

# Jake Schaefer Returns Here to Teach Billiards

By Milt Woodard.

What's good enough for Jake Schaefer, the billiard player, is going to be good enough for Jake Schaefer, the professor.

That's right. Jake may have draped himself in the dignified cloak of pedagogy in opening his school of billiards at the Sheridan Plaza Hotel, but he's still going along with the same old spelling which made "Schaefer" a name to bring fear to any cue and ball expert in world and national competition. There'll be no extra "f" tossed into the Schaefer nor will it be tailed by a flock of Ph.D.'s, M.S.'s, or D. of B.'s. It's going to be just plain Prof. Jake Schaefer.

"No doubt my name is the most misspelled of any in the telephone book," Prof. Schaefer explained in between lessons yesterday.

## So Schaefer It Stays.

"But it was Schaefer when I won the world balk-line title three different years, and that's what it will remain."

Schaefer is one of the first of the big-name tournament players to turn to the teaching of billiards. For the last two years he's been instructing members of the Cleveland Union Club, but his venture at the Sheridan Plaza marks his first try at come-one, come-all instruction.

In selecting Chicago for his teaching debut, Schaefer picked the very city where he made most of his lifetime progress. To start with, he was born here 49 years ago, and if that isn't the start of progress, what else is? Ten years later, he grasped his first cue at his father's pool room at Clark and Monroe sts., and such an event led to world renown in the realm of three-cushion, 18.1, 18.2, 14.1 and 14.2 billiards.

## Many Notable Runs.

The two most memorable feats in Jake's long cue career also happened, happily, in Chicago. Competing here in the world 18.2 championship in 1925, against Erich Hagenlacker, Schaefer became the first and only contestant to run out 400 points in the first inning.

Among his other world records are high runs and high averages for match and tournament play in both types of balk-line competition. Besides holding both the 18.2 and 14.2 balk-line titles, he twice finished second to Willie Hoppe in world three-cushion championships.

Schaefer hopes to retain his professional portfolio for a year, at least, and doubts that he'll ever return to tournament competition. However, he foresees a huge boom in tournament billiards after the war, and admits it would be difficult to fight off the urge should his old playmates, both domestic and foreign, get together for a spot of caroms.