.

BACK TO KNICKERS AFTER WORLD WAR II?

By JOHNNY MANION

Pro, Westborough CC, Webster Groves, Mo.

★ HERE'S A PICTURE I've kept since the St. Louis Open of 1924. You probably know the subjects. There's the Great Haig, then yours truly, then Willie Kidd, and at the right end, Abe Espinosa.

Note the knickers. Without knickers we'd all have been as much out of costume in playing golf as a ball



player would be playing second base in his tuxedo.

Knickers are far more practical for golf than slacks are. Knickers don't throw distracting shadows that waver around the ball. They don't have cuffs that get wet and dirty. They don't have to have a tailor cut and sew them to length.

I don't know how much business was taken away from the golf pro when the then Prince of Wales didn't have time to get dressed for golf and established the slacks style that Hagen adopted, and which later was pushed by Johnny Farrell as a propagandist for a cloth company.

But I do remember back in the 20s when I sold almost every member of my club his knickers and golf hose. That business made up about half of my shop business. And it was a big volume.

I'll give credit to Sarazen for sticking to knickers. Gene is a very practical guy. He knows that knickers not only are the best for a pro's playing, but they're best for the pro's business.