

BURKE GOLF, INC.

Announces the Resumption of Golf Equipment Production

Our production was discontinued during the war because we were unable to offer the high quality merchandise representative of the BURKE name. Now, however, we are pleased to announce that BURKE equipment made by the same experienced workers will soon be showing up all over the country.

Write for your information today.

BURKE GOLF, INC.
NEWARK, OHIO



POW labor used hand scythes to get the overgrown greens turf down to workable height.

stock of the machinery and tools left on the course by former operators. We found a 5-gang fairway outfit of English-made Worthingtons. It was old and worn but capable of cutting after a fashion. We also discovered two Ransome power greens mowers and several old hand greens mowers. We also found hole cutters and some hand tools of ancient vintage.

We found a diesel tractor on a German airfield and used it for pulling the fairway units. We had to tow the tractor to start it and when it operated it put a thick smoke screen around itself. But it served the purpose.

G. I. mechanics cleaned all the machinery and got it into working order. That was a job that tested the ability and resourcefulness of our men. But the equipment finally got so it worked well enough as long as we prayed hard.

Heavy Cutting Locates Course

With the equipment and labor sections of the job organized we set out to cut the long grass to see where and what the course was. A trip to the burgomeisters of three small villages netted us 7 horse-drawn hay cutters and 7 teams. Of course the Germans had to be paid for their services and team and equipment rent.

To see 7 teams of horses going in echelon down a fairway would shock a greenkeeper but that's the only way we had of making the first cut. As it worked out no damage was done.

In a few days the first cutting was finished and the hay raked and carted away by the farmers and their families. Several times our hearts skipped beats when we saw loads of hay drawn across greens by teams of oxen. But it didn't hurt the greens. Grass and greens can take a terrific beating and survive.

The course is in the hills outside Marienbad at an elevation of 3200 feet.

Rain is plentiful and weather is cool. Although wet condition hindered us at times it provided plenty of moisture for the greens which had been drastically cut to playing height. We had no time for nursing the greens through in-between stages.

Immediately after the cutting by cutter-bars we cut the grass to fairway length with the fairway mowers. After two cuttings the fairways greened up and soon had a beautiful stand of grass on them. There is a lot of bent among the native grasses. Evidently the grass growing full height had seeded, sown and thickened the turf. At the end of 3 to 4 weeks we had thick even turf that didn't show a solitary trace of horses hoofs.

Reconditioning the Greens

In restoring the greens we requisitioned enough hand scythes from the farmers to supply the POWs who made the first cut. This hay was carefully removed, then the greens were rolled with a heavy roller. That pressed out some of the roughness.

After that we quickly went to work cutting the inch-high scythed grass to greens length with the power greens-mowers. It wasn't necessary to re-roll with the heavy roller as operation of the greens mowers rolled the almost constantly moist ground to satisfactory putting level.

At first it appeared that the greens would not be able to survive the severe cutting. But soon they began to get green and at the end of a month showed little indication of having been out of play for several years.

There was no fertilizer available so although the grass needed feeding we had to skip that. We did have good top-dressing loam so by using it we evened the green and filled in spots which had been left bare when the POWs weeded.

View of the Marienbad course from clubhouse showing restoration work well advanced.



We located 50 pounds of creeping bent seed for which we paid 2 pounds of tea and a package of cigarettes. We sowed this at the rate of 3 pounds a green, after the topdressing. The bent produced new shoots late in June.

Traps Are Rehabilitated

Most of the greens were well trapped. Here our problem was to rid the traps of weeds and refill with sand. Cutting the weeds down and refilling with sand didn't work and finally we decided to practically remake each trap.

We put 5 or 6 men to a trap. POWs work slow. We had the weedy sod lifted and as much sand as could be was shaken from it. This gave us a bed of about 1½ inches of sand. The Germans had hauled hundreds of yards of pure white sand into Merianbad before they left. This we had loaded on GI trucks and hauled to the course where it gave us an ample supply of sand to face our greens with beautiful and sparkling traps.

Our POW help which ranged from 10 to 20 men a day was augmented by Gaston, a Frenchman who drove the tractor; Hans, a German who cut the greens; and Marion, a Pole released from a concentration camp. Marion was our interpreter.

And believe me, you need an interpreter when you're trying to get a gang like we had working on a golf course.

But notwithstanding the language differences and other difficulties the work proceeded smoothly and at the end of two weeks the course was being played. At the end of the first month you'd not realize that the course had been out of play for so long.

About the first of August, Lloyd Mangrum and Lt. Matt Kowal shot sub-par rounds over the par 72 course. The par was no setup for anyone so the Mangrum and Kowal rounds were good indications of the success of the rehabilitation job.

This job was of special interest not alone because of its value in providing attractive and keenly needed recreation facilities to the marooned GIs, but because it was a good demonstration of what can be done in restoring courses that have been abandoned during wartime in the U. S. Those courses can be restored to provide golfing facilities for many thousands of soldiers who'll want to play when they get back home. Our observation at Marienbad was that golf certainly is going to be highly popular with returning GIs.

USGA Championships to Mean Tougher Courses?

★ HARRY ROBERT, golf writer of Philadelphia Record, has stirred up lively controversy with a column saying that conditions favoring low scoring have been overdone to the extent that the public no longer becomes greatly interested.

Robert cites PGA tournament mgr. Fred Corcoran's remark about the possibility of rating tournament courses as an indication that tournament pros have been insisting on playing conditions being too easy to heat up the golfing public about low scores. Robert says that wartime absence of USGA controls over club faces, the PGA abolition of the 14 club limit, selected balls for the tournament pros, casual regard for the rules of golf, and softer greens has been reducing public regard for scoring achievements.

He refers, in his criticism, to the probability of Canterbury, where the 1946 Open is to be held, requiring a winning score that will make the money-circuit performances appear to be affairs played over push-over courses. Little and Sarazen tied at 287 in the 1940 Open at Canterbury, with Little winning the play-off at 70 against Sarazen's 73.

The way Oakmont this year defied efforts of today's top stars to make phenomenal scores may give basis to Robert's

opinion that the tournament circuit courses are not set up to traditional national championship standard.

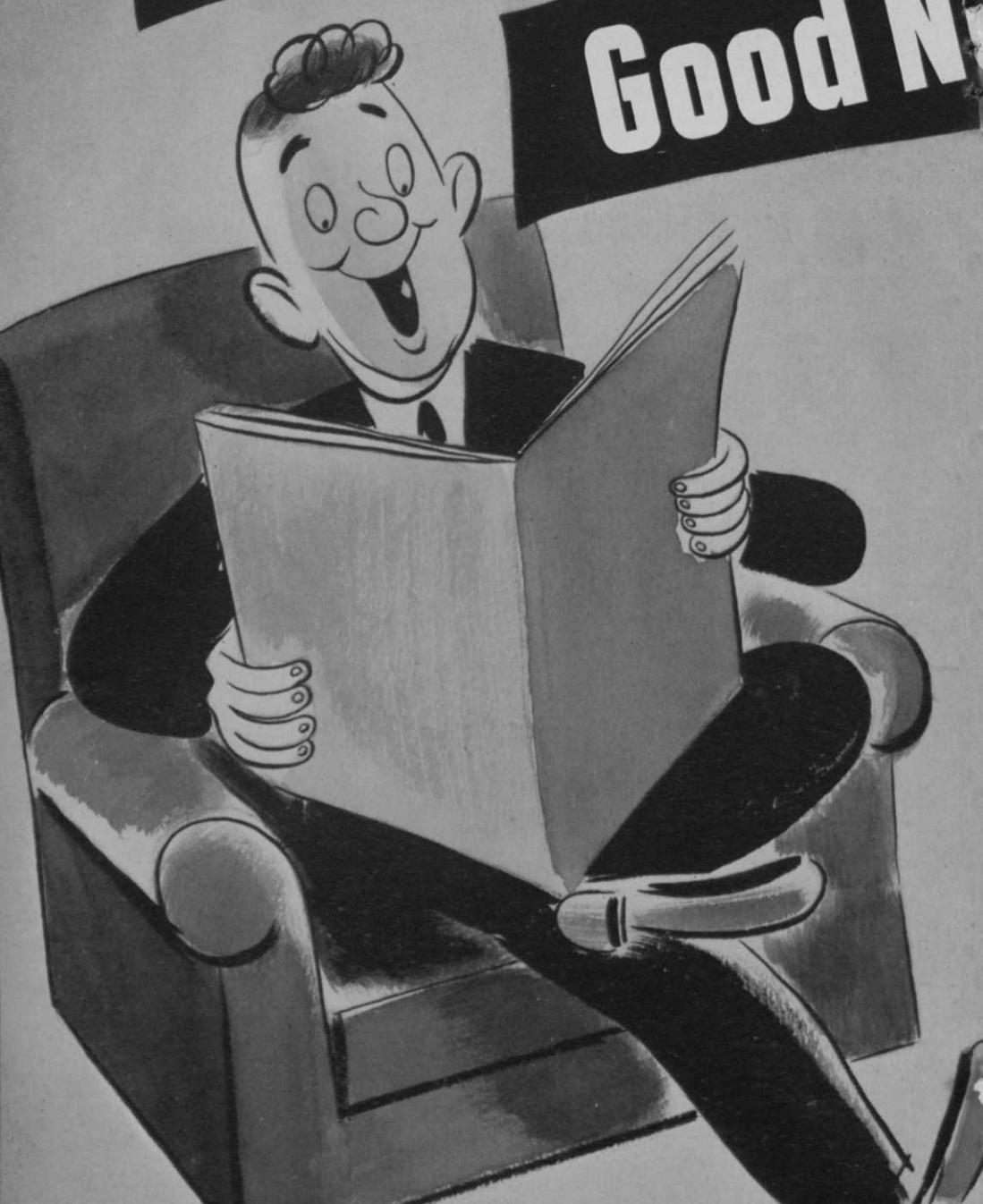
In this connection it's interesting to note that the Daily Mail tournament, first major competition played over St. Andrews after the war, was won with Cyril Ward's 298. The course was stretched to 6,852. Weather conditions were unfavorable. Jack White, winner of the 1904 British Open, who played in the postwar tournament at the age of 73, said: "The old championship course played four strokes a round longer than in any championship since the rubber ball came into the game."

Comment of several newspaper golf writers on the Robert column is that renewal of the U. S. National Open with the USGA and Canterbury standing firm on real championship conditions will strongly reaffirm the Open's status as the game's top tournament regardless of other events offering more prize money.

U. S. Open lowest winning score was Ralph Guldahl's 281 at Oakland Hills CC, Detroit, in 1937. British Open record of 283 was made in 1932 by Sarazen at Princes, Sandwich; in 1934 by Cotton at Sandwich, and in 1935 by Perry at Muirfield.

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GOLF EQUIPMENT



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IT'S WILSON TODAY IN SPORTS EQUIPMENT

Halloran Course is Exhibit of Famous Short Holes

THE COURSE at Halloran General Hospital, outside New York city, is one of the many courses at veterans' hospitals financed by pro and amateur organizations as a result of the nationwide drive begun by Leo Diegel and other pros of the Philadelphia section PGA and Philadelphia greenkeepers associated with that initial venture at Valley Forge General Hospital.

Of all the courses installed as a result of this work by the PGA, the greenkeepers and their amateur collaborators, the Halloran course probably is the one that will receive greatest publicity from a golfing viewpoint as each of its nine holes is patterned after one of the great short holes of the world.

About \$21,000 of money the Met PGA raised has been spent on the course so far. John Inglis, pres., Metropolitan section PGA, advises that the water supply lines have been installed for fairway and green watering, and the course will be open for play next May. There is good growth of grass on greens, tees and fairways.

The course was designed by Robert Trent Jones, golf architect of New York, and built under his supervision. In charge of the construction is James W. Webster.

In commenting on the design of this unique course Jones says:

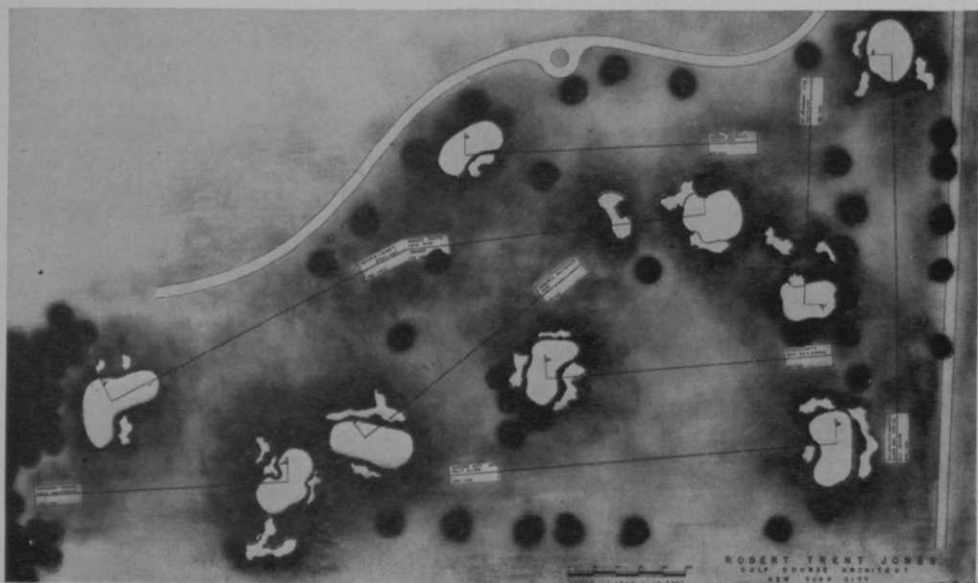
"The thrill holes of golf are most often the little ones. It is in the short hole category that we find the greatest number of golf's famous holes. Therefore, when I was asked to design the PGA golf course at Halloran General Hospital, Staten Island, New York, I thought that it would make an unique and interesting course if we adapted in principle and designed to the site some of the world's greatest short holes. The reason I designed nine short holes was because the land allotted to the golf course at Halloran was but 23 acres.

Not Exact Copies

"These holes are not copies as copies always fall short of the original in that they do not fit the site. But the principle of the trapping and some of the features that made the original holes great have been adapted in principle.

"It is the terror features that give great holes their drama. But terror features alone do not make great golf holes. Anyone could surround a green with an ugly maze of traps. In truly great golf holes there must be an adroit blending of features, natural and artificial. Therefore,

(Continued on Page 40)



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PATENTS

Kaddie Kart patents cover the principal of balancing the weight of the clubs and bag over the axle. No other device can use this principal and you can get this balance that eliminates all weight carrying only in a genuine Kaddie Kart.

Patent suits are now pending in the Federal Courts to protect these principles.

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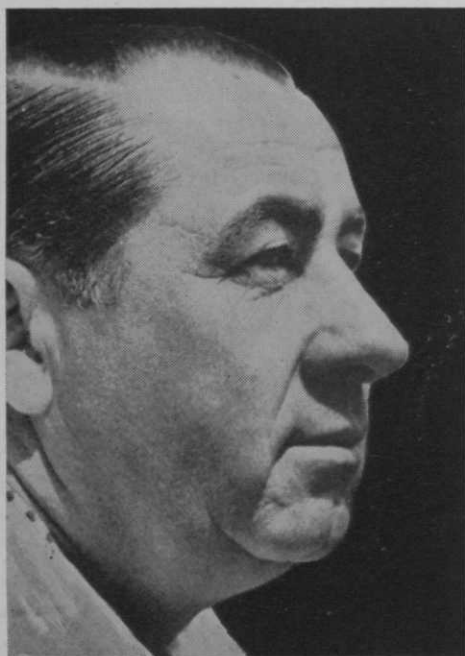
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Approach Shots



People who know

Fine things

• Authorities indicate that the impact of the war upon the mental attitude of Americans has been for the most part, very good.

Americans, now, more than ever, cherish the values and benefits available only in quality merchandise.

Golf players, now, more than ever will prefer the extra values and unusual benefits which are built into every item of Walter Hagen Golf Equipment.

Selling aids, promotional material and national consumer advertising of the Walter Hagen Golf Division will constantly help you demonstrate that "People who know fine things prefer Walter Hagen Golf Equipment."

A Message for the trade from the producers of the Walter Hagen Line, "The Ultra in Golf Equipment"—Walter Hagen Golf Division of the WILSON SPORTING GOODS CO., Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Only the Very Best

... for YOU!

• As one who knows fine things, you know that men and women in the military services of the United States deserved, and were given, the very best of everything with which to fight the war.

Production of war materiel at the Walter Hagen Golf Division was exacting, precise and punctual. Only the very best of war materiel and sports equipment for the armed services was produced.

From these lessons in precise production and scientific exactness, we have developed new skills and better techniques. From these lessons, we can promise you and your customers the finest line of golf equipment ever made . . . and made to bear the Walter Hagen name . . . *ultra in Golf Equipment.*

MATCHED and BALANCED Better than Ever!

• Balanced clubs, properly related to each other, instill in the player confidence in his ability to play well with every club in his set.

As a result of producing precise war materiel in large volume, craftsmen in the Walter Hagen Golf division have developed new methods of testing and balancing golf clubs.

Perfection of balance, with consideration for variation in weight, length, lie and loft, has now been reduced to definite, scientific principles, which are precise every time . . . not just some of the time.

Matched sets of Walter Hagen Golf Clubs for the 1946 season will now be "Matched and balanced better than ever!"

Sports Wear and Golf Shoes to Augment Walter Hagen Line

• An exceptionally fine line of sportswear, foot-gear and golf accessories is included in the Walter Hagen Line for 1946. People who know fine things will appreciate these excellent items.

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GOLF EQUIPMENT



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WALTER HAGEN GOLF DIVISION ★ Grand Rapids
WILSON SPORTING GOODS CO. Michigan

Halloran's Famous Golf Holes

(Continued from Page 36)

a hole should be planned so that a shot is punished according to its merit. There should be a subtle cloaking of guile in well planned green contours.

"At the eleventh hole at St. Andrews there is the 10 foot "hill bunker" that guards the green. At the renowned Redan at North Berwick there is an avaricious trap over one's head which guards the green placed on a diagonal. The traps at Winged Foot's tenth hole are sufficiently deep to best be played with a hand mashie.

"It would hardly be appropriate to have traps as deep as these for the wounded veterans of Halloran who may not be able through physical disability to negotiate them.

"The first hole at Halloran is the Redan at North Berwick. The shape and position of the green and the position of the trap are comparable to the famous original which perhaps has been copied more than any other great hole in the world. The hole here is played from an elevated tee which is not true of the Redan, and the trap guarding the greer is shallow as compared to the one of the Redan.

"The second hole is patterned after Moortown's eighth, the famous Gibraltar hole. The shape and position of the trapping is the same, although the traps at Halloran are not as large, and the green surface is not as big.

"The third hole at Halloran is patterned after the fifteenth at Cypress Point, primarily in the principle that allows the hole to be tightened or eased according to the position of the pin.

"The fourth hole is patterned after the famous tenth hole at Winged Foot in the penal quality of its trapping. The hole

differs in that it is played slightly uphill while the original at Winged Foot has the tee and green on approximately the same elevation with a depression between.

"The fifth hole at Halloran is patterned after the eleventh hole at St. Andrews, although somewhat shorter and with modified depths of traps and green contours.

"The sixth hole at Halloran is a modification of the ninth hole of the Number Two course at Pinehurst. The playing value of the holes is very similar in that the tee of each is slightly elevated above the green surface. The position of the trapping and the shape and character of the green are also very similar.

"The seventh hole at Halloran is patterned after the sixteenth at Augusta National, which has a creek cutting across the green at a diagonal and the slope of the green is quite sharp toward the creek. As there was no water at Halloran, a trap has taken the place of the creek in the original hole. The contours of the green and the trap behind the green are of the same principle.

"The eighth hole at Halloran is patterned after the famous eighteenth at Garden City Golf Club in the relative positions of its key traps and in the shape of its green. The master trap of the Garden City hole is the one directly in front of the green, and the master trap at Halloran is also directly in front of the green. This hole plays slightly uphill at Halloran, while at Garden City the tee and the green are on about the same level.

"The ninth hole at Halloran is patterned after the third hole of the Philadelphia CC Spring Mill course. The holes are approximately the same length, the trapping guarding the greens is in the same position, and the two holes play from a lower tee to a green which is at the crest of a hill."

Course Supts. Organize at St. Louis Meeting

★ GOLF COURSE maintenance men organized the Mississippi Valley Golf Supts.' Assn. at a recent session in St. Louis. Sam Lyle, Norwood Hills CC, is pres.; Oscar W. Bowman, Algonquin GC, is vp; and D. R. Niederlander, 9 Parkland Pl., St. Louis (12) Mo. is sec.-treas., of the new organization.

Purposes of the MVGSA are "to improve conditions in golf course maintenance by investigation of modern methods, cooperation with each other in appraising practices and views concerning methods, equipment and supplies, and all

other subjects relating to betterment of golf courses."

Monthly meetings will be held. Territory of the new organization is a radius of 200 miles from St. Louis.

★ GIs ASK GREENKEEPING STUDY — Letters from soldiers and sailors received by GOLFDOM ask for information on golf course maintenance schooling available under GI "Bill of Rights" education help sections. Inquiries of returning servicemen and interest of greenkeepers confronted with many problems of post-war improvements, rehabilitation and changes of methods point to considerable revival of greenkeeping short courses.