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Swinging around Golf



**THE GOLF NEWS
IN BRIEF**
By **HERB GRAFFIS**

Rapid increase of golfers in Allentown, Pa. has given impetus to local drive for muni course. Annual report of Allentown's Irene D. Welty, superintendent of recreation, emphasizes the city's need. . . . Expansion of Cheyenne, Wyo. Airport GC from 9 to 18 holes may be ready for spring play says M. W. Walker. . . . Parkhills GC, Altoona, Pa., has voted expansion program, boosting present 9 to 18 holes and building new clubhouse.

Pro Roy Bronsdon, 1934 holder of Mass. Open crown, leaves Brae Burn CC, Newton, Mass., for Greenwich CC, Conn., April 1. Bronsdon takes spot vacated by death of Robert M. Thomson after 19 years' service. . . . Beaver Lake GC, Asheville, N. C., is enlarging first story of clubhouse to expand locker room and bar. Club is also replanting putting greens with bent grass. . . . St. Joseph, Mo., Muni Fairview GC enjoyed its biggest year in 1946. . . . Ocala, Fla. GC (muni) plans big clubhouse to double as city recreation center. City

fathers promise to put up 3 dollars for every one raised by citizens. . . . Pro Monie Weiser has been rehired at Lincoln Hills CC, Milwaukee region, for next year and Paul Jensen retained as gkpr.

Lawrence Brook CC, New Brunswick, N.J. was completely razed Jan. 23rd, with damage estimated at \$50,000. . . . Clubhouse of Murfreesboro G&CC, Murfreesboro, Tenn., totally destroyed New Year's day. Loss, \$12,000. . . . Four county-owned GCs in White Plains, N.Y. are raising fees this year to meet the rising cost of labor and materials. Observers expect fees to go from \$1.00 to \$1.25 weekdays, and from \$1.50 to \$2.50 on Sundays and Saturdays. . . . One way of coming back fast after a damaging fire was demonstrated by the Rumson CC, Rumson, N.J. Purchasing the large southern colonial type mansion of Edward Scudder, Rumson, the club cut it into sections and floated it by barge to the country club site, where it was put back together again.

Hebron, Neb. plans a clubhouse this year, made of two purchased CCC barracks joined in T formation. . . . Catawba CC, Hickory, N.C. with 9 holes in play and a second 9 seeded, plans construction this season of at least one unit of its proposed new clubhouse. . . . West Palm Beach muni GC has been completed, but no funds are yet available for clubhouse construction. . . . Waverly, N.Y. Shepard Hills G&CC is beginning construction on \$20,000 addition to its locker room space and a grill.

Dr. Cary Middlecoff, the Tennessee dentist, has answered the call of cash golf competition and has turned pro. Middlecoff sportingly announced his action early and cut himself off from a place on the Walker Cup team.

New pres. of Westchester County Golf Assoc. (New York Met. district) is Eugene L. Larkin, Wykagyl CC. He succeeds Earl Ross, who held the post 5 years. Larkin last year inaugurated the Turf Tournament held in all clubs of metropolitan N.Y.

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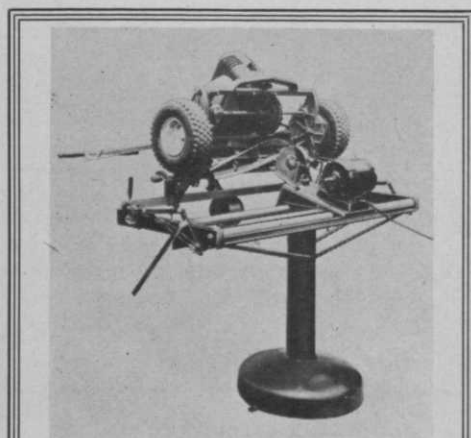
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Dept. 55

district to raise funds for experiments in better turf and the employment of an expert to serve the various clubs of the area. . . . Belle Plaine, Ia. CC to hire pro-gkpr. for club promotion. . . . Vermillion, S.D. munny GC has installed trap shooting range.

Eagle Grove (Ia.) CC, launching expansion program with purchase of 90 additional acres. . . . Honesdale GC, Honesdale, Pa. buying additional green equipment in modernization step. . . . Algona CC, Des Moines, Ia., has signed 3 year contract with Ralph Miedke and his wife to manage the club.

The Biltmore GC, Miami, Fla., now a part of the army's Pratt General Hospital, still allows a limited number of non-military guests to play on payment of the \$2.50 green fee. Of the 900 patients at Pratt, 350 play golf regularly. Group instruction classes are held daily and individual instruction given patients desiring it. . . . Interesting note is the stress laid on the Rules of Golf, taught the patients days before they begin swinging clubs. . . . Seven patients have already worked their game into the below-80 class, and 20 of duty personnel play regularly in 70s. . . . Maj. E. H. Alsop, chief of reconditioning service, states, "It is remarkable how a game like golf can snap a patient out of the doldrums.



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Frank True in the New York Sun points out that although Long Island boasts more golfers than any similar area in the world, buying a membership in some clubs today is about as simple as obtaining a barrel of sugar. . . According to True there are enough unattached golfers with money in hand in the area now to fill the rosters of 10 new clubs. Similar conditions prevail in other districts. . . Commonwealth CC, Boston district, has been awarded the 39th Mass. amateur golf championship in tribute to its 50th anniversary. . . Date will be around July. . . Billy Corcoran of Mass. Golf Assn. says that their famed handicapping system may be adopted by Swedish golfers. . . The Swedes have written for complete data.

St. Andrews difficulties will put the American Walker Cup Team at a disadvantage in the revival of the Walker Cup Matches May 16 and 17, predicts Dai Rees. . . Of the Walker Cup players he has observed, Rees believes that Bud Ward, Amateur champ in 1939 and 1941, possesses the sort of game best suited to do well on the Caledonian course.

Work on a 7 million dollar resort begins next summer at Deep Creek, Md., and will



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Garden City, Ks. CC begins \$17,000 construction on enlarged and modernized club house as soon as material is available. . . . Jackson, Miss. is building new course near Hawkins Municipal airport. . . . Hollywood (Fla.) GC, reports Mgr. Frank Reardon is at least a third ahead of last year's business. . . . Tony Manero is new pro at Ferncrest G&CC, Harrison, N.Y. . . . W. C. Sherwood, for 30 years pro at Memphis CC, retired March 1 at age 66. His successor is Pat Abbott, winner of the 1936 national public links title and runner-up in 1938 and 1941 National Amateur.

What William D. Richardson writes in New York Times is a well-deserved bouquet to grnkprs.—“Those unsung heroes of golf, the fellows who make it possible for the Nelsons, Hogans, Sneads, Mangrums, Demarets and others to make all those sensational scores in the low 60s, have made courses today several hundred per cent better than they were 20, even 10 years ago. . . They, aided by the Green Section of the USGA and kindred agencies, are mainly responsible.”

Sam Snead pretty well summed up opinion of many pros regarding tournament play when he stated he disliked promising to appear at a tournament several months ahead only to find when the time comes that he cannot appear without sacrificing something. . . Often other tournaments come up which offer far more money but which cannot be accepted because of long-standing commitments made for tournaments far ahead in the future. . . . Another big league ball player who finds skill in one sport carries over into the other is Yankee third baseman Bill Johnson, an avid golfer on Augusta, Ga. munny course. . . The course, entirely rebuilt since the war, is breaking all its attendance records. . . Hugh Carter, Atlanta, secy. Ga. State Golf Assn., announces the 25th annual men's amateur championship will be held in Columbus, Ga., July 22-26.

Salt Lake City's Parks Commissioner, Fred Tedesco, is recommending reappointment of city's 3 pros—Tom McHugh to Nibley Park, Jerry Henderson to Forest Dale, and Dick Kramer to Bonneville. . . Tedesco revealed receipts at the 3 courses were almost exactly doubled in 1946 over the preceding 12 months. . . . George Schneider, Utah pro and v.p. of PGA, will be out of the game until early spring after cracking a vertebra in a car accident when he, Lloyd Mangrum and Mrs. Mangrum



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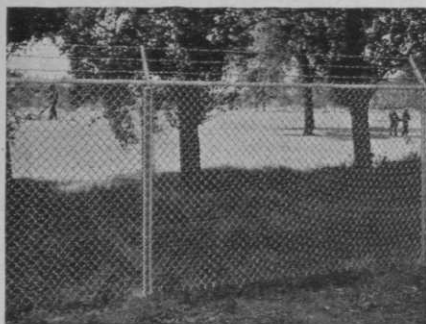
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were forced off the road en route to El Paso from Albuquerque. . . Mangrum and his wife were uninjured. . . George predicts a new PGA agreement ready for operation May 1 which will bind pro golfers to appear in tournaments and offer protection, too, for players.

Byron Nelson writes he wouldn't be a bit surprised if Bobby Locke (S. Africa's current opponent of Sammy Snead) came over here some time this year. . . Bobby has become heavier during the war and weighs about 18 pounds more than he did when Byron saw him in England in 1939. . . . First place in money-winning for the year is still held by Ben Hogan, whose total reached \$6,385.83 at the 21st Texas open last month. Demaret was second high at that time with \$6,053.22. . . . A new 18 hole course for Montgomery (Ala.) CC, will be ready for play soon.

New president of Columbus (Ohio) District Golf Assn. is Herb Lape, Jr., Columbus CC's official who engineered last year's \$10,000 Invitational with great success. . . . 18 hole Chippewa CC, Toledo, O., has been purchased by brothers George and Ted Wakely. . . George, who has been Chippewa's pro for past 9 years, will handle the pro shop. Ted will be course supt., and both will help Mrs. George in the clubhouse. . . . Alliance (Neb.) CC has been purchased for \$12,500 by B. B. Wright, McCook, Neb., who assumes operation May 1. . . . Re-opening of the westerly 9 holes of former Altadena (Calif.) GC for public use looks certain. . . County Recreation Commission is placing sufficient funds in the year's budget to restore the course to its normal condition. . . . Jack Anderson, Pro-Mgr. Dubuque (Ia.) CC, has resigned to become grds. supt. at Cedar Rapids (Ia.) CC.

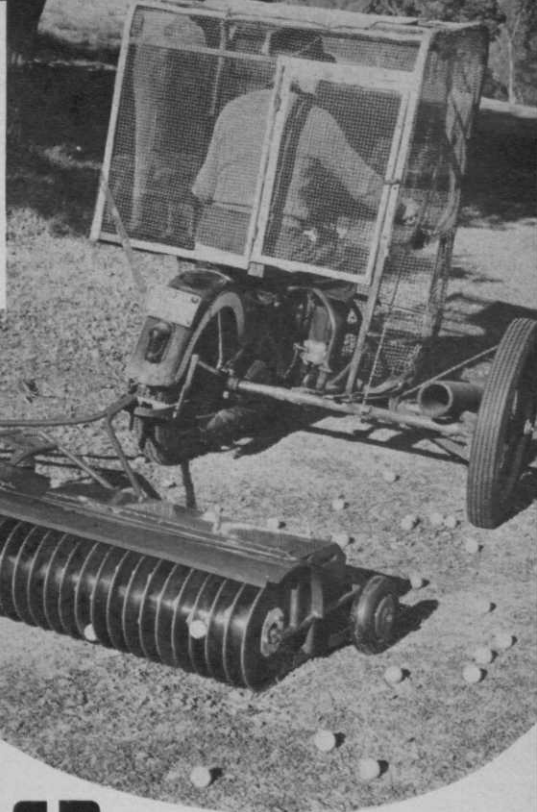
Pacific Northwest is planning a 1948 Gold Golf Trail of cash tournaments to bring stars of the fairway into the area August or September of next year. Portland and Spokane have already put signatures on agreements. Seattle is still undecided at this writing.

Salina (Ks.) CC has busy year scheduled. . . The club has been awarded the state Amateur, Women's and Senior's championships. . . The Amateur is set for June 9-16. . . Salina CC is enlarging its locker and shower depts. to care for increased play. . . Pro Jack Wilson forecasts biggest year the club ever has had. . . Northview CC, Salina, has built a fine new clubhouse. . . Northview is cooperating with the Salina CC to get record entries, publicity and entertainment programs for the 3 Kansas state tourneys to be held in the city.

Wichita (Ks.) CC's big tournament of the year is to be played June 17-23. . . .

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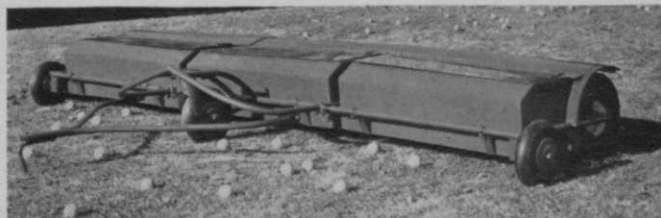
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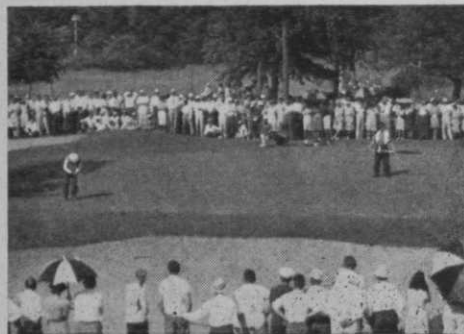
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Manhattan, Ks., replacing sand greens with grass. . . . Russell, Ks., campaigning for municipal golf course.

Royal and Ancient GC of St. Andrews has announced that 8 of Britain's foremost "working class" golfers will be included in trials for the Walker Cup team. . . . U. S. Walker Cup team will play in the Masters' at Augusta (Ga.) National GC first week in April.

Lou Jennings, former Portland, San Francisco and Oregon State champion, has joined the Spalding organization in the Pacific Northwest after 4 years in the Navy. . . Spalding's Research laboratory has on file more than 2200 golf patents.

Augusta (Ga.) CC has spent approximately \$100,000 on improvements during the past year. . . . Augusta National GC has built two elaborate bachelor's quarters buildings and several cottages for members' rental. . . . Nearly \$1,000,000 is being spent in rehabilitation of the famed Belaire (Fla.) golf hotel and courses. . . . The AAF turned the establishment back to private ownership. . . . Tommy Harmon, pro at Montclair (N.J.) last summer is Belaire's pro.

Smiley Bell is increasing Armour GC (Kansas City district) from 18 to 36 holes. . . New greens are Arlington and Old Orchard. . . Smiley says end of war eliminated play of "graveyard shift" workers who came to course direct from war plants and play has settled down to routine schedule. . . . Tony Owens, successful writer, has signed up leading pro tennis players for tournament schedule. . . There'll be fewer events than in 1946. . . Owens has made a tie-up with Hearst and other newspapers for pro tennis tournament promotion.

Marion Mendenhall now is supt., Lincoln (Neb.) CC. . . Marion was at Triple A, St. Louis, right after he got out of the Army. . . . Ernest Jones, teaching at Spalding store in N.Y., has calendar packed tight and a long waiting list.

Jock Hutchison shot 145, one over par, on the PGA Dunedin (Fla.) course, to win 1947 PGA Seniors' championship. . . The Glenview veteran replaced Eddie Williams as the Seniors' title holder. . . John Kieran of "Information Please" fame and Grantland Rice, who edits the sports section of John's 1947 "Information Please" Almanac, need to get together on corrections in the golf part of their book. . . On page 874 Jock Hutchison's name is incorrectly spelled "Hutchinson". . . On the same page Hutchison and Armour are cited as having won the British Open after they moved to the U. S. . . . Jim Barnes, who won the British Open in 1925, also was a U. S. resident, having won the U. S. Open in 1921 and the U. S. PGA in 1916 and 1919.