

Home-style Entertainment

Although the war years were tough on other clubs, they only served to reinforce the bond of fellowship that holds together the Orleans club. When the gasoline shortage prevented people from traveling afar in search of social doings, the club started Wednesday night suppers for the men that were cooked by members of the club. On Saturday nights other suppers were given for both men and women members. The ladies each brought a pot of beans, a salad or a pie and the club furnished coffee and rolls. There was no charge to anyone bringing food, and the idea attracted 40-60 people every time. The enthusiasm and fun of the members soon became well known and membership started to swell.

Some of those dinners must have been wonderful. Hazen relates, "Archie and Roy Bean put on the Wednesday night suppers to which the men were all invited. If any of the boys in service had ever eaten one of the broiled chickens prepared by those two, they'd have flown clear across the Pacific for a second helping. Archie and Roy served not only broiled chicken, but lobster, clams, hash, hamburgers, fish chowder, and even baked salmon. The ladies put on their potluck every Saturday night and the income from those two weekly affairs earned the club \$175 and kept it solvent".

When times grew hard in the war years everyone was wondering how the little club could continue, until ten members offered to construct a Victory Garden. They plowed up ground back of the ninth tee, and in spite of ribbing by people who doubted any of the 10 knew enough to raise a carrot, they were immensely successful. But let Hazen tell it.

"We raised 70 bushels of the nicest potatoes that anyone ever ate, 15 bushels of corn, and all the smaller varieties of garden vegetables. I tenderly cared for a long row of radishes. It wasn't until long past radish season that I discovered I'd been nurturing chickweed. But my cucumbers were the best of the lot. My turnips were fine, too, and I'd have had enough to put some up over the winter if Roy and Archie hadn't robbed the plot for a New England Boiled Dinner they put on one Wednesday night."

What makes Hazen and his fellows most proud about their club is its complete absence of any clique. The better players golf with the poorest ones and all have a swell time. If there are two foursomes or eight people teeing off, the players all toss coins to see who will play with whom. Everybody enjoys himself. If a stranger drives up, somebody immediately makes his acquaintance and invites him to join the group, even if it makes a fivesome of a foursome. Folks at Orleans are friendly.

The nine hole course of 3,015 yards has

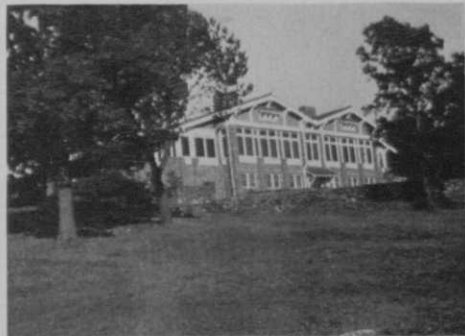
its greens and fairways in good condition considering its meager budget. Greens are mowed 2 or 3 times weekly by a man who lives on a small farm beside the course. Both greens and fairways have been seeded and fertilized this past year. Springs in the hill behind the clubhouse furnish water for drinking and for watering the greens in dry weather.

The latest treasurer's report showed that all the Orleans club's bills were paid, the mortgage retired, and the treasury left with a balance at the end of 1946 of \$431.17. The report reveals only \$20.00 of unpaid dues.

Dues at Orleans are at the irreducible minimum. A few years ago when money was scarce the club drastically reduced them. Members wisely preferred three persons paying \$10.00 a head to one member paying \$25.00. How correct was this reasoning is demonstrated by the growth in membership that began at that time, soaring from 25 members to the present number.

As Hazen Converse enthusiastically concludes, "I will go on record saying that there is not another club in the whole world that gives so much for so little as this one does."

OKMULGEE ON ITS OWN—Okmulgee (Okla.) CC where Charley Worley is pro, had a chance to buy its property consisting of 160 acres, a 9-hole course and a 2-story native stone clubhouse. The price was \$20,000. The club passed the hat asking for \$100 donations from members and got



Okmulgee CC Clubhouse

231 to toss in. Now the club's going to add 9 holes, build a swimming pool and install tennis courts. Okmulgee's population is about 19,000. Keen and extensive golf interest there is typical of interest throughout the state where a golf boom last year far surpassed previous records. Oklahoma hopes to develop a new crop of kid stars to take the spotlight away from its neighbor, Texas, which long has been the top state for development of golf talent.