

hind the stands erected back of the ninth and eighteenth greens.

A public scoreboard was near the tent. The scoreboard was the best seen at any tournament. Sections slid down for convenience of scorers, who had a stapling device for affixing figures on the lines of players' names. It was Moraine's conviction that a small scoreboard would be worthless for large crowds, whereas a large scoreboard would actually stimulate keen interest and progress of all matches beyond a point not otherwise possible. The new scoreboard itself was dramatic and held intense interest all throughout the day.

The scoreboard was originally planned with five panels allowing 20 names to each panel for qualifying medal play on the two days. However, the 100 names allotted proved to be insufficient and almost over night three more panels were built to take care of a total of 160 names.

Thus the board became spectacular due to its size, measuring 65 feet long by 15 feet high.

The communication systems supplying both scoreboards (outdoors and in the press room) were highly successful and they consisted of a combination of telephones and walkie-talkies. Both walkie-talkies and telephones cleared through a central table alongside the outside scoreboard. Recorders working on relief shifts made duplicate copies of all individual hole-by-hole scores on every player as the army man at the table called them out. Boy Scout runners carried one copy to the press room and the other copy to the men on the cat-walk of the big board. The result: Big scoreboard and press room recorded the hole-by-hole figures within a minute of the time called in from the scene of play.

Recapitulation of the qualifying players began with the arrival of the earliest complete day's score each day and provided for the public and press alike up-to-the-minute information on who the 32 players would probably be.

The entire communication staff, including operators on both scoreboards, was about 20. With few exceptions, the civilians in this crew were prominent businessmen and enthusiastic golfers who contributed their time. Enough help was maintained to give these men sufficient relief so that they could still see golf and keep up their working zip.

Ample parking space was not far from the clubhouse. No charge was made for parking.

The course is a rolling one with some fairly trying climbs in areas far away from the clubhouse. The elevations make it easy for spectators to observe considerable play. Turf was in excellent condition. Despite the difficult watering problem presented by billowy terrain the

fairway turf at Moraine is notably free from clover and soginess in the hollows and the turf on the knobs and ridges. The watering job at Moraine is an outstanding example of excellent engineering and expert operation.

Moraine's greens are rather large, generally, and are contoured to present many interesting problems of cup location. Especially fast greens having Moraine's type of contouring would make putting a headache and possibly call for too strong emphasis on luck at the expense of skill.

Moraine's greens are cut at night. This procedure, the pros figured, was a very smart move by Greenkeeper Young as it possibly allowed just enough growth to take a lightening surface off the greens. Furthermore, after the greens had been somewhat scuffed by a day's play the nightcutting got the grass standing up and eliminated tendency to develop nappiness. At any rate, the pros were firm in their praise of the handling of Moraine's greens, although some veteran spectators thought that the greens appeared longer than major tournament greens usually were in prewar days.

Fringes of some greens, especially on the longer short holes, were trimmed to a length about halfway between green and fairway length, providing opportunity for delicate approach shots. That certainly worked out for the contestants more happily than the longer shaggy fringes that border many greens. Short approaches out of that grass seem to be the most difficult and uncertain shots a sharpshooter has to make.

There was a decided air of class about the entire presentation. Pros and others in the golf business had lively discussions about what effect this class atmosphere had in attracting a large gate. The general tendency in wartime tournaments has been to promote tournaments by low admission prices and other methods to focus gate appeal on the masses with the objective of attracting fresh money to golf.

The tournament was particularly lucky in player transportation. The players were able to get in and out of Dayton before regulations restricting civilian travel were clamped on tight. However, those who left the tournament during its later days and who had to make train connections took a very dim view of the possibility of continuing tournaments and war relief fund exhibitions with much of a field of players who came from outside a radius of 200 miles.

Press arrangements at the tournament were excellent. The press room occupied enclosed badminton courts, that are a part of the clubhouse.

Marshalling was very well done by soldiers. Although in a few instances spec-



Lt. J. M. (Nick) Beam, midwestern coach and athletic official, who's now Rehabilitation Physical Training officer at U. S. Naval hospital, Long Beach, Cal., goes over plans for the Long Beach course with Jimmy Lawson, widely-known pro veteran. The course is 9 holes; the longest being 165 yds. It'll be a great place for wounded sailors and Marines.

tators interfered with shots because of the soldiers' inexperience in determining areas where shots might go off line and land, the pleasant and firm authority of the uniformed men kept the galleries very well in control. The galleries, though for the most part new to a major tournament, were of the golf-wise type that is fairly easy to handle.

It was necessary for every member to give up his locker at least during the two-day qualifying rounds. The Miami Valley CC and the Dayton CC extended free golf course privileges to the members during the tournament.

Getting tournament caddies was a problem. The glamor of carrying for the big boys and the special fees helped solve it. Tommy Bryant was loaned the best caddies from other Dayton clubs, and in addition made an appeal to former caddies. This resulted in many older and more desirable boys. Training for tournament caddying was in the hands of Tommy. He did a grand job.

Of particular interest to many pros was the evidence of Nelson influence on the swing. There were numerous interesting and informative discussions among the instruction authorities on the way Nelson's swing is being copied. They recalled the days when Vardon Smith, Hagen, Armour and Jones were paragons of form and each had many who attempted to imitate them.

Nelson's swing is much shorter than that of his famed predecessors, except when he is going all out for distance. Then he hauls back and gives it the works. At Dayton he was still suffering from a shoulder strain incurred at the Chicago Open two weeks prior. In winning the Chicago driving contest with a 275-yard whack, Byron slipped and wrenched a shoulder.

The opinion of keen veteran experts such as Willie Maguire, Joe Novak and Bob Barnett is that Nelson's phenomenal performance in the past two years may be

due, in a large measure, to greater firmness at impact than he formerly showed on many of his shots, as well as to his improved puttings. Maguire pointed out that Byron used to be slightly bent and loose at the knees at impact, but now he is firmly set. There were other observations that Nelson's distance, and his ability to smash for distance without trying to steer his drives, gave him a decided advantage, notwithstanding all that's said about the pay-off value of chipping and putting.

There was considerable argument among the authorities on instruction about the comparative big-time lasting capacities of the swingers compared to those whose shot-making is more of a punch. Denny Shute and Mike Turnesa, two of the smoothest swingers of the older school, got far along in the competition. Mike's fatal shot, an approach to the 35th green, was flawlessly stroked, but it was short. It was about an 80-yard shot from the left of the fairway over a deep and yawning trap. It was inches short, caught the bank and rolled back in to the sand. Nelson really whacked one off the tee on that 325-yard hole. It landed on a ridge, rolled down and tried to climb the apron of the green. Byron chipped close and got an easy three. Mike took a five, and the curtain on the show started coming down.

Mike had been favored by luck previously that round; hitting one out of bounds but still halving a hole. That is practically a miracle when the opposition is Nelson. Mike uttered the classic remark after his match with Byron. He said playing Nelson was like trying to belch against a tornado.

A committee meeting on the PGA's veterans' rehabilitation work the evening of the tournament's opening day disclosed that this work had grown into dimensions and value exceeding contribution of any other sport to wounded servicemen's help. The PGA was lauded for its performance by Lt. Col. A. Ruppertsberg and Maj. Henry Gwynn of the Surgeon General's office. A full report of the PGA job in this field is being prepared.

There was some talk at Dayton about Moraine being a possible venue of the first Ryder cup matches held in the U. S. after the war. Unless previous commitments in contract or by gentlemen's agreement have been made otherwise, the PGA certainly couldn't ask for a better tournament host than Moraine on the basis of its performance this year.

Manufacturers were active at the tournament, getting things lined up for a quick and big expansion of pro business after V-J Day. MacGregor in its home town did a hospitable job of holding open house with buffet supper in the Tourney rooms of the Van Cleve hotel.



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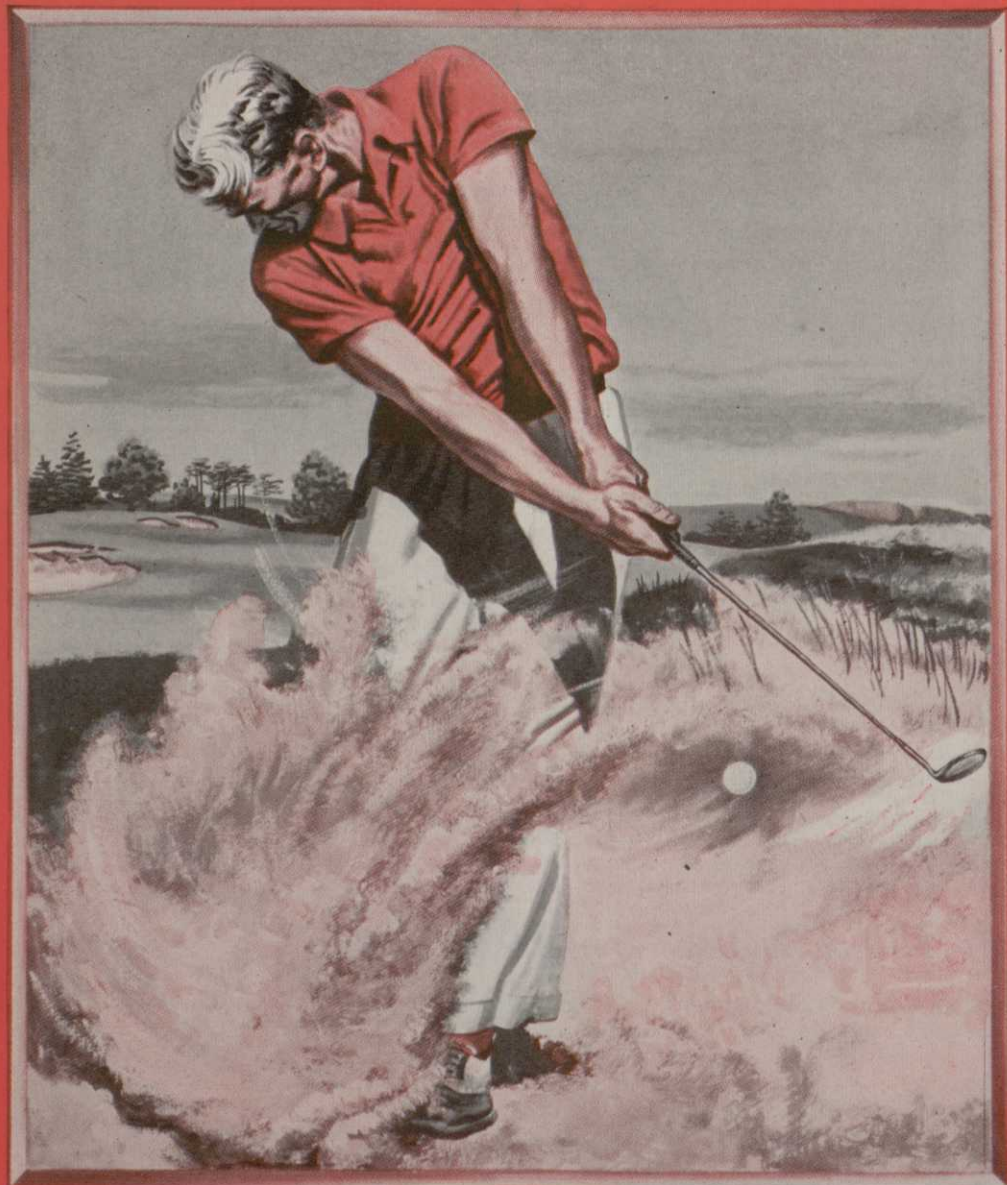
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Grau to Direct Greens Section's New Program

DR. FRED V. GRAU, State College, Pa., has been elected full time Director of the USGA Green Section, effective August 1st, 1945. Dr. Fanny-Fern Davis, who has ably and faithfully filled the position of Acting Director since 1942 is being relieved of her duties at her urgent request.

Pres. Morton G. Bogue of the USGA, and Field Wallace, ch., USGA Green Section Committee, say:

"In our judgment we are indeed fortunate in securing the services of Dr. Grau, who, some years ago, was connected with our Washington Office. In 1931 he received his B. Sc. degree from the University of Nebraska, where he had his first job working his way through college caring for the Green Section turf plots. He was graduated from the University of Maryland in 1935 with the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Agriculture. Since 1935 he has been Extension Agronomist at the Pennsylvania State College, State College, Pa. He was a member of the Fourth International Grassland Congress Tour to Europe in 1937. From June 1942 he served one year as consultant to the War Department, U.S.E.D., on grassing of airfields. He is 43 years old, his hobbies are golf, farming, photography and grasses. Being an enthusiastic believer in the future of the USGA Green Section, he is confident that we can serve member clubs more efficiently and satisfactorily than ever before. It is our fixed determination under his leadership to make our service so valuable to the golf clubs that no club of consequence can afford not to be a member of the USGA.

"Dr. Grau believes that the future of Turf depends to a large extent upon the following factors:

"The education of more young men in fundamentals of grass growing.

"The production of adequate supplies of planting material from disease-and-insect-resistant strains of grass with desirable turf-forming qualities.

"Selective weed control.

"Expanded research at, and service from, regional state experimental stations with moral and financial encouragement from the USGA Green Section.

"Developing the true interdependence of turf and forage crop work in which so many identical species and principles are involved.

"During the past year the Green Section has increased its program of service to member clubs in spite of the still drastically limited technical staff and seriously curtailed budget.

"In addition to conducting a steadily mounting advisory service the Green Section has increased the vegetative stock of many of its superior strains of grasses in order to make them available to any member clubs which are interested in using them. In this connection, if your club is interested in using any of these strains of creeping bent on your putting greens when you recondition your course after the war, you might find it advisable to obtain this year planting material of one or more of them from the Green Section office at Beltsville, in order to establish your own stolon nursery. The stolons from 1 square foot are sufficient to plant 100 feet of nursery row which, in turn under good cultural practices, should be from 4 to 7 feet wide within a year and consequently should be sufficient to plant an average green. This is only one direction in which the Green Section has been anticipating the postwar needs of the member clubs.

"Another postwar golf course problem which the Green Section has constructively anticipated has been the question of the control of clover and other weeds which, under necessarily curtailed maintenance programs, have taken over both fairways and greens of many courses. During the past year Dr. Davis has worked tirelessly in order to determine the effectiveness and breadth of applicability of the new weed killing hormone, 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid (now commonly known as 2,4-D) to turf weeds in various sections of the country. In order to accomplish this she has been working closely not only with the hormone investigators in the Department of Agriculture but also with many of the leading chemical industries in the United States, testing their proposed formulations of this material both for effectiveness on the weeds and tolerance of the various fairway and putting green grasses. Many



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interested clubs have been able to receive from Dr. Davis small lots of material to use in tests on their own weed pests with the understanding that they would keep her informed regarding the results under their respective conditions. The result is that recommendations are ready for the control of such serious turf weeds as clover, dandelion and buckhorn plantain in the north and central sections of the country, and pennywort and *Dichondra* in the south. Moreover, several companies already are marketing this material in various forms, some of which she has demonstrated can be used without injury to all of the grasses except the bents maintained at putting green height.

"A third problem is the ever-present question of fungicides to control turf diseases without injuring the sensitive putting green grasses in summer heat. This search for fungicides which will control the diseases common to bent putting greens without injuring the grass is being conducted in cooperation with Dr. Howard and Mr. Keil in the Rhode Island Agricultural Experiment Station as part of our regional turf program in that Institution. One fungicide which proved outstandingly successful on the test plots last year is now being manufactured in sufficient quantities to make large-scale tests on some 30 different golf courses about the country this year. A wide variety of others are being tested this year on the experiment station grounds in Kingston, Rhode Island.

"This work is only one angle of the cooperative program which has been under way at the Rhode Island Agricultural Experiment Station since the fall of 1942. A study of fertilizer practices best suited for the golf courses in that area, as well as the control of weeds in turf and of weed seeds in compost, has been an important part of the program in Rhode Island since the cooperative work was initiated.

"This cooperation is the first in the direction of developing a strong postwar national turf program on the basis of similar regional cooperative programs in various sections of the country. The development of the Regional Turf Foundation at Purdue University (servicing at least for the time being Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, southern Michigan and southern Wisconsin) has been this year's most significant outgrowth of the idea of the importance of regional investigations in the Green Section's postwar national turf program. Other such centers of turf interest have been expressing their interest to the Green Section and turning to Dr. Davis for advice and suggestions for the development of a turf program in their region.

Harris Course Jobs Show Postwar Boom Signs

★ ROBERT BRUCE HARRIS of Chicago can give evidence that a postwar golf boom is taking substantial form. Golf course architectural and construction jobs which Harris and his organization have under way are in private, public and fee-course fields. Harris says the solid financing of the new jobs is putting the postwar golf development on a basis far firmer than the golf club boom which followed World War I.

Among courses on which Harris is working are:

Bismarck (N. Dak.) CC which is to have a new championship 18-hole course. Among members will be prominent state and local public officials. The development is along Apple Creek east of Bismarck. The new layout will be a fairway watered job with the entire course being of the latest streamlined design. Harris is also designing a swimming pool, tennis courts and parking space for the club. C. J. Reff is president of the club and Wm. J. Lowe, State Game Commissioner, is v.p.

Harris also is making plans for the remodeling of the 18 hole Meadow Lark CC, Great Falls, Mont. Meadow Lark, which is at the junction of the Sun and Missouri Rivers, will be completely revamped. A new fairway watering system will be installed and the entire layout will be modernized. According to Harris, Meadow Lark will be contoursaped into one of the outstanding courses in the West. J. L. Odette is president of the club. Ralph Meyers is pro. Al Beckman, Great Falls furrier is active in the development.

Harris is planning for a new championship golf course as a part of their famous Iroquois Park. Harris says that the site is ideal for a top notch munny layout. The course will be built under the direction of T. Byrne Morgan, Director of Parks and Recreation, and Leo F. Goss, Supt. of Parks.

Pekin, Ill., Park district is going to increase its popular 9 hole course to an 18 hole layout. Harris is making a topographical survey of the old course plus adjoining land preparatory to planning the new course. Charles I. Kelly, a golf enthusiast is president of the Park Board.

SPALDING ILLUSTRATES SPORTS SHOW—A booklet reproducing the Spalding Sports Show series of illustrated ads has been prepared by A. G. Spalding & Bros. for free distribution. Among many other interesting items the booklet tells that Bobby Jones averaged 30 putts for ten consecutive rounds in 1928. That year Jones won the U. S. Amateur and lost the U. S. Open play-off with Farrell.

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Mr. Verhaalen gets this kind of superior performance because he knows that it results from good equipment that is carefully maintained.

New mowers are not yet in sight. Because equipment now in use must continue to serve, we urge owners to give constant and vigilant attention to its servicing needs. Keep your power mowers in good operating condition so they will last until the new, finer Jacobsens are again available.

These four Jacobsen mowers, shown with Lester Verhaalen, greenskeeper, range in age from 4 to 15 years. Mr. Verhaalen believes firmly in maintaining equipment in the best possible condition at all times.

