



PGA Club Champs Larry Bartosek (second from right) collects the spoils after winning recent PGA Club title at Dunedin, Fla. Bill Heinlein (second from left) was runnerup. Jack Lust (l) and Joseph J. Di Fini (r) of Squire Slacks, sponsor of the tournament, made the presentation.

House Ways and Means committee is partly due to the fact that the associations and others have conducted a campaign to educate the legislators not only on the merits of the bill, but to call their attention to the onerous burden the improvements tax places on those who are willing to spend their money to provide community recreational facilities. But, as Rep. Curtis pointed out in a recent statement, the battle at this point is only half successful since members of the Senate Finance committee as well as the Senate, as a whole, still have to be wooed and won.

Have Vital Stake in Bill

Every private club — old, new and proposed — has a vital stake in this bill. To make sure every club is fully informed and will have an opportunity to join in the concerted effort being made in behalf of the Curtis bill, the National Golf Foundation has mailed to each club a copy of the bill, a list of the members of the Senate Finance Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee and a letter urging the clubs to write, wire, phone or see in person members of the Committees and local Representatives and Senators explaining merits of the bill and encouraging full support.

It is not generally known but the present 20 per cent tax on assessments for construction and improvements has been a more far reaching deterrent to the development of new private clubs than is realized. So much so that there are fewer private clubs today than at any time in the past 25 years. In 1931 with a total of 5700 golf clubs in the United States, 4448 of these were private clubs. Today, with a total of less than 5400 golf clubs, there are only 2801 private clubs — an alarming downward trend.

At the same time and during the same period, the number of public courses, i.e., privately-owned fee courses, has more than doubled. There are now 1692 compared to only 700 in 1931, and there are now better than 870 municipal courses where there were only 543 in 1931.

USGA Rules Movie

"Play Them As They Lie," third USGA sound and color movie, is available through National Educational Films, Inc., 165 W. 46th st., New York 36. The 16mm movie covers rules of golf for fairways and rough and runs 16½ minutes. Rental charge is \$15.