

cisms. This report was placed before the Board, which took immediate action, with the result that within another 14 days I had signed up 64 members, and without doubt made a job for myself.

"Since that time, I have worked very closely with every department of the club. You realize that we pros have more opportunity of getting closer to the membership than any other employee.

"I have used that to get the wishes of the members and in turn passed the information on to the manager and chairmen of committees. Any criticism of personnel or committees is reported to the proper quarters, with the result that things keep moving.

Here are the few things in which I interest myself:

1. Take personal charge of all tournaments.

2. Make sure that all guests are made welcome.

3. Arrange matches in locker-room and introduce new members to other members.

4. Act as a member of the membership committee. (Ex officio).

5. Serve the entertainment committee in every possible way, especially in signing up reservations for parties.

6. Using my teaching ability to interest non-members in joining the club.

7. Teaching members' children (under 16) free of charge.

8. Working in close cooperation with the school's attendance officer, so that caddies are available when needed.

"In 1940 the club signed up 110 new members, of which I was responsible for a large number. Today we have close to 390 members.

"The present set-up in many clubs finds that the constitution and by-laws make it imperative that only stockholders may hold office, with the result that the minority is controlling club affairs. This is something that is difficult to alter, so the new members must be imbued with the club spirit if they are to be retained. To do this, they should be invited to act on committees and sub-committees. Many of these new members feel that they are only in the club on sufferance, and would really like to serve the club. The new member is the one who is going to introduce his associates as prospective members. Give him something to do and maybe the membership problem will be, at least partly, solved."

USGA Outlines War Program

The USGA which announced at its annual meeting, Jan. 10, cancellation of its 4 annual national championships, drew less criticism of its tournament erasures than was expected by some of the association's executive committee.

It had been thought in view of the Royal Canadian GA continuing its Open and Amateur championships thus far through the war, the USGA might hold off. But the USGA took the attitude that golf was primarily a participants' game and that the spectator requirements would be adequately met by the pro tournament circuit and the PGA championship. Finding, to its pride, that the greater part of its 1941 amateur championship talent headed by Champion Bud Ward, had enlisted, USGA directors privately doubted the propriety of calling any of the ruling body's events national championship contests with victory supposed to identify the nation's No. 1 player. Even the

Women's National was not excepted, inasmuch as American women are busily engaged in war work.

The USGA made it plain that it did not desire its cancellation of national championships to be a precedent to be followed by regional organizations, although numerous of the major sectional events have been cancelled because of travel, time, and expense factors.

The Western GA's Open and Amateur championships have been kept on the calendar by that association.

The USGA urged club and local competitions to provide lively elements of relaxation from war-time pressure, and competitions for raising funds for the Red Cross and war-service organizations. It endorsed a national Memorial Day, July Fourth and Labor Day tournament at all clubs, whether or not USGA members, as a part of the Hale America program. Net proceeds of entry fees, minus

medal prize cost, are to be given to the Red Cross. Two weeks after its annual meeting the USGA arranged with the Chicago District GA for a big Hale America open tournament for which approximately 60 qualifying events in various cities are contemplated.

A nation-wide plan to get golfers to contribute a dime per round at collection receptacles at the first tee of every golf course in the U. S., the proceeds to go to war relief organizations, is being considered by the USGA. As there were 63,406,000 rounds of golf played in 1941, it is expected that energetic promotion of this golf fund raising plan will produce more money than any other American sport will raise.

That the action of the USGA in abandoning its championships for the duration was dictated entirely by its interpretation of greatest service to national interest, is evident from the association's 1941 financial statement.

Income from dues was \$24,095. Income from tournaments was \$23,070. Ruling out approximately half its normal annual income was a tough decision to make. USGA administrative and general expenses in 1941 were \$23,941.28 and Green Section expense for the fiscal year ending Nov. 30, 1941 was \$24,747.21. The USGA had a net excess of income over expense for 1941 of \$5,332.51, bringing its surplus to \$89,833.31.

USGA in authorizing use of War bonds up to face value of \$100 for amateur prizes and endorsing use of war bonds and stamps as prizes during the duration of the war, was enthusiastically hailed by press and public.

Questionnaire Reveals Golf's Plans For War Service

RETURNS from the war activities questionnaire sent to private clubs by the National Golf Foundation are being sifted for data on golf clubs' probable sales of war stamps and bonds this season, and for ideas clubs plan to employ in gearing themselves to peak war-time performance.

Many ingenious and practical plans for golf club use were brought forth by the survey conducted by the promotion organization financed by the golf club and ball manufacturers.

Returns to the questionnaire were unexpectedly large despite omission of in-

formation identifying the National Golf Foundation for enlightenment of club officials unaware of the nature of the Foundation's sponsorship and work over the past 4 years.

Highlights of the returns are to be presented in a bulletin which will be sent to officials of all district golf associations, USGA and WGA committee members, PGA, GSA, and CMAA regional officials. Copies of the report may be had by others on receipt of 10c in coin or stamps to cover handling and mailing costs. Requests should be addressed to National Golf Foundation, 14 E. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, Ill.

Hold Midwest Amateur April 10-12— Eleventh annual Midwest Amateur golf tournament will be held at the French Lick Springs (Ind.) course April 10-12.

Defending Champion, and a triple winner of the title, is Gus Moreland, former Walker Cup team member. By virtue of his third win, Moreland carried away the Thomas D. Taggart trophy, and a new one will be placed in competition this year. More than 600 amateur players are attracted to this event each year.

SHORT COURSE CALENDAR

February 9—March 15 — Massachusetts State College, Amherst, Mass., (2nd term)

16-20—Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N. J.

17-19—Denver (Colo.) District, Albany Hotel.

25-27—Pennsylvania State College, State College, Pa.

March 3-4—Iowa State College, Ames, Ia.

4-6—University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

9-11—University of Wisconsin, Madison.

12-13—Michigan State College, East Lansing.

12-15—Recreational Conference and exhibition, Massachusetts State College.

For more complete data on greens conferences listed above, see January GOLFDOM, p. 24.



JOHN DARRAH
Convention General
Chairman

Maintenance In War-Time Is Theme of Greenkeepers' 16th Annual Conference

By CHAS. A. BURNS

WHEN the Greenkeeping Superintendents Association gathers in the Hotel Sherman, Chicago, for its annual convention and equipment show during the period of February 10-13, old Mother Necessity is going to bring forth many new ideas on how to continue to produce fine turf at the nation's golf courses while confronted with wartime curtailments.

The nation's golf superintendents are a hardy lot and to hear some of them talk it seems as though they fear Uncle Sam's restrictions little more than they do the annual turnover of green-chairmen. They are accustomed to getting along without a lot of things that would, in ordinary times, be considered absolutely essential for the good grooming of golf courses.

All They Ask Is Weather Break

If Mother Nature is kind and gives the golf superintendents a break in the weather so that the usual bugaboos of grass growing are at a minimum, leave it to them to see that the divot diggers will get a chance to continue their exercise.

For the past decade it has been the practice to streamline golf turf through the use of scientific materials and knowledge. This policy has been necessary to meet the ever growing demands of a golfing public which was not satisfied with the slow and often mysterious process of nature. The greenkeepers knew that this "rushing" was not sound and would lead to "lush" growth and fungi attacks, and which would not be as prevalent if nature were permitted to follow her own course. Therein lies the answer to many of the curtailment problems which will confront them during wartime.

It cannot be expected that the nation's golf courses will be maintained as finely as they have in the past few years. Unnecessary roughs will have to be mowed closer, sand traps removed, and in many

cases the fairways and greens will be made smaller. Due to a scarcity of golf balls "lost ball hazards" will receive more consideration, and all in all, the golfers will probably not expect to have such "ultra" service and playing conditions.

The Chicago equipment show will be the last commercial greens exhibit for the duration of the war, although GSA leaders hope to be able to maintain their research and educational efforts.

Convention Schedule Listed

Schedule of events for the annual turf conference and equipment show follows:

Tuesday, Feb. 10, 10:00 a. m., Opening of Exhibits.

Tuesday, Feb 10, 8:00 p. m., Delegates Meeting.

Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2:00 p. m., Educational Conference.

Wednesday, Feb. 11, 8:00 p. m., First Membership Meeting.

Thursday, Feb. 12, 2:00 p. m., Educational Conference.

Thursday, Feb. 12, 6:30 p. m., Annual Banquet.

Friday, Feb. 13, 10:00 a. m., Second Membership Meeting.

Friday, Feb. 13, 2:00 p. m., Educational Conference.

General chairman of the four-day greens get-together is John Darrah of Chicago's Beverly CC. Chairman of the educational conference is T. T. Taylor; John Gray is honorary chairman of this committee. Chairman of the entertainment committee is Graham Gardiner, Park Ridge (Ill.) CC. Norm Johnson of Medinah, on general arrangements, has been an untiring worker in seeing that everything goes off smoothly at the annual greenkeepers' affair.

Don Boyd, who heads the show committee, has lined up the greatest number of exhibitors ever seen at a GSA convention—a significant fact, too, when it is realized that the '42 equipment show will probably

be the last for some time. Master of ceremonies at the annual GSA banquet will be GOLFDOM's Herb Graffis.

Annual election of officers and directors of the GSA will be held Friday morning, February 13. John Gray, chairman of the '42 nominating committee, has forwarded the following slate:

President

Harold Stodola, Keller Park Golf Course, St. Paul, Minn.

Ray Rolfs, North Hills CC, Menomonee Falls, Wis.

Vice-President

Chester Mendenhall, Mission Hills Country Club, Kansas City, Mo.

Marshall Farnham, Philadelphia Country Club, West Conshohocken, Pa.

Full-time Secretary-Treasurer

A. L. Brandon, P. O. Box 106, St. Charles, Ill.

Directors

M. L. DeParlier, Southern Hills CC, Tulsa, Okla.

Frank Maples, Pinehurst Country Club, Pinehurst, N. C.

Fred W. Emeneger, Fairfield Country Club, Fairfield, Conn.

W. Bruce Matthews, Green Ridge Country Club, Grand Rapids, Mich.

J. L. Haines, Denver Country Club, Denver, Colo.

Robert Pollock, Llanerch Country Club, Manoa, Pa.

Lawrence Huber, Wyandot Country Club, Worthington, Ohio.

Robert Smith, Westmoreland Country Club, Verona, Pa.

Officers are elected for a one-year term. At the fall executive board meeting it was decided to employ a full-time secretary. However, the final decision rests with the membership at the time of the annual meeting. Three directors are to be elected for a two-year term.

Aiding John Gray in drawing up the slate were Harold Clemens, Dave Bell, Carl Bretzloff and Ed Casey. The terms of Directors Ray Rolfs, Bob Pollock and Chester Mendenhall expire this February.

Green Section Advises Clubs To Prepare Against Shortages

USGA Green Section, in its *Timely Turf Topics*, warns of war-time shortages:

Mercury Fungicides and Arsenicals Provided For Defense: Supplies of many mercury and arsenic compounds have been provided for defense purposes. These com-

pounds include calomel, bichloride of mercury, organic mercury seed disinfectants, calcium arsenate, arsenate of lead, Paris green, sodium arsenite, and white arsenic. In the event of a shortage of any of these materials, they are to be made available for agricultural use as insecticides, germicides, and fungicides, according to Preference Rating Order No. P-87 of the Office of Production Management, dated December 13. This order grants a preference rating of A-10 for strictly agricultural purposes.

It appears grass for turf purposes will not be considered as a strictly agricultural crop. This probably means that should there be a shortage of any of these mercury and arsenic compounds, they will not be available for use in turf maintenance on projects unrelated to defense. In compliance with the defense program, therefore, many turf maintenance practices, including the control of diseases, grubs, and weeds, may have to be drastically modified.

It has been reliably estimated that in 1941 approximately 125,000 pounds of metallic mercury were sold for use on golf courses, all of which, through the administration of this order, will be available for defense, should a shortage occur. Comparable figures for the amounts of the several arsenicals used in the maintenance of turf on golf courses are not available.

Repair Machines Now: All machines and equipment which can possibly be used next season if properly repaired, should be taken care of now.

Burlap Bags: The jute from which burlap is manufactured is largely grown in India. Normally 86 percent of the burlap used in this country went into agricultural bags.

Buyers of large quantities of material in burlap bags are urged to turn them back into circulation.

Lew Scott, Willie Hunter, Leo Diegel, Charles Lacey, Olin Dutra, Fred Corcoran, Maurice Luxford, Joe Novak, and Hollywood actors, are organizing for Red Cross and other relief golf exhibitions with pros in various parts of the U. S.

Some Hollywood actors are first class golfers—all of them enlisting are gallery magnets and swell guys.

As soon as this committee gets arrangements worked out with the cinema stars, you'll hear more about this latest headline golf move in war relief fund raising.

WHAT'S AHEAD FOR GOLF IN WAR-TIME?

Without admitting one iota of defeatism let's don't kid ourselves about the tough job that golf—and other sports have. The job is that of justifying their continuance by a well-planned campaign of performance for the definite good of the nation at war. This urgent task must be aggressively, wisely, and persistently handled.

Here are candid opinions from representative operating officials, who are the men closest to the situation; also additional comment by manufacturers. Leading off in this news 'roundup' is Walter E. Langton, supt., San Gabriel (Calif.) CC, who views in a starkly realistic way the job cut out for golf.

Langton's analysis may scare the hell out of the easy wilters. It is a challenge to those whose brains and energy are adequate to meet a crisis.

IT IS difficult to forecast with accuracy what will happen to the game of golf or what will happen to private and public golf courses before the war ends. If we look back to the last war for any guidance, we find very little similarity either in manner or geographical position. During the last war we had an expeditionary force in France. It was true the fleet was engaged on the high seas, but we were not mechanically strong in France. We fooled around with the Liberty motor for a long time and never did get into mass production. Very few American-built planes were used in France.

But now we see soldiers encamped near home; soldiers marching in full war regalia on our streets. We have authorized military black-outs. We are told what to do and what not to do, and what is perhaps more serious, the enemy has been at our very gates—only 4 miles from Cypress Point where nestles one of our most beautiful golf courses and where an American ship has been attacked by an enemy under-sea craft. We hear of enemy planes flying over head, and many American lives lost on American soil, so this war is different. It is right at home.

Job Cut Out For Us

Our President has told the world that this country is to become the arsenal of democracy, that we have a tough job on our hands, that we are fighting a combination of great military and naval powers which in over 10 years have built up the greatest fighting machine since the dawn of time. Then we are told by the President that in order to meet this diabolical threat to our existence we must sacrifice and

pitch in and help all we possibly can; and in order to do this job, all the vast resources, technical ability, business administration and labor must be harnessed in one great team for the successful prosecution of the war.

This is not a war for a particular ideal, but a war of tooth and claw (jungle law). We are fighting for the right of self-preservation. It is a highly technical war of trucks, tanks, airplanes, rubber chemicals, fertilizer, ships, transportation, radio, food. The government should and will have first claim on all goods and raw materials for the duration of the war.

Saw War in Canada

During the last war I was in Canada and I know what the military authorities there thought of golf courses. They thought they were admirable places on which to train and drill soldiers, and when one bright morning I saw a cavalry regiment of some 500 horses cavorting with some 2,000 infantry up and down my fairways and across my greens and using golf traps for military hazards, I wasn't very enthusiastic about whether golf lived or died.

But all wars cease some time or other and that is what we have to think about; the end of the war and how we can best preserve our present golf status for the future.

You pose the question, Mr. Editor, of the great physical and mental responsibility of golf clubs today . . . I hardly know what to say to that inquiry. The great preponderance of people in this country do not play golf and they would show little sympathy for the death of anybody's pet golf club. Most of our



Above photo was taken in June, 1915, at the Edmonton, Alta., Municipal Golf Club. The horses seen in the background are on the No. 5 green. According to competent observers, "horses are very good at digging up turf, and infantry have never been taught to replace divots."

young men will be or should be serving with the fighting forces, and so we have left, men over military age and men not physically fit, women golfers, and men whose services to the nation are more important in civilian life.

Golf undoubtedly helps build morale, but there are other kinds of recreation which share this merit with golf. It is difficult to make the public and the authorities believe that golf is a necessity and if public courses fail to pay for themselves, the public golf course players can hardly expect the cities to provide funds to keep them going. Herein lies that inexorable law of the survival of the fittest which governs sport, as well as humans, animals and plants, the right to live.

Those clubs which have maintained a moderate policy of expansion, whose income has always been above expenditure and which have physical advantages in the form of cheap water, low taxes and easy access to population, will certainly survive above those clubs which do not possess such advantages.

But club officials will have to watch the nickels, and greenkeepers will have to justify their existence by earning their living the hard way. There will be many laments from golfers when greens do not get cut so often or a pitched ball fails to halt on a green for want of sufficient irrigation. There will probably be more footprints in sand traps, and there may be a shortage of golf balls.

Courses may dry up for want of rubber hose or the authorities may restrict the use of power for pumping purposes. We may be limited in cutting fairways or

using trucks because of gas rationing. Rubber tires on machinery may be replaced by iron wheels, wheel-barrows may come into use again and the faithful horse again be given his chance to make good. For as we increase our military forces the more equipment they will need—and the less chance for clubs to secure the necessary equipment to run a golf course.

If we have a long war, the future for golf officials, club managers, greenkeepers, and professionals is not a happy one to contemplate, but we went through the last war and came out on top, and there is no reason why we should not do so again.

If I may be presumptuous enough to issue advice, I would say that manufacturers and their agents should begin to ration all clubs, both rich and poor, so that each may have an equal chance to survive. The idea that because a club or a city has a surplus of funds, it has the right to hoard and hog all available material, is neither ethical nor sensible, but a miserable policy of short sightedness. Remember—the war will end sometime, like all wars do, and it is more difficult and more costly to build up new customers than it is to retain the old. The more golf courses manufacturers can keep going by supplying needed equipment, the more solid will be their position when the war ends.

We greenkeepers in 1942 have a hard, grim task before us in keeping the game going and that goes for all personnel connected with golf clubs. We shall be compelled to do things we never did before, and leave things undone that will be painful to us. One of the hardest things we

shall have to do is to make the public and the authorities believe that golf is a physical necessity, that it builds morale, that although we lived without it for two million years, it has now become so much a part of our way of life that we cannot do without it. When men are tearing each other apart all over the world, we must work wisely and diligently to justify the continuance of golf as a factor in the nation's strength.

* * *

ROBERT A. MITCHELL, veteran greenkeeper at Kernwood CC, Salem, Mass., and who has four sons who followed their father in the greenkeeping profession, says about golf maintenance in war-time:

"The difficulties golf course maintenance men may experience under war-time conditions will vary in different localities. We may expect further stringency of labor and purchased goods. Revenue may decrease due to resignations caused by collapse of business affected by priorities on materials.

"If one must operate with less labor hours per season or less efficient labor, then each club must decide what it will go without—such as less flower beds, and cut flowers, and permitting traps to go back to nature-like links land. Scythe mowing can be left undone where out of line of play. Improvements along construction lines will have to stop. Roughs can, in many cases, be reel-mowed often, to save raking and hauling hay. Some hand mowing may be turned into power mowing. Weeding of all but greens could be omitted, this, of course, varying on different courses.

Counsels Being More "Open-minded"

"If conditions are difficult let us try being more open minded—take the door off for the duration and remove "cannot" from our vocabulary. Let's give ourselves the once-over—take a step away and look things over. To illustrate: a greenkeeper showed a visitor a green, half of which was cleaned of crab grass, pointing out that half of the green was cleaned but that it was impossible to clean the other half. The visiting greenkeeper pondered in his mind, "Now this man cannot weed this green because he thinks he cannot, but I would not think it difficult because I have done similar weeding. I think when I go home I had better look things over and see what impossible job I have that will become possible to do if I try." Maintenance men will have a chance to be skill-

ful in teaching inexperienced help the most efficient ways of doing work and how to make best use of the strength and energy of those not fully developed or those who no longer have the full vigor of youth.

"Necessity is the mother of invention. Mother Necessity will doubtless bring forth a large brood in the near future when no new machines and materials are obtainable and old stocks wear out. It was told of old 'clipper ship days' that a 'good jury mast (Jurym'st) band' was one who, when a disaster happened, such as having a mast carried away, could rig up a temporary mast out of spare spars and wreckage to keep going."

* * *

MARSHALL E. FARNHAM, greenkeeper at Philadelphia CC, West Conshohocken, Pa., says:

"It seems to me to be too early to venture any opinion as to what adjustments of maintenance practices may suffice under the current war-time developments. I suspect that even routine cutting and watering operations may have to be materially curtailed with other practices perhaps entirely eliminated.

"This attitude may be too severe for the general welfare, but even under such curtailments courses in reasonable condition at present should continue to provide satisfactory recreational conditions for some time without any question as to cooperation with the necessary war-time economies."

* * *

EDWARD B. DEARIE, Jr., well-known greens authority in the Chicago district, gives the following opinion on how courses must adjust operations to war-time conditions:

I recall very distinctly that with the period of the first world war, there began a new era in golf course equipment

Tom Hudgins, proprietor of a driving range in Richmond, Va., bet he could drive 4,000 golf balls in a day—and did it, winning \$165 for the feat. He 'went to work' at 8:20 a.m., and finished up at 11:50 p.m. that night. His drives averaged around 200 yards; each shot was teed up by a caddie. Tom is shown during a practice session the day preceding the non-stop attempt, in the photo above.



improvement, evidenced by the fact that at that time I was using horse-drawn fairway mowers at the club employing me.

Up to the year 1928 golf had a phenomenal growth, and then followed the worst period of depression known to golf clubs in this country. Golf course maintenance faces a new crisis today. We must be prepared as never before to adjust ourselves to a deficiency in our maintenance program. The lack of manual labor must be met with fully motorized course equipment over tees, fairways and greens.

The use of all-out power mowers on golf courses will reduce labor hours one-half. In short the following equipment will be a necessity:

(1) For greens—duplex mowers.

(2) For fairways—seven and nine gang mowers.

(3) For rough—mowers with increased bar lengths and increased cutting units.

(4) For tees—all power mowers with wider cut.

We also have improved topdressing machinery and power sprayers and one man water systems in operation today. We are ready for what may come and I think some interesting cost figures will result in the years ahead on golf course maintenance. Trial and error are our greatest teachers and when this war is over, I believe golf course maintenance will have met its greatest test and not been found wanting.

* * *

Norwood and Beckett Tell of Pro Prospects In '42

JOE NORWOOD, Los Angeles (Calif.) CC pro, has the following to say about what he thinks the pro's program for 1942 will, and should be:

"My club, in the East, during 1917-18 was active on a basis that if the golfer ordinarily played three or four days a week he would reduce his play to once or twice weekly. Club activity was reduced to a minimum with relation to parties, dances, etc. With reference to present day war activities, aviation, for golf courses along Eastern and Western coasts, puts a little different slant on things—for should there be any invasion by planes, golf courses would make good landing fields, so building of barriers on the courses might be in the minds of the War Department.

Count More on Older Pros

"The new age limit of 20 to 44 for active military service, will take in a high percent of the pros and therefore the older pros will be counted on more than ever.

"My program for furthering continuation of golf is along these lines: should golf playing time be sharply restricted, let's remember that a practice range will enable one to give, say, one hour to practicing with special exercises in addition, as compared to three and four hours for a round of golf. This will keep the golfing public fit and bring about a chance they have longed for in peace times—taking time out for practice and lessons.

"Group lessons can be arranged for hours best suited to those interested, for time will be considered on a basis different than that of peace time.

"The caddie situation will probably cause more and more use of carts, or fewer clubs, which after all, hurts the manufacturer, but golf must go on. There'll be fewer balls, naturally.

"Professional tournaments started after the last war, so even one familiar with the earlier days can hardly foresee the effect on present tourneys. The Professional Golfers Association was but two years old when the war ended. Golf pros will have no easy time. Many private clubs will have to exist on a public pay-as-you-play basis.

"Golf supplies will be somewhat slack. Pros, with clubs which are hard-pressed, may be asked to turn in some of their earnings. This will give the pro a chance to keep the club open—where dues are hardly sufficient to keep expenses up.

* * *

Howard Beckett, pro at Capital City Club, Atlanta, Ga., views pro and golf club prospects during war-time with cold, calm realism. Howard says:

"In 1918 the battlefield was in France. Most of the boys when they had the chance at the many different camps at home, played golf, and in fact, many had their clubs with them. At my club, which was close to famous Camp Gordon, we had lots of the boys playing over the week-ends and we had a great time.

"But this is not the set-up under present conditions. These youngsters are taking this thing seriously. They have no time for golf. In fact the young fellows at my club have given it up entirely until they find out what this is all about.

"The picture is changing so fast for all of us it is going to be next to impossible to make any plans for the future. But each pro is going to have to keep on his toes, live from day to day, and handle problems to the best of his judgment. Adjusting this great old game into the defense work is going to take time.

"To me the whole set-up reflects back to the meeting of pro executives and golf manufacturers in Chicago last November, at which time the manufacturers were asked what we could expect for the coming year, and their answer was, "We don't know."

* * * *

The Manufacturers Say:

CHARLES F. ROBBINS, pres., A. G. Spalding & Bros., Inc., in a letter sent to each of the company's employees late in December viewed the sports business situation, in the following paragraphs:

"In my opinion, the experience of Canada most closely parallels our situation in this country and furnishes the best comparison. Canada went to war in September, 1939, and has been actively engaged ever since. She has not only furnished supplies and material to England, but has also sent divisions of men. Our sales in Canada in 1941 were larger than any previous year in the recent past. Sales of golf, which is an important item, showed an increase of over 10% in 1941. Tennis held up and sales of team equipment items—many of which went to the armed forces both in Canada and England—showed a very large increase. Current orders for all items are strong. We have been able to obtain sufficient materials to produce the goods which our orders have called for.

"Athletic activity is part of the regular training for men in the armed services of the United States. In the last war every military unit had its regular athletic equipment, which consisted of baseball, boxing, football, basketball and volley ball.

Considerable Equipment to Be Bought

"The supply of athletic equipment to the Army is today under the jurisdiction of Major Theodore P. Bank in the Morale Division. There is every reason to believe that large quantities of team equipment will be purchased by the Army and the Navy. Some of this will be bought by the government on bids and some of it

will be bought locally from dealers by the training camps and naval stations.

"John B. Kelly of Philadelphia has been appointed by President Roosevelt to head a division of the government for civilian physical training. He is now engaged in formulating a program for this activity. Both President and Mrs. Roosevelt have a very personal interest in this subject, the importance of which is officially recognized. It is probable, therefore, that an increased demand for athletic goods will develop from this activity.

"So much has been said on so many occasions about the necessity for physical fitness that it is necessary only to mention it here. Its very importance, however, shows conclusively that the athletic goods business is fundamentally and closely tied in with the prosecution of the war. This applies to men in the Service and also to those engaged in war industry and civilian occupations. With this background, it is difficult to suppose that material necessary for the manufacture of athletic goods will not be made available.

"I know I express the feeling of the majority when I state that it is my sincere belief that athletic goods are a necessary part of the present war activity. If any one of us is needed by our country in some other job, and, therefore, is called for such a job, it should be considered a privilege, and I believe that any one of us so called will give his utmost to that job. If, however, we are not so specifically called, then we may continue with our work in the Spalding organization, with a realization that we are doing a real job and rendering a necessary service to our country in doing our part in carrying on the war."

* * *

CLARENCE H. RICKEY, president, Crawford, MacGregor, Canby Co., believes that American golf, besides providing needed recreation and relaxation for fitness, has been one of the very large contributing factors in developing a competitive spirit in each of us and that so long as those responsible for golf's conduct provide that element of competition, through energetic tournament committee work, there's no need to fear any collapse of the game during the present emergency. Rickey says:

"Since fully ninety percent of all rounds of golf played during 1941 were played by golfers who were not even slightly acquainted with the game back in 1917-18, a comparison of golf in this coun-

try during the two war periods is hardly analogous. In fact, the only similarity is the desire to get fit, to regain that hard, lean look we had back in '17, and that means exercise, and that to an American means some form of competition, and that could mean golf and more golf, whenever the time can be spared.

"During the armistice of the past twenty years Americans have developed the game of golf into a typically American game. Because we are a highly competitive people, we have adopted a type of play different from that of its originators in that we get a greater lift out of winning—a thrill out of a longer drive, are more concerned with better equipment, course conditions, etc.

"We play constantly on championship layouts, where our scores are high, but we like it for it's a real challenge. We choose foursomes, or make matches and get greater uplift out of winning a dollar thirty cents than we do from a most successful business coup, for it's something to beat.

Keep Competition Alive

"That's the development in typically American golf that all club officials must recognize and make adjustments to keep alive. We must not allow a falling off of fairly-handicapped competitive events. We must not let a member lose the fun of competition. We may need to keep a 'weather eye' on all of our members and see that foursomes are arranged for them. Give them competition now and you will keep them interested.

"Wartime emergencies are bound to make membership changes. Old foursomes will be broken up; remaining members will feel lost. Taxes will cause some loss of membership, for 1932 taught us that a man will sacrifice his own pleasures first. But for those whose units of energy are depleted by defense work, whose nerves are overwrought, a really competitive game with a chance to win is a certain panacea for the heebie jeebies.

"Summing up, it puts the burden of making certain every member has an interesting game whenever he shows up at the club, upon someone whose job it is to maintain membership. It means no curtailment of the activities of the tournament committee or professional. Such a program will hold members, as well as make your club the most desirable one to the prospective new member."

Eddie Williams Is New PGA Seniors' Champion

EDDIE WILLIAMS, of Chicago's Bryn Mawr CC, captured first place in the annual PGA seniors championship held January 17-18 at Fort Myers, Fla., by shooting two sub-par rounds of 69 for a 138 total. Eddie's superb golf, as well as the fine play of the entire field of golf's grand veterans, gave additional valid recognition to golf's claim as "the game for all ages"—a game played equally well by any and all from 8 to 80.

Runnerup to Williams was Jock Hutchinson, Glen View Club, Chicago, with a two-day total of 144. George Morris, Colonial CC, Harrisburg, Pa., was third with 145. In the four-ball, best-ball play held two days prior to the regular tournament, the team of Eddie Williams and Wendell Kay carded 66, three better than the next team, Wilfred Reid-Bill Gordon. Charles Mayo-Tom Skipper and Milton Theobald-Bill Livie tied for third and fourth places with scores of 70.

At the annual seniors' election, Alex Cunningham, of Chicago's North Shore CC, was named president for the coming year, with Capt. Charles Clark of Cleveland, 1st vice-pres.; Bertie Way, Cleveland, 2nd vice-pres.; Eddie Williams, secy; Alex Ogilvie, Augusta, honorary president.

Without more new golf balls the game will be in a bad spot. Recovered balls will help some, but not enough.

Mid-winter purchasing of golf balls by individuals has been too much on a hoarding basis. You can bet the individuals who bought in unreasonably large quantities won't be willing to pay out their money on the same basis in preserving the clubs at which they'll play balls from their hoard.

Distribution of such balls as each pro may be able to buy presents a delicate problem. The pro who lets himself be stampeded by some member who wants to buy more than his requirements justify, and more than the supply warrants, is making a mistake that may cost him his job and his club the patronage of many members unable to get balls later in the season.

Plan your pro department's ball rationing plan now and promptly advise your members of the plan.