

Ordinarily, any losses which are not connected with a pro's profession may only be claimed for tax deductions when itemizing personal expenses on the long Form 1040. But there are exceptions which are worth noting.

Securities, for example, have a special classification. The Treasury notes that, "Many taxpayers sell securities for gain, even though they are not in the investment business. In such a case these transactions do not constitute a trade, business or profession. However, by a special statutory provision, any losses resulting from the sale or exchange of such property (subject to limitations on capital losses) are deductible by the taxpayer in the computation of his adjusted gross income. The losses differ from ordinary non business expenses because they can be deducted even if the taxpayer used the tax table or the standard deduction on Form 1040."

A personal automobile can count as a "business" deduction under certain circumstances. Merely riding it from home to work and back every day does not qualify it as a "business" vehicle. But if it is employed for picking up supplies or doing any other tasks connected with work, however small, then the car's expenses become partly deductible.

It's easy to figure just how much may be deducted. Say that a personal pleasure car is driven 10,000 miles during the year. About 1000 of those miles were on "business" chores. That's ten percent of the total use. Then ten percent of the yearly depreciation may be charged off, along with a tenth of the amount paid for gasoline, oil, lubrication, maintenance and repairs to the car.

Some miscellaneous hints how to reduce the bill owed Uncle Sam on the Ides of March are:

1. Don't be afraid of the long form. A Louisiana pro. was astounded to learn from casual conversation with a friend that all interest payments are deductible—including personal loans, mortgages on a home, notes at the bank, even time payments on a kitchen appliance. His mortgage interest alone last year amounted to over \$800. With that as a broad base, medical deductions, deductible taxes on personal purchases, and other small amounts enabled him to legitimately claim more than double the \$650 blanket amount which he would have been permitted on his net income of \$6500.

2. Take full advantage of split income provisions. Since passage of the tax law of 1948, these are now available to citizens of all states, where formerly only a lucky minority in states with community property laws could "split." Splitting income

enables you to bring both halves down into a lower tax bracket.

3. Be sure you get all special exemptions. If you are 65 or over, you're entitled to an extra \$600 personal exemption. So is your wife (but not other aged dependents). If your vision is less than 20/200 in your best eye, you're entitled to an added \$600 personal exemption.

Western Golf Assn. Evans Caddy Scholarship bag tag sales past 8,700 mark; already 1200 ahead of last year.

HEAD MAN IS WHITEHEAD



Joe Whitehead, supt., Ardsley (N.Y.) CC, in triumph with the Roy McLaughlin memorial trophy Joe won at Fairfield (Conn.) CC, with a net 76, in the Connecticut Assn. of Golf Course Supts. Fairfield CC gen. mgr. is Fred Emeneger who got his start in golf business as greenkeeper under Bill Perkins at Yale university course. Joe also won the Perkin trophy in one of his visits playing with the neighbor boys in Connecticut. Whitehead is the Westchester County candidate for taking the Jim Standish trophy from competent competition at the superintendents' national championship at Furdue. A lot of the superintendents are playing pretty good golf now, considering the little time they have for playing the game instead of working at it. That makes understanding complete sympathetic between supts. and pros. If the pro says "some of the members are kicking about the greens," the supt., who is a golf pupil of the pro's, can reply sweetly, "some of them are suffering from their grips, stances, swings and results." Then they can compare note on which provides the most problems, humans or grass.