



Making Members Mix

A DEJECTED man was folded in a chair in the far corner of the veranda of a famous club, the essence of despair. He was the conscientious Chairman of the House Committee who had over-heard the remarks of a gossip group regarding club meals and service. On that particular night a record-crowd was present. A rainy day had turned at sundown into a perfect one with a brilliant moonlight night. The feeling of the group was that grilled squab chickens, and broiled lobsters should have awaited the sudden influx, and the only thing to do was to "pan" the chairman. But this was long ago. Since then chairmen have found capable practical men, to help them—managers and stewards who are modern Aladdins who simply clap their hands and make viands and waiters pop through back porches. Anyway, at the present time the Chairman of the House Committee has joined the Chairman of the Green Committee at the head of the line to receive the plaudits of the members. These two former martyrs have finally entered an era of appreciation and respect, and now enjoy their membership rights.

ANOTHER chairman, however, is not so happy. He is the Chairman of the Tournament Committee. Arrows have already started his way—judging from the cries for help that we have been receiving. The 1928 Model of golf club member, it seems, is desirous of "mixing"—seems inclined to shake the fussy foursome and find new playmates. A flock of club events with lots of prizes for handicap players and a general co-mingling of members is the new idea. No more stories of two golfers accidentally meeting in a round to find that each had been a member for fourteen years! The good present-day handicapping is really behind the movement for more mixing. The "100" man with a proper handicap has just begun to realize that he is as good as a much better player, thanks to his handicap. Then, too, the new plan of having Class A, B, and C, individual events has made some of the players that have spent much of their time heating niblicks in bunkers come forth and feel that they have an equal chance with the next fellow to decorate the library with a trophy—and they have. The prodding some chairmen of tournament committees have received for attractive club tournament programs carrying out the new idea has worried a few. Worry may be banished, however, for on Page 34 of this issue will be found a sample season program and live information as to how various current

playing problems can be solved. It was written by A. C. Gregson, Chairman of the Golf Committee of the famous Lido Country Club, who has made a study of this special subject, and has presented his findings in a helpful way.

A GREAT season is about to open—the greatest in the history of golf in America, judging from early indications and the vast number of winter players—in some sections a 350% increase in green fees having been reported. All clubs will no doubt have a larger percentage of players, and now is the time to make plans that will facilitate play and save time during the peak periods of Saturday afternoon and Sundays. How to have the course used during mid-week dull days should be considered, too. A good plan is a special membership for play on designated days. This membership is very interesting to professional men. Along the line of facilitating the progress of players, indicate the direction of the new tee from the green that precedes it where changes have been made. A simple arrow pointing to the tee will save lots of floundering around by lost foursomes. Tee markers indicating the direction of the hole and distance is another time-saver. Stakes of different colors in the rough save both balls and time. In open rough it is much easier to find a ball "just left of the zebra stake" than in the usual green sea of high grass. Keeping caddies off the driving tee prevents conversations from being repeated. A "Suggestion Box" might be a helpful aid in pleasing members. It is an ideal way of disposing of the pest who is constantly harrassing committeemen with petty complaints. The Suggestion Box could be opened weekly by the Governors and the suggestions referred to the various committees with the findings of the Board. This plan will develop many good ideas and make the hours at the club enjoyable for officials. "Put it in the Suggestion Box" makes a good retort to the chronic kickers. Such an innovation will also bring out many good ideas from the silent but thoughtful members—the fellows who are keenly observant but modestly refrain from expressing their thoughts. The electric cash register was born in the Suggestion Box of the great cash register plant at Dayton. Maybe some good golf ideas may be developed. If so, we will be glad to print them. In fact we will open a Suggestion Box of our own if enough suggestions come our way.