

# MAKING THE SWING

## THE GOLF WORLD'S NEWS IN BRIEF

By HERB GRAFFIS

British Central Price Regulation committee, similar to our OPA, has set price of synthetic golf balls at approximately 78 cents . . . Sunday play at Eden golf course, St. Andrews, allowed as wartime measures, is to be continued . . . St. Andrews citizens voted 2412 to 1088 in favor . . . Old and New links at St. Andrews continued closed for resting on Sunday.

Val Flood, veteran pro at Shuttle Meadow CC, New Britain, Conn., retires and is succeeded by Willie Whalen, formerly at Tumble Brook . . . George Moquin, formerly at Manchester is Shuttle Meadow's new gkpr . . . Hickory (N. C.) CC reorganizing and to improve plant. . . . Donald R. (Danny) Nowak out of AAF to be pro at Green Ridge CC, Grand Rapids, Mich. . . . Lloyd Gullickson, Inverness club, Toledo, pro, sues driver of car which injured him Oct. 23, 1945, for \$10,000. . . . Verne Torfin, out of the army, returns to Fircrest CC, Tacoma, as pro . . . Ted West, formerly at Links club and at Whippoorwill CC (NY Met district) is new pro, Newport (R. I.) CC.

Ted Luther, fine tourney player before the war, finished 2 years in the army and goes as pro at South Hills CC (Pittsburgh district) . . . Ted succeeds Sam Parks, Jr., who's become a steel salesman . . . Victor East is with Wilson SGC in special technical and promotion work . . . Victor's considerable experience as a golf club official is among other qualifications he brings to this job . . . John Stevens, former pro-mgr. Rockland, CC, Sparkhill, N. Y., switches to bandage business . . . Stevens succeeded by James Small, formerly at Laurence Brook CC.

General Electric to have employees course near Bridgeport, Conn. . . . Robert Trent Jones, jr., to design the course. . . . Lt. Col. Milton S. ("Stu") Whaley, Arthur D. Peterson, Inc., sales rep. prior to entering army, recently returned from Germany . . . Robert L. Hayes, out of navy becomes pro-mgr. South Shore CC, Wawasee, Ind. . . . Carl R. Tuttle, owner of South Shore CC, is making clubhouse improvements. . . . Gainesville (Fla.) G&CC burns mortgage. . . . Pfc. Roland Fishlinger, Norristown, Pa., makes 175-yd.

ace at Bad Kissingen club, Bavaria, playing with other GIs. . . . It's said to be first ace scored on German course by an American soldier.

Bismarck, N. D., to have new 18-hole course and clubhouse . . . C. J. Reff is pres. of the new club. Course being designed by Robert Bruce Harris. . . . Greensboro, N. C., to enlarge muny course to 18 holes at estimated \$40,000 cost. . . . Ken Wible, Greensboro recreational director says new course is required "to keep in tempo with other progressive towns in North Carolina."

Cheyenne, Wyo., golfers are discussing grassing local private and muny courses. . . . Financing water supply is basis of Cheyenne grass problem. . . . Ledgement Associates, Inc., Providence, R. I., Alvin Sopkin, pres., acquire 170 acres for new golf club. . . . Topeka, Kan., considering muny course in recreation plan sponsored by Chamber of Commerce.

Construction scheduled on Springfield, Mo., muny course designed by Perry Maxwell. . . . Sacramento, Calif., muny course clubhouses to be enlarged. . . . Alva (Okla.) G&CC planning new course and clubhouse. . . . Precival E. Thurber, new pres., Metropolitan GA. . . . Robert S. Hulbert, new pres., Chicago District GA. . . . Frederick A. Marsh, new pres., Long Island GA.

Receipts for 1945 at Troy, N. Y. Frear Park muny course 6% ahead of 1944 . . . Newton (Kan.) pays off all indebtedness and reports substantial cash balance. . . . Newton club, organized in 1903, is fourth oldest in Kansas. . . . New golf clubhouse to be built at University of Michigan course, Ann Arbor, replacing burned building.

Big trap—and skeet shooting boom on at country clubs. . . . Hugh Watson, Houston (Tex.) city golf mgr. says 101,751 rounds were played in 1945 up to Nov. on city's muny courses, against 88,372 for same period in 1944. . . . Revenue for the 1945 period was \$51,695 against \$45,012 in corresponding period of 1944. . . . Watson estimates Houston's muny course revenue will be between \$65,000 and \$70,000.

Hendersonville (N. C.) reorganizing and

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starting work soon on new course and clubhouse. . . . Rockledge CC, Cocoa, Fla., enlarging and improving clubhouse. . . . Jefferson, Ia., to restore course abandoned when younger membership went away to war. . . . Minnehaha CC, Sioux Falls, S. D., spending \$20,000 on course improvement and flood control. . . . Errie Ball, youngest of a family famed in golf since Grandpa John won 1890 British Open, comes out of U. S. naval aviation to be Oak Park (Ill.) CC pro.

More than \$500,000 will be spent in making new Seaside club in Galveston Bay area one of finest on Gulf coast, says Dr. C. Paul Harris, Houston, board chairman. . . . Wm. Robinson is golf architect of new establishment, as previously noted in this column. . . . Byron Nelson's \$66,528 in war bonds with one more 1945 tournament to go, was \$24,128 ahead of the record he set in 1944. . . . Up to December 17 Nelson had won 19 events on PGA 1945 schedule for another yearly record. . . . McSpaden was second with \$34,664 in bond maturity value winnings for 1945 through the Miami Open. . . . Ten tournament stars won over \$6,000 each in bonds during 1945.

Natchez, Miss., planning new private country club. . . . Utica, N. Y., budgets for improvement on many course. . . .

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Olin Dutra, 1934 US Open and 1932 PGA champion, resigns as Wilshire CC (L. A.) pro where he's been 8 years, to go into chemical sales work. . . . Phil Greenwald is new pro at Shoreacres club (Chicago District). . . . Shoreacres recently was returned from lease by the Navy. . . . Jim Gantz is new pro at Signal Mountain club, Chattanooga, Tenn.

Pella, Ia., to build new course. . . . Del Hamner, back from overseas army service, to his former job as pro-greenkeeper at Minerva Lake GC, Columbus, O. . . . Robert L. Boxell, formerly mgr. of Rivercrest CC, Fort Worth, is new mgr., New Orleans (La.) CC. . . . E. I. Gossom, NOCC mgr. for 25 years, continues as club's comptroller. . . . George Rolfs, New Orleans Times-Picayune golf writer, claims in lengthy column that PGA wants to censor press in a city where PGA tournament is held. . . . Canadian Sport Monthly prints a blast against name pros' press relations. . . . It looks like the boys are beginning to have some of the headaches not uncommon to big business.

Mrs. Alex Cunningham, wife of Ill. PGA pres. and pro at North Shore CC (Chicago district) died Nov. 11 at the family farm near Pass Christian, Miss., following a brief illness. . . . Robert S. Simpson, 66, pro at La Mesa (Calif.) CC

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the past 4 years and prior to that, pro at Coronado, CC, San Diego, for 20 years, died Nov. 21 in his quarters at the La Mesa club. . . . Leon Howard Millington, for years greenkeeper at Edison CC, Schenectady, N. Y., died Nov. 21, at his home in Jonesville, N. Y.

Don Budge heads tennis pros' plan to establish pro tennis circuit along lines of PGA tournament circuit. . . . John W. Bohrman, jr., Cornell U. Hotel Administration school graduate, comes out of AAF to become mgr., Cincinnati (O.) CC. . . . Ralph D. Montis new pro-mgr., Lake View G&CC, Chariton, Ia. . . . Carl F. Loeffler, out of the army, becomes, pro-gkpr., Madison (O.) G&CC.

Ft. Wayne (Ind.) mailed invitations to kids for its annual Christmas party with Santa Claus, Ind., postmark. . . . Depend on Carl Suedhoff, Ft. Wayne's sec.-mgr. to get every live angle into a country club party. . . . George Aulbach, pro, Amarillo (Tex.) CC uses his Golf-o-Gram sheet, patterned on a telegraph blank for his clever and cheerful Christmas messages to his members and other friends.

Oaks CC, Tulsa, Okla., is considering a big-name tourney next summer. . . . H. L. Singletary, new pres., Oklahoma State GA. . . . Oklahoma will renew its state

amateur this year. . . . Joe Dahlman, pro at Tulsa, Okla., Mohawk munny course and one of the midcontinent's most popular pros, is new executive sec., Oklahoma GA.

Bob Dawson, Monaca, Pa., pro has leased Osceola, Fla., course from city. . . . George Duke, 46, pro at Central Valley (N. Y.) GC died Nov. 16 of a heart attack at the club.

British Boys' amateur championship is among British national events that'll be resumed this year. . . . It'll be played Aug. 26-31 at Bruntsfield links, Edinburgh. . . . There was considerable call for a U. S. national boys' championship before the war, but nothing developed further than the Western GA junior championship. . . . American Legion held several successful regional boys championships at St. Paul. . . . Now PGA and U. S. Junior Chamber of Commerce are considering sponsoring U. S. national boys' championships in absence of any publicly avowed intention of USGA to take action in that field.

Eight historic golf clubs and a collection of balls showing golf ball development from feather ball days on, recently were sold at auction at Sotheby's, London for \$288. . . . The collection was that of T. Simpson and included a sand iron made about 1770.

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Golfdom

Jack Croke is pro at Wilshire CC succeeding Olin Dutra . . . Veteran Croke has been architect of many fine courses throughout the U. S. and has taught thousands at prominent clubs where he's been in pro golf since 1901 . . . Dutra, Joe Novak and Billy Bell, architect of courses at Southern California military hospitals, were honored at recent Southern Calif. PGA dinner for their services . . . George Smith formerly at CC of Atlantic City, signs as Buffalo (N. Y.) CC pro.

Bob O'Link GC, Detroit fee course which was closed early in wartime, re-opens next year . . . Russell A. Shields, owner, has signed as Bob O'Link's supt., Dave Kennedy, Orchard Lake CC gkpr., and sec., Michigan and Broder Cities GC Supts. Assn. Henry Williams goes from Maryville (Mo.) CC to become mgr., Highland CC, Omaha, Neb. . . . Thomas Cox, formerly of Sim Park course, Wichita, goes to Arkansas City (Ks.) CC as mgr. . . . Newton (Ia.) reports 1945 was its most successful season.

Vincent X. Flaherty, LA Examiner sports columnist, quotes veteran Charles Fletcher as saying softening courses to have 50% fewer hazards than 15 years ago to make game easier for duffers who support it, is big factor in today's low

scoring of pro stars . . . Flaherty says athletes get better each generation and scoring would have improved regardless of making the courses easier . . . Frank Turnesa has invented a new putter with 7 interchangeable heads.

Nate Feeman of Berkshire CC and Ross Sobel of Grossenger CC have opened a golf school at 139 W. 54th, New York City . . . Orville White, Forsyth CC, Winston-Salem, N. C., gives lessons free as a bonus on clubs bought in his shop. . . . Orville believes in getting the drop on command of golf business in his territory instead of just depending on stored-up demand for clubs to give him an ordinary share of the volume . . . Resort Airlines, Inc., are flying Cessna planes, carrying a pilot and four passengers from Pinehurst to New York City for \$180.78 (inc. tax) for plane and \$45.19 per passenger . . . Rate from Pinehurst to Miami is \$244.90 for plane and \$61.22 per passenger.....

Resignation of George Sayers after 32 as Merion CC pro commented on by Harry Robert in Philadelphia Record sports column as result of "sniping" by members who considered George "out-moded" . . . Robert maintains Sayers' constant study of golf and instruction methods in other fields that could be effectively employed

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Kerr N. Petrie, sprightly veteran sports columnist of New York Herald-Tribune predicts, "From all indications it is sheer understatement to say that the game of golf is edging toward one of the greatest booms in its history." . . . W. R. Shearer, 19 years an official of Carlisle (Pa.) CC says Capt. Robert W. Bockius has made Naval Air Technical Training Center 9-hole course near Memphis, Tenn., a popular golf training center for navy airmen during their off hours.

City Club, Hartford, Conn., has bought Avon CC . . . Jim Thomson, pro-gkpr., Mohawk CC, Schenectady, N. Y., and Jack Ormond, supt., Canoebrook CC, Summit, N. J., have hired ex air force ground crewmen and are training them to become top-ranking course supts. . . . Jim and Jack say the young fellows are grand smart workers with a knack of making the most of machine maintenance possibilities . . . Edlar Realty Co. is restoring to condition Whip-Poor-Will CC, Armonk, N. Y., which has been out of play during the war.

Wrexham, Eng., taxi-driver fined \$2 for "wasting petrol" because he took 93-year-old golfer around the course . . . The golfer plays with 3 old friends and said he could walk only a few yards but wouldn't be pushed around the course in a bath-chair because "it would be too bumpy." . . . Group Cpt. Douglas Bader, legless British air ace, was among low scorers in recent Royal Air Force golf tournament in England . . . British are making experiments in use of plastics for wood club heads because of difficulty of getting persimmon.

Alex Watson, Leewood CC, Tuckahoe, N. Y., pro, is a talented artist with a hobby of making drawings and paintings of golf holes . . . Nick Calgay out of government war work to be mgr., Leewood CC. . . . Sherwood A. Moore out of AAF, becomes gkpr., Lake Mohawk CC, Sparta, N. J. . . . Stu Whaley, again an Arthur D. Peterson salesman, enlisted as a private and got out of the army as a Lt.-Col., which is making good progress in anybody's organization.

Stan Graves, formerly at Hillcrest CC, St. Paul, Minn., then with army on airport turf work, is supt. of Indianapolis, Ind. 6 muny courses . . . Carl Bretzlaff, Meridian Hills CC supt., has been acting aide to Paul V. Brown, Indianapolis park and recreation supt., for past 6 months. . . . Frank Sarro, Wampanoag CC, Hartford, Conn., pro while George Siebert was in Marines, is new pro at Tumble Brook CC, Bloomfield, Conn. . . . Cedar Lane G&CC, Opelousas, La., to rebuild course.

*Golfdom*