

PGA Acquires Own Club

AMBITION of the PGA to have a golf course of its own in Florida at which members could gather for their winter vacations has been harbored for 14 years. Now, after failure of previous efforts to get a course, this ambition is on the verge of realization.

The PGA is acquiring the golf course at Dunedin, Fla., formerly known as the Dunedin Isles club, and after putting the course and clubhouse in condition will operate the establishment as The PGA National GC. President Ed Dudley of the association has announced completion of arrangements for taking over the property.

The Dunedin plant has been acquired under 99 year lease entered into by Dudley and Sec. Frank Sprogell, in behalf of the PGA, and the city of Dunedin.

The committee charged with the responsibility of carrying out this project includes Chairman Fred Haas, New Orleans, La.; George Aulbach, Amarillo, Tex.; Alex Cunningham, Chicago, Ill.; Jimmy Dangelo, Muskogee, Okla.; George Hall, Ithaca, N. Y.; Eddie Kuhn, Endicott, N. Y.; Marty Lyons, Philadelphia, Pa., and Al Nelson, Ponte Vedra.

This scenic spot, lies on Florida's Gulf Coast. It has ideal temperatures and lends itself in every way to the many purposes which the PGA has in mind in acquiring an official golf club for its members and their activities and in making the facilities available for use by professional golfdom's many friends.

The course is one of Donald Ross' best. As played at present, it is 6,320 yards in length, but the tees are so placed that each hole can be lengthened 25 to 50 yards, thus making a real championship course, approximately 7,000 yards.

Even now, the greens are in fair condition, the fairways are good and the tees are very good. All can be placed in excellent shape in a comparatively short time. The course has a fairway watering system, in very good condition, with water to all tees and greens, and everything that could be asked for in the way of beauty. Future expansion has been provided for through five-year options for the purchase of approximately 90 acres of additional ground.

As a vacation spot the Dunedin site is very attractive. Lying approximately 25 miles from Tampa, 27 miles from St. Petersburg and five miles from Clearwater, with the National and Eastern Airlines, the Atlantic Coastline and the Seaboard Airline close by, it is easily

accessible and comparatively close to large centers of population, yet far enough away to insure quiet and relaxation.

Fresh and salt water fishing, quail and duck shooting, boating and all types of hunting are at the beck and call of the vacationer for the asking and an excellent bathing beach is equally handy, in addition to golf.

For the time being, there are adequate housing facilities for members and their guests within easy distance of the course. The present clubhouse, although sufficient for the time being, and very attractive, is small. Additional facilities will be required as time goes on. 250 lots of a minimum size of 60 x 120 feet, or an equivalent area per lot, will be available at moderate price, adjacent to the golf course, with facilities provided for water and electricity. They will be sold to PGA members who desire to build homesites adjacent to the course. Land is also available in the vicinity for others who desire to purchase homesites.

One of the most important items on the committee's list of "musts" is to provide an appropriate spot for the recreation and rehabilitation of the approximately 450 PGA members in the Armed Forces. Many of these boys will be returning under adverse conditions and all of them will be in need of rest and relaxation. It is the ambition of the PGA to provide these things at Dunedin, as well as the facilities which will enable these boys to pick up where they left off before returning to their former positions, if they wish to take advantage of them. Present ideas call for the construction of housing facilities for this purpose on a site adjacent to the course which has been deeded to the PGA by the city of Dunedin, and, if plans materialize, all of these facilities will be available to the PGA returning Servicemen, at no cost.

It will eventually provide both a home and resting place for those veteran PGA members retired from active work, as well as a splendid vacation center for all active members.

The club at Dunedin will be opened for service to all members of the PGA and their friends beginning July 1, and memberships are now being made available to amateur golfers by invitation from members of the PGA. They will be sold for the nominal price of \$2.00 each and will enable the holders to the facilities of the course upon payment of green fees.