

## Course, Club Finance, Caddie Seminars Conducted in Boston

The Massachusetts Golf Assn. conducted its second annual spring conference at University Club, Boston, March 8 with an attendance of nearly 300. The majority of those attending the seminars were club officials. There was a large number of supts. in attendance.

The heaviest attendance was split between the green section and club operations seminars. The Caddie Section drew about 60 persons. A panel composed of E. S. Oppenheimer, Herbert Jaques, jr., and Martin Ridge, caddiemaster at Brae Burn CC, discussed caddie recruiting. The development of caddies as citizens and golfers is a frequently discussed topic in Massachusetts, notwithstanding the growing use of golf cars. Stress was placed on the member's responsibility toward the caddie. Eben P. Lufkin, Oliver F. Ames and Herbert Jaques, jr., told of the aims, accomplishments and operations of the Francis Ouimet Caddie Scholarship Fund.

Alexander M. Radko, director USGA green section, spoke of developments in course management methods and materials that will be widely used in this year's work. Joseph Troll, asst. prof., turf management, University of Massachusetts, told of weed and clover control programs that are designed to further raise the state's standard of fine golf turf.

### Cornish Makes Big Hit

A talk by Geoffrey S. Cornish on "What Makes a Golf Course Outstanding," along with slides that illustrated his remarks, made an intensely interesting and useful presentation of the elements of golf architecture. Superintendents, who have heard many talks on golf architecture, and green chairmen who are well familiar with them, said Cornish's talk was one of the most concise and vivid they had heard. If it were reprinted as an illustrated booklet it would make a substantial contribution to the golf business. Its greatest value would come in protecting golfers against committee members and others who think they are architects and leave

clubs' poorly designed holes as sorry reminders of their lack of qualification. Cornish's remarks on the architectural values of fairway mowing were worth more than the conference cost Mass. GA member clubs.

As a source of information of immediate value to clubs was a talk by Arthur E. Iredell. A partner in Harris, Kerr, Forster & Co., club and hotel accountants, Iredell went into detail explaining tax exempt capital improvements charges and those that can't be so classified. He emphasized that when there is uncertainty, the clubs had better consult local internal revenue men and get their okay or disapproval. Often it develops that the tax men are just as confused as the club officials and there is a vast grey area between the black and whites of tax laws.

### Agonizing Reappraisal

Herb Graffis, GOLFDOM editor, wrapped up the session with an after-lunch talk on the status of golf business at clubs. He said major factors governing golf business operations include taxation which, in a way, has a good effect because it forces clubs to keep their accounts more carefully. He suggested that clubs make a more or less "agonizing reappraisal" of construction and management methods. He also pointed to the tremendous growth of: women's golf with the indication that women soon will have a prominent part in club management; the golf car; realization that changes have to be made to enable more young people of desirable character to join and use country clubs. The main danger to golf clubs, Graffis commented, is that in the days of a population explosion and young family expenses club costs often are based on the well-to-do old man's capacity to pay.

### N.J.G.A Provides Scholarship Funds for 24 Caddies

New Jersey State Golf Assn. is constantly stepping up its caddie-scholarship aid program. A total of 24 youngsters will receive \$500-a-year grants to attend Rutgers University for the fall term. This is in contrast to 1957 when only four boys received assistance. Member clubs contributed \$14,500 to the caddie fund last year and \$10,000 came from other sources. Nestor J. MacDonald of the caddie scholarship fund says that it would be possible to increase the assistance program to take in 75 boys a year if each club were to assess members only \$2 a year.