

bands and their children, at the pro shops because the women know values in this sort of merchandise. But the women don't know values in golf equipment so quite a percentage of them will buy anywhere that they can get equipment cheap, regardless of the type of equipment it is.

Gradually the professionals are correcting this condition in women's golf business, often with the great help of women's golf committee members, and probably more frequently by open sets or more of a price range.

But there remains an educational need in this women's golf equipment buying that calls for the attention of club officials.

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### **Course Building Increases, Neer Added to NGF Staff**

The National Golf Foundation, in gearing up for an expanded golf course development program for 1955, announced the appointment of Don Neer as field representative, beginning May 1.

More than twice as many golf courses were opened for play in the U. S. in 1954 than in the previous year, according to the Foundation report presented at the annual meeting in New York City, April 20. The report stated that 126 new courses were opened in 1954, compared with 52 in 1953.

Golf courses under construction as of December 31, 1954, totaled 259; an increase of 137% over the 109 courses under construction at the end of 1953.

Courses in the planning stage increased 68%, from 225 to 378 in the same period. Foundation records now show more than 400 courses in some stage of planning.

Neer's appointment as field representative gives the Foundation three field men for the purpose of personally following up the growing number of inquiries from all over the country by groups and individuals interested in planning and building new golf facilities. Other field representatives are Verne Wickham, of Los Angeles, who joined the Golf Foundation on March 1 this year, and Dan Sheehan, with the Foundation since early in 1953.

Neer, 36, former national sports chairman for the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce, brings a wealth of experience and training in community sports and recreation promotion activity to his new job which will consist of assisting groups and individuals in planning and promoting new golf facilities all over the country.

As sports and recreation director for

the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce, Don Neer built the Jaycees National Junior Golf Tournament into the biggest event of its kind in the world with more than 25,000 entries annually. Last fall he organized and managed America's leading junior golf champions in a goodwill tour of Europe with outstanding success.

Neer had ten years of municipal recreation experience as superintendent of recreation in Zanesville, Ohio and in St. Cloud, Minnesota, and four years in the capacity of recreation specialist as a navy officer during the war. He graduated from the University of Minnesota with a bachelor's degree in Recreational Leadership, adding to this a master's degree in Physical Education in 1946.

Neer's practical experience includes the planning and construction of all types of recreation facilities, planning and staging of major tournaments and programs in many sports, along with actual radio, newspaper and magazine sports reporting. He is an active member of the National Recreation Association, the American Institute of Park Executives and the American Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation.

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### **Wilson Leaves Green Section, Bengeyfield Now in West**

The USGA announces with regret the resignation of Charles G. Wilson as Western Director of the USGA Green Section. Wilson will leave the Green Section June 30 and go with the Milwaukee Sewerage Commission as agronomist.

Charley amply deserves the "grand job" rating for his work in getting the Green Section solidly established as a valuable service organization on the Pacific slope. He will be succeeded by Wm. H. Bengeyfield, Green Section agronomist who is transferring from Beltsville, Md. Bengeyfield now is working with Wilson, prior to taking over.

Bengeyfield graduated from Cornell university college of agriculture and was Asst. County Agent in Westchester County, N.Y. prior to joining the Green Section last fall. During World War II he was an Air Force navigator.

About July 1 the USGA Green Section's Western office will move to 1709 W. 8th st., Los Angeles 17, Calif., the new quarters being made available by the Southern California GA which has its headquarters at that address.