

Slow on the Backswing - Mister



BACK before Pearl Harbor a rushed backswing simply meant the possibility of a broken string of "even 4's."

Nowadays it may mean a broken neck!—a soldier's life! And the 1943 "player" only makes the mistake once.

But our boys in North Africa and the Near East and the South Pacific don't make many mistakes. They're trained not to. They're equipped not to—and a big, important factor in that equipment is rubber.

Rubber in tires and tank tracks; rubber in gas masks and altitude masks; rubber in cushioning devices, bearings, insulation, protective clothes, surgical supplies—rubber, rubber, rubber.

So we back in the good old U. S. A.

haven't so much of it any more for our civilian needs and luxuries—golf balls, for example. The rubber for the thread that helped give Acushnets their extra life and extra length—*just aint*. It's doing more important things—helping save this country, where some fine day we'll all be playing golf once more.

Let's not forget this when we can't supply members with all the Acushnets we would like to, this summer. Acushnet Process Sales Company, New Bedford, Massachusetts.

ACUSHNET
GOLF BALLS

SOLD ONLY THROUGH PRO SHOPS

TITLEIST BEDFORD GREEN RAY PINNACLE

Of Golf Of Course

Willie Turnesa, 1938 Amateur champ, is teaching golf to the sailors at the naval gunners' school, Hollywood, Fla. . . . Sandy Weir, writing in the Winnipeg Free Press, suggests that a dozen golfers or so in each club leave instructions with the pro to loan their sets to any service man who comes to play unequipped. It's a fine suggestion. . . . Oregon Public Links GA is sponsoring a War Industries Golf League, open to 4-man teams from war plants. Three divisions—championship, B, and C are planned. . . .

Down in Hawaii, barbed wire is strung at intervals over the courses to prevent enemy planes from landing. This has resulted in a new rule, giving a free lift to a player whose ball is under or near the wire. . . . Massachusetts GA had its 40th birthday in February. . . . Fred Corcoran, overseas with the Red Cross, says Yank golfers stationed in Great Britain are having a fine time playing the historic layouts of the Isles. . . . Henry Picard, instead of retiring to the rustic quiet of his farm, has changed plans and is now at work in the safety dept. of an Oklahoma City aircraft concern. . . .

To encourage share-the-ride, drivers of cars with three or more other players aboard will receive a \$1.00 credit toward clubhouse purchases at either Hilltop or Plymouth CCs, Detroit. . . . Mrs. George Zaharias (Babe Didrickson) won the Women's Mid-winter tourney at Los Angeles by defeating Clara Callender in the final 4&3. Babe, who regained her amateur standing this year, shot a 73 to qualify. . . . Ted Marseles, pres. of the New York State GA, is urging all clubs and organizations to schedule full event-calendars this season. He sees no reason to believe there will not be plenty of golf played. . . . Missouri

April, 1943

TIMELY TURF TIPS

HOW TO CONTROL SUR- PLUS GRASS ON GREENS

At the end of 1942 there was too much grass on many greens. It was most noticeable on Washington, Metropolitan, and other similar bent grasses which make a dense tight turf. Matting was aggravated by less frequent cutting.

Turf becomes spongy when there is too much grass. Every footprint is clearly defined and surfaces near the cup become very uneven. Buried stems are an added annoyance. They cause the ball to hop. The course of the ball is deflected by occasional stems kicked out by shoe spikes. Accurate putting is well-nigh impossible in either case.

Matted greens resemble the thatched grass roofs used in Europe. Thatching impedes the penetration of applied water in both instances. Matted grass may cause serious trouble in hot weather. Localized dry spots appear during drought despite artificial watering. As grass begins to wilt, it turns blue. Then it withers, turns brown, and dies. Clover or algae finally appear in the resulting thin spots. In hot rainy spells surfaces stay sopping wet. Rotting, followed by scald and algae invariably occur. Thatched surfaces also prevent effective disease control. The fungicide stays on top, and the disease organism continues uninterrupted growth underneath. Surfaces become badly pitted from the deep scars.

Unless corrected now, an even thicker mat will develop this year, especially on greens which are not cut every day. Setting the mower to cut closer is not the answer. Once turf becomes thatched, the mower rides over the top. It clips leaf tips only.

Removal of the buried stems by vigorous cross-raking and close cutting is the correct answer. In aggravated cases several rakings and cuttings may be needed. The thinning out is best done just prior to the first fertilization and top-dressing in spring—before grass starts to grow.

By removing surplus grass each spring, greens can be cut less frequently and somewhat higher. In a single season the mat does not become sufficiently thick to aggravate disease and complicate summertime maintenance.

Consult us regarding your turf problems. Our Agronomist and Soil Testing Laboratory are at your service, within reasonable limitations.

Write to:

Turf Service Bureau

THE SEWERAGE COMMISSION

Dept. B-443

Milwaukee, Wis.

MILORGANITE for BETTER TURF

Keep your greens off the casualty list with— **THIOSAN!**



Battle brown patch—and win—with regular applications of low-cost, well-tolerated THIOSAN. No shock, no yellowing, no retardation of turf growth. Effective also against dollar spot. 5 lbs., \$6.45; 25 lbs., \$30.00; 100 lbs., \$115.00—from your supply house.

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Make DAVIS Your HEADQUARTERS For Golf Course Supplies

We have a stock of supplies and equipment necessary for maintenance of your golf course this year. By making George A. Davis, Inc. your headquarters you'll save much time and disappointment in acquiring the supplies you need and can still get.

Write today for our Complete Catalog.

No Cost . . . No Obligation.

GEORGE A. DAVIS, Inc.
5440 Northwest Highway
Chicago, Ill.

State GA has folded for the duration, but the ass'n funds are being preserved—\$2,500 in war bonds and \$571 in cash—so the body can pick up again after the war. Meanwhile, member clubs pay no more dues. . . .

Barney Ross, named in several polls as sport's hero of 1942, says his companion-occupant of a shellhole at Guadalcanal, and his "best pal," was Marine Pvt. R. C. Atkins of Rome, Ga., who was pro at the Sante Fe course before enlisting. . . . A contender for the 1963 women's national championship, Miss Patricia Jane Walsh, was born at St. Francis hospital, Peoria, Ill. Her daddy is Marty Walsh, pro at the Peoria CC. . . . L. Ert Slack's little booklet on putting, one of the classics of this department of the game, now is available to pros for resale at a good profit. A copy may be obtained from Slack, at 1131 Security Trust Bldg., for the pro price of 25c. . . .

Nearest transportation to Meridian (Conn.) muny golf course is a bus line skirting the 15th tee, a long way from the clubhouse. So players arriving by bus will be allowed to start their rounds at the 15th hole, where a ticket seller will be on duty. . . . Navy has taken over management and operation of Lake City (Fla.) GC, with servicemen paying 25c, the public 50c, to play....Grand Rapids (Mich.) thinks play on its 4 muny courses will be heavy this year and plans to offset rising costs by upping green fees 20%. . . . Sailor Sam Snead and Coastguardsman Jimmy Thomson played an exhibition match against Lloyd Mangrum and Marvin Stahl on Mar. 21 at the San Diego naval training station golf course. . . . U. of Oklahoma golf course at Norman lets servicemen play for 25c and rents clubs for another two-bits. . . .

Clubs in England are up in arms against recent order to plow up half of each 18-hole links and a third of each 9-hole layout for crops. Golfers want to know what's the matter with idle grassland, of which the country abounds. . . . A ferry-command pilot recently left the U. S. with a tail wind and reached his destination near St. Andrews, Scotland, in 7½ hours. At

A Message from **WORTHINGTON**

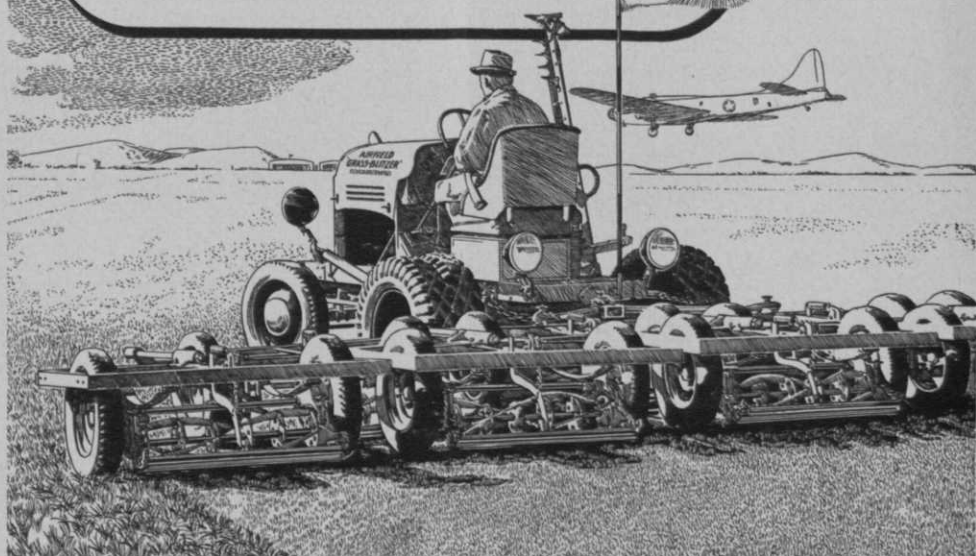
Until Victory is won all our efforts must be directed to its winning.

We regret that we are unable to supply our civilian friends with any new equipment. We believe, however, that your Worthington equipment now in use, with proper care and maintenance, will see you through this critical period. We, and our Distributors throughout the country, will give the best possible service under existing conditions.

Below is sketched the new Worthington Airfield "Grass Blitzer" that has the greatest grass cutting capacity of any machine in existence.

WORTHINGTON MOWER CO.

Home Office: Stroudsburg, Pa.



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Now is the time to get information on the Skinner System Planning and Engineering Service and make plans to keep your course fresh and green all summer long. Write for catalog and details of Skinner Service. No obligation.

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will cooperate with your club
to help safeguard your greens
and fairways from expensive
deterioration. Write for tips
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4 p.m. he started a round of golf after giving the course starter a copy of the N. Y. Herald-Trib of that day. . . . They say Hirohito has to play golf alone, because nobody is worthy of playing with him; moreover, if you beat the head cheese, you'd be expected to commit hari-kiri. . . . For our golfer-fighters in the African theater, there is a course in Algiers and another in Tunis, but we haven't heard if they're keeping up the fairway mowing these days. . . . The Peter Dawson National Ringer golf tournament is to be suspended for the durations. The Dawson Trophy, first put into competition in 1901, retired in 1913, and brought back in 1941 was won in 1942 by Hickory Hills CC, Springfield, Mo., with a composite low ringer score of 43. Trophy will remain at Hickory Hills this season, then be retired for the duration.

Oregon GA has cancelled all its championship fixtures for the duration, except maybe an event for juniors too young for defense work. . . . Employees of Sylvania Electric Co. have leased North Shore GC, Salem, Mass., and will start a drive for members among the company's 5,000 employees. . . . Army has taken over palatial clubhouse of Glen Oaks GC, Little Neck, L. I., but is not interested in the course, which may be opened as a fee layout. Glen Oaks members have acquired the Lakeville CC property; Lakeville members will be absorbed by other L. I. clubs. . . . Craig Wood, who is still National Open champion, because the event hasn't been played since he won it in 1941 at Fort Worth, is recovering from a spinal operation performed to cure his long-standing back ailment. . . .

CORRECTION

In the advertisement of the Toro Manufacturing Corporation in the March issue, credit for the illustration was given in error to Desert Inn Golf Course, whereas the correct name should be O'Donnell Desert Golf Course at Palm Springs, Calif. Mr. John Kline sent in the picture which was used.



Fore!

RIGHT IN DER FUEHRER'S FACE —

Keeping physically fit for work on the Home Front is a definite part of America's plan for Victory—so figuratively every golf shot made by a civilian soldier socks Der Fuehrer right where he lives!

Help to promote physical fitness by urging your membership to play just as often as their war work permits.

HILLERICH & BRADSBY CO., INC.
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WITH THE BEST AS
YOU WORK FOR VICTORY

LOUISVILLE
POWER-BILT
GOLF CLUBS



THE PRO IS MOST IMPORTANT
TO CONTINUING GOLF WITH
ALL ITS HEALTH BENEFITS

Save the Balls to Save the Game!

- GOLF PROFESSIONALS know the health benefits received from golf by top business executives and production workers. Health is vital to victory.
- GOLF PROFESSIONALS also know that to continue the game, every used golf ball and club must be salvaged. Salvaged balls can be made as playable as when new.
- GOLF PROFESSIONALS can use many methods for securing used golf balls: Turn-in campaigns; trade-in exchanges; caddy contests and requiring used balls as entry fees in tournaments.
- GOLF PROFESSIONALS know that the makers of Walter Hagen Equipment will do "an ultra job" of transforming used balls into shining new VULCANIZED COVERED Balls. Same quality. Same price. Rapid service.
- GOLF PROFESSIONALS can collect liberal profits by selling Walter Hagen Equipment . . . and factory-service for reconditioning of golf clubs.

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Makers of the Walter Hagen Line - Ultra in Golf Equipment
Grand Rapids - - Michigan - - U. S. A.

APRIL, 1943

TO GOLF OR NOT TO GOLF

By DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN

The well known editor of the Journal of the American Medical Association and of Hygeia, the Health Magazine, discusses the morale and hygienic significance of golf in war.

TO GOLF or not to golf—that is the question. Whether 'tis better for each of us to stick his nose constantly into his task and thus to have the brain become completely obfuscated or perhaps to steal away without mentioning the matter even to a secretary and to pursue the gutta percha pellet hither and thither over the countryside until the processes of thinking again becomes logical, irritability disappears and efficiency returns. It is a consummation devoutly to be wished.

Just now I read that General Somervell in charge of the Service of Supply has given up his golf for the duration in a fit of anger because he called up a manufacturer and found him out on the golf course. If that tale be true—and I doubt

it—the General had better think it over again. How does he know that the manufacturer will not turn out a better job after an afternoon of physical conditioning and mental relaxation. The human mind, obviously developed for thinking, frequently fails to achieve that function and lapses into forms of reasoning that would appeal only to a moron. For instance, hours and hours are spent in conditioning our fighters for their tasks— young men especially selected for their fitness.

Morale is the concern of a whole division in our military organization. Yet we look askance at any reasonable effort toward maintaining the fitness and morale of those behind the lines—and I mean specifically men in positions of administration and management, men past middle age, for whom such physical conditioning may mean the difference between efficiency and disability—indeed between health and breakdown, between life and death.

The tremendous popularity of golf in the United States results from many factors. Golf is a game that is played by boys of eight and men of eighty—they can play together and enjoy it. Golf is played by women and men—and, except for something called a mixed foursome, with a great deal of pleasure. A man of 60 not infrequently can beat his son at 20. There

REPRINTS AVAILABLE

Club officials are urged to read this article. GOLFDOM believes it describes the position of golf in the war effort more clearly than anything heretofore in print.

Reprints of this article, in a form suitable for inclusion in club mailings and for other purposes, are available from GOLFDOM at \$1.50 for 100, \$2.50 for 200; additional quantities \$1.00 per hundred; postpaid.

Order enough to get this article into the hands of every member of your club. Morale and club patronage must be sustained.

is hardly any other sport except flycasting where this possibility prevails. Fathers' and sons' tournaments are great for the old man's morale.

The more I think about it the more certain I am that those of us who have been somewhat shame-facedly defending golf as an emergency sport ought to get off the defensive and take the offense. Anything capable of doing what golf can do for us in times like these needs to be given some serious consideration.

Many psychologists have tried to explain the fascination that lies in this so different game. As I have said, anybody can play it. True, the average player gives a lamentable exhibition when his efforts are compared to those of Little, Snead or Hagen. But occasionally, by some coincidental inexplicable coordination of mind and vision and muscle and stance and movements of the earth and wind velocity, Mr. Dub suddenly connects clubface to ball so that the pellicule describes a glorious parabola, alighting some hundreds of yards beyond the point of impact.

The psychoanalyst Stekel says the fascination of the game for those beyond middle age lies in the sense of virility that an oldster feels after accomplishing a perfect drive. Well, that's a sense we all need in wartime. Here is a game where hope springs eternal. That is its psychological value.

Golf's Hygienic Significance

Today every expert admits that exuberant health is not dependent on violent exercise. The value of exercise is not in the development of large muscles or in extraordinary athletic performance. When a mile in four minutes is an accomplished fact there will still be few occasions when the average man will need that quality of performance—not as long as there are still tires and gas or even horses—rationing and the meat shortage notwithstanding.

But the attainment of physical poise, symmetry of form and harmonious grace and the furtherance of proper activity of tissue cells and organs are among the chief values sought to be realized. Good health as a whole, not a highly developed muscular system, is the objective of exercise.

Fortunately, enough scientific studies

have been made of golf to establish its values. Vigorous practice and actual shots tend to accelerate the rate of the heart and thus stimulate circulation of the blood. Casual climbing of hills, heat and the wind aid this process. There is a definite rise in blood pressure when we make shots out of a trap. Three practice swings and then an explosion shot out of a trap will raise the pressure every time. The walking of the 3000 or more yards of playing distance makes little difference to healthy men or women when they play at the same tempo all the time. A friendly game has much less effect on the pulse rate and the pulse pressure than a championship contest. But when the golfer gets that do-or-die attitude—when every shot seems so serious that the maximum of concentration is applied—the effects on the body are definite. After a championship tournament the pulse rates of the players may still be rapid on the following morning. Once George Harvey was playing with his pro while Senator Albert J. Beveridge kibitzed the contest. On the first tee Harvey took a half dozen practice swings. Said Beveridge, "George, you seem to be taking a lot of trouble getting into position to hit the ball." Replied George, "Albert, I have listened to your oratory frequently, sometimes with admiration, but more often with a sense of pity. However, this is not the Senate, and it is not a place to start a speech." Then Harvey drove, smack into a bunker! Now, even that has its moral and morale implications.

Mental Discipline

Alex Morrison—author of a golfing testament—says that the correct swing can be learned by anyone and after that it is just a matter of temperament. "Pressing" is the worst fault in golf. If you can keep calm, if you can avoid all the tightening, tugging and tension included in "pressing," you are conditioning yourself exactly as you should be conditioned for war-time. We see a similar situation in the operating room—the master surgeon calm, relaxed, and certain; the tyro sweating, tense and trembling. We see the situation repeated when boards and committees meet to consider war problems—the statesmen who are properly conditioned are calm, precise, alert, capable of timing their contributions to the discussion. Those who have not been conditioned are fearful; out of their lack