

municipal sewage treatment plant, and the major part of this goes on our golf courses."

Elliot explained that a Model "K" Royer compost mixer did the entire job of preparing their compost and sludge. Each course has a compost shed and the Royer is trucked from one location to the other as its services are needed.

"In the case of the sewage sludge, we haul it away from the treatment plant to the parks and permit it to age for a year before mixing it with the compost," Elliot went on. "Our compost has a large quantity of oak leaves and manure in its makeup, the latter being obtained from a local packing company. To this no basic chemicals are added; but when analysis of a selection or a green indicates a need for a particular element, a standard commercial fertilizer, high in that element, is mixed into the compost by the Royer. This is all done in one operation, two or more men shoveling compost and fertilizer into the machine hopper simultaneously.

Maintains Three Greenhouses

The park system maintains three greenhouses, each 25 ft. x 135 ft. in area, and supplies all the plants and shrubs for the park district. The Royer mixer also is employed to mix the soil used in the propagation of everything raised under glass. It is used, too, in mixing mulch with sewage sludge, a mixture they place around bases of trees to hold moisture. Elliot estimated that the Royer saved the parks some \$300 to \$400 annually in doing the work of one or more part-time laborers during the spring and summer months, besides doing the work more thoroughly and efficiently than it could be done by hand.

Compost not immediately used on the golf courses is used to nurture seedings on lawns and around park buildings including the offices of the park board at 813 N. Main St. Rockford boasts a total park area of nearly 1,200 acres and this is divided into sixty-seven parcels of land of varying sizes. Large park areas, other than golf courses, in the district include Black Hawk Park, 91 acres, Leving's Park, 133 acres, and Fair Grounds Park, an area of lawns, shrubbery, tennis courts and playgrounds close to the business center.

Earl F. Elliot has been in charge of the park district, as superintendent, since 1927 and has played an important part in the development of the system to its present high plane. He is an alumnus of the



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Iowa State College of Agriculture and is active in the American Institute of Park Executives, being a member of the standing committee on playground designing.

"Rockford is extremely golf-conscious, and it is therefore a genuine public service to provide these broad facilities for playing this popular game, at the same time offering them at a cost which is not prohibitive," explained Elliot. "I don't think you will find many cities of our size with the municipal golf set-up we have, and I know you will find few whose fees are so nominal. And, if you are looking for a test of skill, you will find our courses compare favorably with private courses anywhere."

Iowa Greenkeepers' July Program Features USO Benefit

JULY meeting of the Iowa Greenkeepers Assn. will be held Tuesday, July 14, at the Waveland Municipal course, Des Moines. Program for the event, according to host greenkeeper T. E. Adams, includes a USO benefit show in the afternoon, featuring historical dates on the Waveland course calendar.

Foursomes in costume will play the first hole, each foursome representing some particular period in Waveland's history; i. e., the original opening date of the course; the occasion of the first women playing the course, etc.

The program is to be plenty 'on the record' inasmuch as the chief photographer of Des Moines' only daily newspaper is to be on hand with camera ready. At least 50 Iowa greensmen are expected to attend, according to Adams, who is also secy-treas. of the association.

Jimmy Crossan is Plane-maker—Jimmy Crossan, well known in pro circles, now is at one of the larger airplane plants in the west. Jimmy starts work at 4 P.M. and works until 4 A.M. He still gets some golf in before going to work. He says there are more than 1,000 golfers in the plant; some of them excellent players. Jimmy's father, who died a year ago, was pro at the Kirkenbright GC in Scotland for 55 years. Jimmy's mother died in Scotland a month ago and late in June his sister, a member of a British women's war corps, was killed in an air raid.

Instructor or Player?

By BOB HALL

Larry Gleason Has the Answer to That Question—For Himself at Least—

SEVERAL times in the 16 years that Larry Gleason has been golf professional in Long Beach, Calif., he has engaged in major tournaments. Each time he has made such fine showings against the regular playing professionals—although never taking first prize money—that many have wondered why Larry has kept from seeking the glare of the tournament spotlight.

Here's the story of Larry, the man who prefers to stay at home. He's no different from hundreds of others working day in and day out at private and public courses the nation over. You seldom read about them outside their own sector, but they're always on hand when a member wants to make that slice go straight, or iron out a hook.

Larry can—and has—played golf with the best of them. Yet, day after day he had greeted his many friends on the lesson tee, and given not a second thought to the rich open tournaments of Southern California.

"I came to a very definite decision to devote my time to teaching golf, rather than follow the tournament tour, in 1926 when I became professional at the Long Beach CC (now Meadowlark, a public course)," Gleason says.

"The course had just been opened. There were many members who were learning the game, and were badly in need of instruction. I felt it was my duty to the club to stay on the lesson tee," he continued.

A Real Veteran

Larry has been a golf professional 22 years. He got his start in the Chicago district as a caddie, later coming to Southern California in the mid-1920s. For the past 16 years he has been serving golfers in the Long Beach area, and his many fine pupils attest to the success he has had.

Among his pupils have been Mrs. Betty Hicks Newell, who got her start five years ago with Larry; Ernie Combs, Jr., quarter-finalist in the 1934 National Amateur;

July, 1942

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Peggy Rutledge, a definite comer in Southern California women's competition, who qualified for the National last summer, and Jackson Bradley, young Lakewood assistant professional, who recently joined the Marines.

Larry's pupils have brought many titles to Long Beach. His teams at Long Beach CC won the women's association championships in 1926, their first year, and were runners-up in 1927. He switched to the Municipal course at Recreation Park in 1928-31 and coached those teams to two championships. Since that time he has been at Virginia Country Club.

The Virginia women have won the Eastern division flag eight times out of ten; the men, six times and have been in the Southland finals three times. His juniors, Les Hensley, Combs and Curtis Williams, won the Southland junior titles four straight years, 1927-30—and Bradley took over the Southern California inter-scholastic and junior crown in 1939.

"There are several reasons for my sticking to the lesson tee," Larry will tell you. "First, as I mentioned before, I felt it my duty to the club. After all, I'm selling my knowledge of the game to them and I can't sell them much, nor help

them much, if I'm often miles away battling other pros for a title."

"Second, Eastern and Midwestern professionals, who have to close their shops for the winter, and touring pros who do little else but play in the opens, have more time to devote to practice and to competition. It's like trying to beat them at their own game.

"Third, it's decidedly more profitable to tend to business than to play in the tournaments. Only the first four or five finishers in the tournaments break even financially anyway, what with entry fees, caddie fees, increased hotel rates and the usual expense of vacationing. I couldn't afford to vacation too long. Business just doesn't follow one around the country.

"Fourth, I really enjoy teaching. The mechanics of a golf swing are simple, but to control these mechanics, to teach others to hit clean shots and to enjoy their game, seems to me both enjoyable and interesting.

"And fifth, one gets acquainted with a fine class of ladies and gentlemen, and has most interesting chats. To me that's living. I'll always cherish my memories of the lesson tee."

Larry has studied golf. He plays one

of the most consistent games in Southern California. He has won more than his share of the monthly pro-amateur sweepstakes of the Southland PGA and other minor outings over a period of 16 years. He is a member of the American Legion. He also served for many years as an official of the Southern California PGA.

"Perhaps the most valuable experience I received from play in the open tournaments," Larry says, "were tips and good advice I obtained from the more experienced professionals in the teaching phase of the game. From their kind words, their little hints and the like, I've been able to store up a fund of information that has stood me well on the lesson tee.

"To MacDonald Smith, Eddie Loos and many others who have given freely of their advice, I have felt most grateful."

Larry doesn't have a set system for teaching golf. He believes that the swing should be adapted to the man or woman, that each would-be golfer should be taught to hit the ball the way he or she is built to hit it, and that enjoyment of the game comes first, good scores second.

He inaugurated mass or group instruction at the Long Beach Country Club in 1926, first California pro, and one of the first in the United States, to begin this now popular phase of teaching.

New Society Gives Duffer Chance at Prizes

By JOE KRAYNICK

THE guy who pays the freight in minor amateur tournament golf—the middle-aged duffer who shoots in the low 80's and up, only to be dropped into the third or fourth flight while younger golfers battle for the club, district or invitation champion—is getting his share of prizes in at least one state these days.

The Junior-Senior Golfing Society of Connecticut is responsible for this major change in the division of the spoils and the fun of being hailed as a winner, much to the satisfaction of everyone, including the parent Connecticut Golf Association. To say this society, composed of men between the ages of 40 and 55, has helped Connecticut golf is putting it mildly. It practically assures the success of every tournament by large turnouts and generally its members are the "life of the party" at the 19th hole.

As a matter of record, the society was

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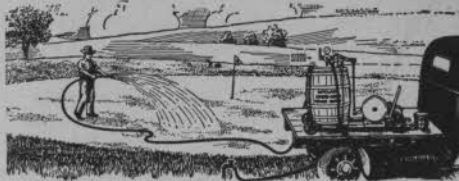
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born at the 19th hole three years ago where a group of present officers realized and admitted that they couldn't compete any longer with the youngsters and were too young for senior competition. What to do? Why not organize a middle-ground group and continue tournament play.

That is just what they did and the result is one of the most unique organizations in the history of golf. Where before they had to be satisfied to take tournament golf as it came, now they have an "inner" tournament in practically every event on the schedule of the Connecticut Golf Assn., plus their own.

Some 15 to 20 tournaments are staged in Connecticut during the season, most of them invitation events and in each of these there is a special section for the Junior-Senior golfer. Of course there are a number of Junior-Senior players, among them Samuel N. Pierson, president of the N. E. G. A., who play well enough to qualify for the championship flight, but invariably they choose their own division. The division is awarded prizes for the medalist and the winners and runners-up in each of the two or three Junior-Senior brackets.

Activities are by no means confined to state events and the society continues its unique set-up in its own events. For instance it stages four tournaments a year for members only. These are underwritten before the first fussy foursome tees off. Upon arrival at the scene of hostilities, the member registers and pays \$10 to the secretary. The fee takes care of his lunch, green fees, dinner and drinks throughout the day. He can sign for as many or as few drinks as he pleases. Dinner follows the tournament and not one competitor goes away without a prize. There are from 14 to 18 major prizes, the

best costing up to \$15 and the last \$5. All others cost from \$1 to \$2. These consolation prizes, all suitably inscribed with the emblem of the society, have run from automatic pencils and desk calendar to golf shirts.

All tournaments have a curfew hour of 11 o'clock and members leave the club at that hour. The officers see to it that even this unique order is followed to the letter. The final tournament of the year runs two days, the first for a general get-together and annual meeting and the second for the championship play.

Membership has been limited to 150 and right now the waiting list is probably as high as that of the ritziest country club in the United States. It is incorporated and a member of the USGA. Its fame has spread to all sections of the country and President Earl Hayes of the Brooklawn club in Bridgeport, has received requests from 15 different groups for an outline of the society's activities and set-up.

This factor, according to Hayes, is an indication that in the not too distant future a junior-senior society will in all probability become an "inner" organization of practically every state golf association.

Pros Held to Be Club Employees— Federal Judge L. Sullivan at Chicago recently ruled that golf pros are employees of clubs at which they work and not independent contractors. The ruling held clubs liable for payment of social security taxes on pros' income whether it be from salary, golf lessons or shop sales. The decision was handed down in a suit brought by the Ridge CC against the Internal Revenue Dept. for recovery of \$1,000 paid by the club in social security taxes in 1941.

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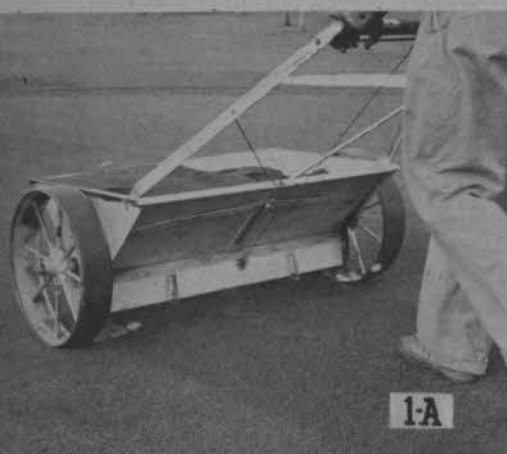
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- 2A. Mole crickets from green. Note hole.
3. Uneven spread of lime, the result of having no scatter board. Even distribution is important.

New Ryegrass Disease in South—This spring numerous inquiries were received from the South concerning a disease which appears on the ryegrass and carries over onto the Bermuda grass. This disease has been reported in previous years but unfortunately no one has had time as yet to investigate the cause of the disease nor to produce a cure for it. The mercury fungicides have been tried repeatedly, however, without avail. It is not wise, therefore, to waste the limited available supply of mercury fungicides in an attempt to control this new disease of ryegrass and Bermuda grass, as such attempts are likely to result in failure. Until more information is obtained regarding the cause and cure of the disease, the best procedure is to reseed such infested areas with Bermuda grass as soon as possible.—*Timely Turf Topics.*

Golf Dots & Dashes

(Continued from Page 5)

has been granted a leave of absence by the college to act as Associate Chief of the Turf Unit, Construction Branch of the U. S. Army Engineers. Several others, experienced in golf course maintenance, have gone into air field turf work for the government.

Charles W. Parker, supt., Wianno GC, Osterville, Mass., rides a bicycle over the course to keep work under close supervision. . . . Latest reports are that the Nazis are maintaining the Praha golf course in good condition. Play on this best and newest of the Czechoslovakian courses is almost entirely by Nazi officers. Quickly after the Nazis grabbed Czechoslovakia they declared that the golf clubs had been absorbed into the German Golf Union.

George W. Blossom, Jr., USGA president, has appointed 189 individuals to sub-committees of the Executive committee for 1942. That's a record number. . . . Up to June 25 there were 866 golf clubs, public courses and associations on the USGA Honor Roll of organizations participating in golf's Red Cross war fund campaign. Second of the Red Cross tournaments was played July 4. Entry fee is \$1, except at certain public courses where 50c entry fee has been approved. Red Cross national head-

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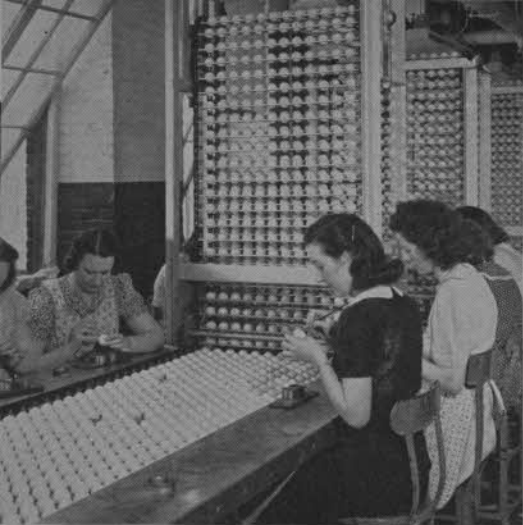
quarters gets \$85% of entry fees; local Red Cross gets the other 15%.

Golf play at Bel-Air, one of Southern California's leading clubs, first 5 months of this year, was 14% ahead of play for corresponding period, 1941. . . . Minnesota PGA was first PGA section to take an active part in scrap rubber collection. Other sections quickly got busy when campaign was put on national basis by PGA. . . . Gene Percival, manager of Lost Nation CC (Cleveland district) recently got an order for 20 steak dinners to be served at 8:00 A.M. to players in the Chase Brass Co. tournament, who started play after completing work on the factory's night shift.

New Jersey Club Managers Assn. and Executive Committee of the state's PGA met June 2 for conference on wartime club operating problems. Caddie and other labor problems were given special consideration. Clubs were warned to not allow boys under 14 years of age to work as caddies or in any other capacity at clubs, schools. Record of hours worked must have working papers issued by local schools. Record of hours worked must be kept. Caddies 14 to 16 can't work after 6 P.M.; 16 to 18 after 10 P.M.

Gasoline rationing in Britain is expected to nearly bring to an end golf exhibitions for war relief funds. Clubhouse meal service is restricted by reduction in deliveries. Clubhouse help is "practically unobtainable" says *Golf Monthly*.

• TURN IN USED BALLS FOR REPROCESSING •



Used golf balls, shown here after being re-processed by United States Rubber Company, can be distinguished from new balls only by the word "re-processed" which is branded in their covers. On the final conveyor line they are marked by name, according to construction, and given a last critical inspection. Many thousand old golf balls from pros in all parts of the country are received every day for re-processing at the company's golf ball plant in Providence, R. I.

Sandy Herd Tells About England at War

D. SCOTT CHISHOLM, veteran golf scribe, recently received a letter from Alex (Sandy) Herd of Moor Park GC, Rickmansworth, Herts, Eng. The letter was dated May 11. Rugged old Sandy still has a lot of pepper in him. He wrote Chisholm:

Dear Davie:

As I am at a loose end today—it is Monday—a quiet day as a rule as far as golf is concerned, I thought I'd drop you a line. We have quite a lot of golf played here. There are a great many folks over here who are glad of a break as most of them are all OUT—to win the war. They work hard and are happy to do so. It is exactly 12 months since we had the last hell upon earth here. London, from my club, looked like a great fireworks display. One would have thought that it was entirely gone. But it is still there and she's going to stay right there.

Walking along a main street one can't see much damage only when you look around the back alleys where you can see a terrible mess up. Everyone is carrying on and don't give a damn for Hitler or anyone belonging to him. The spirit of the folks has been wonderful. They can't get a united nation like this down. The women are winning this war for us. They are wonderful.

I have three grand-daughters, a

grandson and others all in this job of war—two sons also—and if the Hun ever attempts to invade this country old man Herd wouldn't be idle as I have a debt to pay these swine back. They made one of my daughters and her four children homeless. They lost all and luckily they were all in a shelter at the time. There were many killed all around her so if I ever get a chance, I'll stick the first son of a German I come across no matter his size or age. I have a big long knife all ready for the slaughter hanging by my side.

I was 74 last April—just 40 years since I won the British Open—and I am feeling not so bad these days. I had a tough time a year ago when the surgeon had me under him. I am now playing a few rounds per week and can sometimes beat my age. I can't punch as hard these days but I'm never off the line and I can thank God for the short shotties. I am playing along with Alf Padgham and a few more in a Red Cross match next Thursday—Civil defense against the Police. We are playing at the Royal Mid Surrey, where J. H. Taylor has been pro for so long. I hope to see him although he cleared out during a blitz. I haven't been at Mid Surrey since I won the News of the World—and 300 pounds. It was a knockout tournament and I was 58 then so I did play good. I think you call them Round Robbies or something over in America.

There is no professional golf over here except for Red Cross. I see there's to be some sort of an Open near Chicago in June so if you get there, look up my brother Jim and my nephew Bruce. Also give my best to old pals such as Hagen, Sarazen, Bobby Jones, Mac Smith and all my other friends over in America.

I saw Jim Braid the other day. He is looking and keeping fit. He still plays fine golf although he's a couple of years younger than me. He wants to be remembered to you. Ted Ray just sits around—a very sick man who cannot even walk across a green. He was a great big strong man at one time and the longest hitter of his age and time. That Hogan lad must be awful good. But you have in America today so many great ones. By their performances I feel the old country, by the time this war is over, will be very badly off for talent as all our young players are in some service and a great many getting killed in the air. Mrs. Herd sends her best—so do all the family. I hope we shall meet again some day but I hae me doots about it.

All the best from your friend,
SANDY HERD.

(I'm still trying to get my 20th hole-in-one. Pray I get it.)