

## "Kent School of Golf" Grows From Tourney Play

By OWEN GRIFFITH

They call him "Teacher" and it is a well-won, apt nickname. John Hoyt Kent has earned himself a fine reputation among pros for his help and his system of teaching has won acclaim throughout New England from top ranking amateurs and duffers. Now the Kent method is being extended to YMCA's, schools and other organizations throughout the country.

John Kent is a Class A member of the PGA. In 1947 he played on the winter tour and between tournaments took movies of swings of the "big boys" which he later analyzed and showed in clinics at the Wellesley CC, Wellesley Hills, Mass., where he was then the golf professional. Shortly after the clinics were started, the Town of Wellesley Recreation Dept. suggested he give a course of instruction as part of its program, and as the urge grew to become an educator in the game, the idea of the Kent School of Golf was born.

### Rapid Growth

In 1948 the school opened in the Cambridge, Mass., YMCA with an enrollment of 40 students. Now the enrollment is around 1600 each winter semester and several hundred more sign up for the spring sessions. The classes reach into nine New England areas including Boston, Cambridge, Newton, Worcester, Springfield and West Roxbury-Roslindale in Massachusetts and Pawtucket and Providence in Rhode Island and Hartford in Connecticut.

The series of nine one-hour lessons cover stance, grip, backswing, downswing, full swing, filming of swing and review, short shots, putting, and swing analysis. Highlights of the school classes are the filming of the students' swings for analysis, the movies being shown later in the course, along with shots of noted pros. Individual instruction is an important part of the system. Music has a part in the sessions with the swing exercises carried out in special golf rhythm to develop timing.

### Husband-Wife Operation

The Kent School of Golf is a husband-wife organization with Mrs. Kent handling the increasing administrative work in the rapidly growing operation. The Arlington, Mass. golf-minded people, also work together in the sales and distribution of the Bag Boy caddy cart for which John is New England distributor.

The golf classes staff of teachers include John Kent Jr., a son, Frank Blake of Marl-

## National Golf Day June 9 Under PGA Sponsorship

Jack Fleck and Fay Crocker, U. S. Men's and Women's Open champions, will match scores against the nation's golfers on Saturday, June 9, as the fifth annual "National Golf Day," the only "All Golf Charity for Golf," is held. This year, National Golf Day will be nation-wide under the sole sponsorship of the PGA.

The Open champions will play their round June 9, at Oak Hill CC, Rochester, N. Y., site of the 1956 U.S.G.A. Open Championship.

Last year over 39,000 men, women and caddies won "I beat Ed Furgol" or "I beat Patty Berg" medals by beating Furgol's 72 and Miss Berg's 77.

Over 157,000 players participated in the day in 1955, with some 3,000 clubs participating. Attractive "I beat Jack Fleck" and "I beat Fay Crocker" medals will be awarded this year to those who, using their club handicaps, score better than Fleck and Miss Crocker. Where players do not have an official handicap, they may use the Callaway system.

Complete details of Golf Day were mailed to every pro and club in the U.S. early in April.

borough, Mal Negoshian of Needham and Harold Donnelly of Unicorn.

## Lefthanders Change Tournament Dates

The National Assn. of Left-handed Golfers has changed its annual tournament dates from Aug. 8-11 to Aug. 6-9 following a poll of members. The meeting will be held at Catawba CC, Hickory, N. C. and is the 17th to be staged by the southpaws. Seniors as well as low handicap players will compete in the two divisions of the tournament.

## Iowa Short Course

More than 200 persons registered for the 22nd annual Turfgrass short course, sponsored by Iowa State College, which was held in Ames, Mar. 12-14. Prominent turfmen who spoke at the conference included Floyd Andre, Frank Flores, Charles E. Stewart, John T. Pesek, Louis E. Bass, H. L. Lantz, W. H. Daniel, O. J. Noer, John Gallagher, Charles Calhoun, Tom Hibbs, H. S. McNabb, R. B. Vlack, Frank Bielmaier, and Beryl Taylor.