

**JANUARY
1939**

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Hips and Shoulders
hold the key

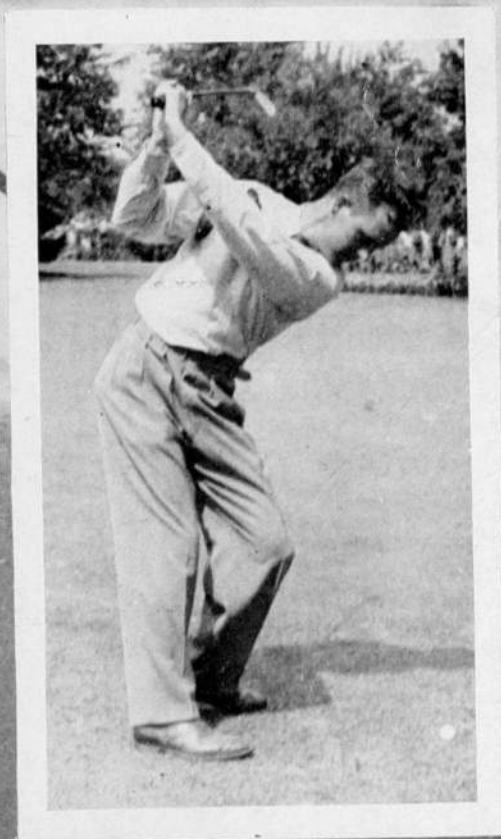
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by P. A. Vaile

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GOLFER

Canadian



Bob Gray Jr. whose low scoring average in 1938 marks the Scarborough, Toronto, professional as one of the game's very best. His swing analyzed. see page 12.

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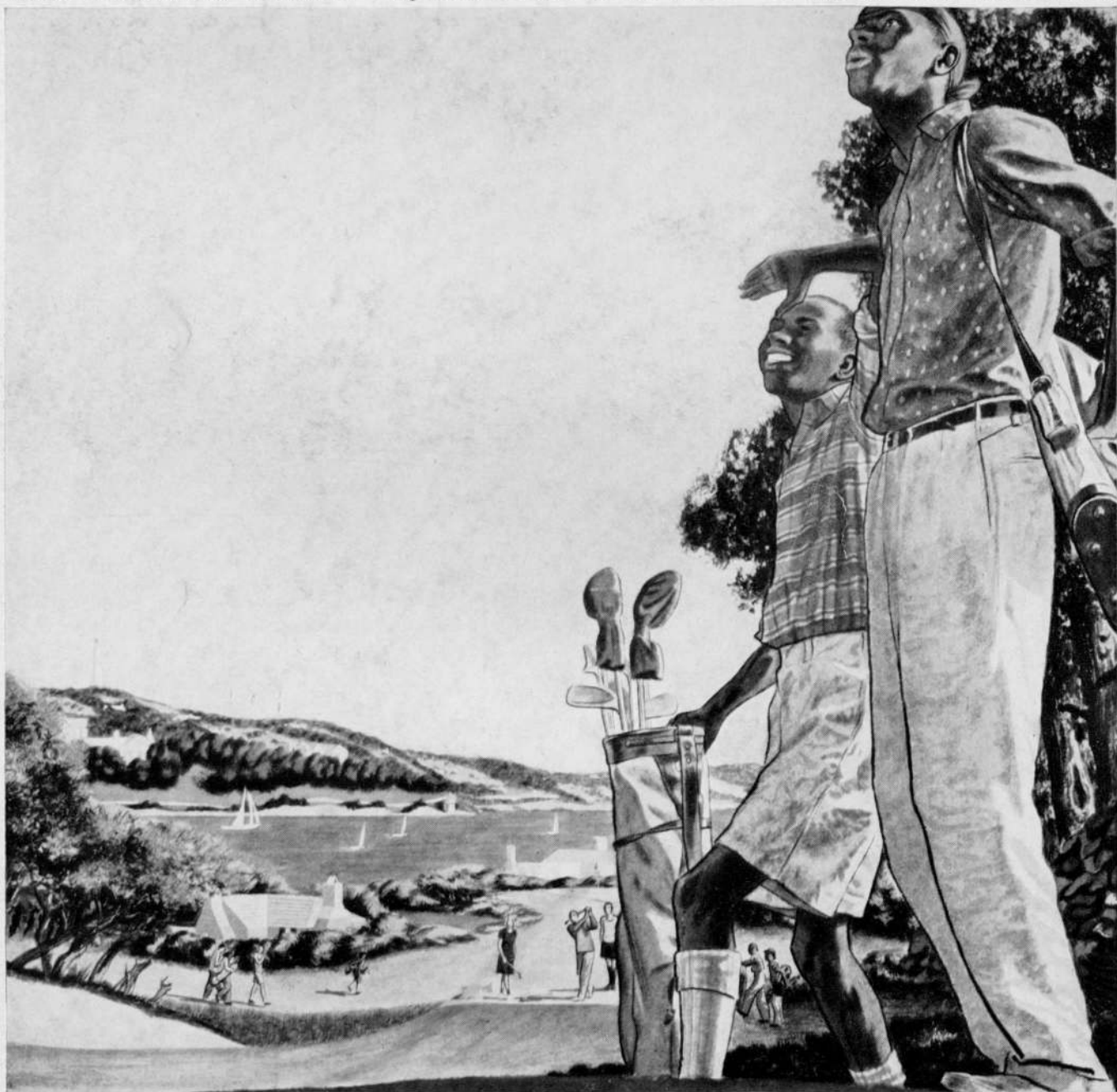
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COLOURFUL DAVIE SPITTAL PASSES



THE LATE DAVE SPITTAL

By *Ralph H. Reville*

The startlingly sudden death in Toronto recently of David Spittal at the age of 50 came as a great shock to golfing friends not only in Canada but in the United States and Scotland.

I always looked upon "Davie" as one of the most colorful and interesting professionals who it has been my pleasure to meet and I have enjoyed the friendship of scores of them during the past forty years or so, in Great Britain, the States and Canada. Born and brought up in Grey Auld St. Andrews, Scotland, the cradle of golf, Spittal was almost from infancy reared and nurtured and brought up in the atmosphere of the Royal & Ancient game. He early acquired the famous and rhythmic St. Andrews swing and follow-through and never left him. He came to Canada as a youth and I first met him in 1913 when he was assistant to the late Percy Barret at the Lambton Golf and Country Club, Toronto, at that time the

leading professional in Canada. His teaching and playing abilities were quickly recognized and he was shortly afterwards appointed pro. at the important Scarborough Golf & Country Club, Toronto.

When war broke out in 1914 he was one of the first Canadian golf professionals to respond to the call of King and Country and Overseas his ability was recognized when he was appointed an instructor in the Artillery. After the war he went to the States and occupied professional positions in Wichita, Kansas; Savannah, Georgia; and Miami Florida. Returning to Canada, he took charge at Uplands, St. Andrews and Royal York in the Toronto District until three years ago, when he went to the Idylewylde Club at Sudbury, Ontario.

A great Tournament player was Davie, who had a remarkable variety of shots in his bag. He twice won the Ontario Open Championship, 1929-1931 was a Runner-up in the Canadian Professional Golfers' Association Championship 1925 and also had to his credit the Quebec Open 1926. Many other stellar events were also won by him.

It was not generally known but Davie had quite a literary flair and was the author of more than one good golfing story which appeared some years ago in
(Continued on page 22)

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GOLF FIXTURES

Jan. 31-Feb. 3. 34th Annual Women's St. Valentine's Tournament, Pinehurst, N.C.
 Jan. 31-Feb. 3. Mid Winter Amateur Tournament, Miami, Fla.
 Feb. 4-5. Medal Play Tournament, full handicap. Southern Pines, N.C.
 Feb. 6-10. Women's championship of Palm Beach G. C.
 Feb. 7-10. 35th Annual February Tourney, Pinehurst, N.C.
 Feb. 8-13. Annual Princess Invitation Tournament. U.S.A. and Canadian participants leave New York Feb. 4th. Played at Riddell's Bay Golf Club, Bermuda.
 Feb. 9th. Four man team championship. Coral Island Golf Club, Bermuda.
 Feb. 10-12. San Antonio \$5000 Open, San Antonio Texas.
 Feb. 12. Annual Flag Tournament. Southern Pines, N.C.
 Feb. 14-18. Mid-Florida championship for Women. Orlando, C. C.
 Feb. 14-18. Fifth Annual Mixed Foursomes; Riddell's Bay, Bermuda.
 Feb. 15. Medal Play Foursome Tournament, one-half handicap. Southern Pines, N.C.
 Feb. 16-19. New Orleans \$10,000 Open; New Orleans, Louisiana.
 Feb. 19. Sandpipers Championship, Match Play. Southern Pines, N.C.
 Feb. 20th. 26th Annual Mid-Ocean Invitation Tournament, Mid-Ocean Club Bermuda. Leave New York Feb. 18th.
 Feb. 21-25. Women's South Atlantic championship. Ormond Beach G. C.
 Feb. 21-25. 2nd Annual Mixed Foursome Belmont Manor, Bermuda.
 Feb. 21st. Annual Tin Whistle Tournament, Pinehurst N.C.
 Feb. 22. Washington's Birthday Flag Tournament. Pinehurst, N.C.
 Feb. 23rd-25th. Annual Mid-Winter Tournament, Sea Island Ga.
 Feb. 23-24. Ladies Open Championships, Constant Springs, Jamaica.
 Feb. 25-26. Thomasville Professional Golfers Association Tournament.
 Feb. 26th. Coral Island Championship, Bermuda.
 Feb. 27-March 2nd. Annual Bermuda Ladies' Championship, Riddell's Bay.
 Feb. 27-Mar. 2. Dixie Amateur, Miami Country Club.
 Feb. 28-Mar. 4. Women's East Coast championship, St. Augustine Links.
 Feb. 28-29. Ball Sweepstakes Tournament, full handicap. Southern Pines, N.C.
 Feb. 29th-March 4th. Annual Bermuda Ladies' Championship, Riddell's Bay.
 March 3-4. Annual Senior's Tournament, men over 50) Sea Island Ga.
 Mar. 4. March Sweepstaeks 18-hole Handicap. Southern Pines, N.C.
 Mar. 4-5. Amateur Open Championship of Jamaica, Constant Springs.
 March 5-8. International Four-ball matches, Miami.
 March 7-10. Annual Seniors' Tournament, Pinehurst N.C.
 March 7-11. Belmont Manor Ladies' Championship, Belmont Manor, Bermuda.
 March 7-11. Warwick Vase Tournament, Riddell's Bay, Bermuda.
 Mar. 11. Southern Pines Country Club Championship, 36-hole Medal Play. Southern Pines, N.C.
 March 12. Harlequin Cup, handicap event, Medal play. Coral Island Golf Club, Bermuda.
 Mach 13-19. Southern Cross tourney, Palmetto G. C., Aiken.
 March 14-18. Belmont Manor Men's Tournament, Belmont Manor, Bermuda.
 March 15-18. Annual Spring Sea Island championship for 1939, Sea Island Ga.
 Mar. 18. P.G.A. Open Tournament. Southern Pines, N.C.
 March 19. Mixed Foursomes Coral Island Golf Club, Bermuda.
 March 20-22. \$4000 Pinehurst Open Championship. Pinehurst N.C.
 March 21-25. Annual Bermuda Amateur championship, Riddell's Bay Golf Club.
 Mar. 22, 23, 24. Eleventh Annual Women's Mid-South Championship, 54-holes, Medal Play, for title now held by Miss Patty Berg, National Women's Champion.
 Mar. 25-26. Ball Sweepstakes, Best Ball of Pair, full handicap. Southern Pines, N.C.
 Apr. 1-2. Scotch Foursome, selected drive, alternate shots, three-quarter handicap. Southern Pines, N.C.
 Apr. 8-9. Medal Play Ball Sweepstakes Tournament, full handicap. Southern Pines, N.C.
 Apr. 15-16. Best Selected six out of nine holes, one-half handicap. Southern Pines, N.C.
 Apr. 23-24. Medal Play, full handicap. Southern Pines, N.C.
 Apr. 29-30. Blind Bogey Tournament. Southern Pines, N.C.
 May 1-2. Bogey Contest, Best Ball of Team. Southern Pines N.C.

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GOLF THAT YOU DREAM ABOUT

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Roland Eaton
 MANAGING DIRECTOR

Talking about Golf

EDITORIAL
H. R. Pickens Jr.

It struck your editor with a degree of pride and undoubtedly this sentiment was rather general amongst golfers who recently read an article stating that sport on this continent has come to represent one of the major industries moreover that of all sports *the greatest was golf* in this regard. The figures quoted were compiled only in the United States, but one may generalize upon them fairly safely and say that golf is the most important sport in the world industrially. Certainly Great Britain, equally sport-minded along much the same trend as the United States, would, in all probability, show golf to hold the same position.

The reason for feeling pride at these figures is quite elementary, everyone likes to picture his hobby as being important. For countless thousands golf is a hobby and something more. In fact one writer has termed the game the *Great American Hobby*. Certainly 1937's figures which show \$44,460,525 as having been spent for direct equipment alone on golf would rather bear this out. Moreover these figures do not include money spent for special golf clothing which might well represent almost as much again. Despite the trend of informality in the golfer's dress in recent years the smart effects of this casual appearance require well-tailored togs.

The most significant fact about this growth of golf as America's major sport industry is the 27.5 increase over the 1936 figure of \$34,863,730.00. This increase must be most encouraging to manufacturers as well as the various agencies which have been at work upon the general promotion of the game. The sharp jump of golf as a reason for spending has not been a natural one. It must be more directly attributed to a *premeditated* effort to awakening interest among the masses in a quite liberal sense.

The work of the American Professional Golf Association with its ponderous organization of tournaments which link general golfing interest from Coast to Coast throughout the year is one important and vital factor. The "field representatives" of leading golf manufacturing companies have also done splendid work in this connection being directly responsible for interesting vast new throngs. The names of Horton Smith, Harry Cooper, Lawson Little and Jimmy Thompson of the A. G. Spalding Company must go down in history as four of the greatest workers on behalf of the game. The revered memory and judicious use of Bobby Jones' great competitive record and personality loom along with these. In earlier days Hagen and Sarazen

started the ball rolling with their glamorous personalities. The Old Country sent its crusaders abroad in the persons of Duncan, Mitchell and Vardon all of whom have contributed greatly to the growth of golf.

Speaking of the Spalding quartette and their extensive travel during the past two or three years which has seen them play almost every other day across the United States and Canada, Horton Smith tells an appropriate and interesting story.

In a Pennsylvania mining town the foursome was scheduled to play for the benefit of a large gallery of coal miners. It was the first time that most of the gallery had ever seen the game played and from the beginning the miners began cheering on "riding" the players "*a la baseball*." Smith claims that nothing could ever bother him after that round of golf. Horton stated that he did not miss any shots with one exception when once, at the beginning of the round, a big Swarthy-faced fellow standing not more than four feet behind him bellowed out "paste the d..... little thing, pal," just as he got to the top of his back swing!

But for all this the miners became interested in the game. And thus with public courses easily available and lower prices on equipment than ever before new players have been born in all classes.

By way of interest America spent \$4,000,000.00 on golf balls in 1937. In other words nearly 21,000,000, new pellets were unravelled in shining splendour from their wrappings. Although the United States became "ski conscious" in 1937 to what has been termed a "wildfire extent," total equipment bought for this sport, totalled only \$1,236,585. Fishing tackle was golf's closest rival as the leading sport industry. Less than one fourth of the money spent for the former is represented in the approximate \$11,000,000.00 expended in that field. It is safe to say that the increased interest in golf in the United States means an increase also in Canada, for admittedly the latter is the greatest golfing country in the world *per capita*.

In short here are figures which point to the undeniable fact that golf is growing fast. New fields have been conquered and there is every reason to believe that the saturation point is still remote. All this should strike an optimistic note among manufacturers; for just plain lovers of the pastime there should be a warmth of satisfaction in the knowledge that so many new players share its

(Continued on page 22)

COMMENTS ON EDITORIAL (of REASONABLE LENGTH) WILL BE WELCOMED BY THE EDITOR

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This magazine carries authoritative notices and articles in regard to the activities of the Associations which it represents as Official Organ. In other respects these Associations are in no way related to the contents or opinions of contributors.

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DeGeer, sports Editor of the Toronto Globe and Mail, given by Mr. W. B. Cleland on behalf of the House of Seagram, donors of the Seagram Golf Cup emblematic of the Canadian Open championship.

At the luncheon Mr. B. L. Anderson, secretary of the R.C.G.A. introduced the speakers and those present included W. B. Cleland, Colonel W. A. Harrison, Charles Sclater of Hamilton, E. C. Gould of Brantford, Frank Harris, George L. Robinson, E. A. Harris, B. L. Anderson, J. A. Forrest, and Marshall Cleland of Toronto, Vern DeGeer, Tommy Munns, Ralph Allen and Bill Roche.

Annual Meeting

Annual meeting of the Royal Canadian Golf Association has been announced for Saturday, Feb. 4, at the Royal York Hotel, Toronto. As there were no further nominations, the executive committee will be declared elected according to the appointments made by the provincial associations and the nominations made by the nominating committee last Nov. 20.

In 1938 a trial was made of the plan whereby the provincial associations would become members of the R.C.G.A. and would col-

lect and remit to the R.C.G.A. fees payable by member clubs. While the executive committee feels the trial was successful, it has been thought advisable to continue on that basis for 1939, and this recommendation will be made at the annual meeting.

In order to provide that a vice-president may be elected, who is not a member of the executive committee, some changes in the constitution will be considered, and, if deemed advisable, will be ratified and confirmed.

O.G.A. Meeting

At the annual meeting of the Ontario Golf Association, to be held on Saturday, Jan. 21, the nominating committee will propose the following as directors for 1939:

Thomas A. Browne, London Hunt and Country Club; Donald Carrick, Rosedale Club, Toronto; D. G. Carruthers, Cataraqui Club, Kingston; John H. Chipman, Lambton Club, Toronto; Elmer W. Dixon, Oshawa; Joseph Hilley, Royal York Club, Toronto; W. Cecil George, Couchiching Club, Orillia; Dr. A. B. James, Lakeview Club, Toronto; C. M. Jones, Scarboro Club, Toronto; Hew M. Scott, Weston Club, Toronto; George

Lang, Westmount Club, Kitchener; John S. Lewis, Brantford; John Machado, Toronto Golf Club; Frank Ritchie, Brockville; Henry L. Schade, Essex Club, Windsor; Gordon Taylor Sr., Summit Club, Toronto; J. Gordon Thompson, Sunningdale Club, London; J. H. Thomson, York Downs Club, Toronto; Wardlaw Vair, Waterloo County Club, Galt; Warren I. Walker, Mississauga Club, Toronto; G. W. Wigle, Burlington. The nominating committee is composed of E. A. Harris, Dr. J. R. Gibson, Frank H. Harris and Robert M. Gray.

W. A. Harrison in Toronto

The Maritime Provinces are keenly anticipating the playing of the Canadian Open Golf Championship at the Riverside Golf Club in Saint John, N.B. It would seem from recent comment that both the American Professional Golf Association and the Royal Canadian Golf Association feel that this effort to support the game in this part of the continent will be a very worthwhile one.

In mid-December Colonel W. A. Harrison, president of the beautiful Riverside Club, visited Toronto where he was entertained at luncheon along with Vern

PRESENTING NUMBER TEN OF
A TRIBUTE SERIES TO CANADA'S
MOST NOTED SENIOR FAIRWAY
PERSONALITIES, BY DEAN OF
THIS COUNTRY'S GOLF WRITERS,
RALPH H. REVILLE.



TORONTO'S THOMAS RENNIE

Personality in *Achievement*

MR. THOMAS RENNIE, TORONTO.
OUTSTANDING GOLFER, CURLER AND
LAWN BOWLER

It is doubtful if there is anyone in the Dominion who can equal the record of Mr. Thomas Rennie of Toronto, in the Canadian realms of golf, curling and lawn bowling. Mr. Rennie has made an enviable name for himself in the playing of these three grand old games, with centuries of tradition behind them.

He played his first round of golf at the Rosedale Golf Club a quarter of a century ago and quickly became one of the best known players of that prominent Toronto Club. In 1923 he joined The Canadian Seniors' Golf Association and was appointed a Governor in 1934. Showing the sound quality of his golf he has no less than nine Senior Cups to testify to his prowess alike with woods and irons. In 1933 he won the coveted Frank A. Rolph trophy with the best 36-hole gross score but he always thinks that his most notable Senior achievement was in 1929 at the Royal Ottawa Club when, partnered with the late Col. J. R. Moodie of Hamilton, he and his partner, won the Foursome Competition the runners-up on that occasion, being Lord Willingdon, then the popular Governor General of Canada and afterwards Vice Roy of India, and Mr. C. A. Bogert of Toronto. Mr. Rennie is a Director and an enthusiastic supporter of the Muskoka Lakes Golf & Country Club and in 1930 and 1933 won the Muskoka Lakes 36-hole Golf Championship with the fine scores in 1930 of a 75 and 79 and in 1933 with a 76 and 79. And that's good golf, consistent golf. In curling circles, Mr. Rennie's skill with "stane and besam" is known from one end of the Dominion to the other. He has the unique record of

having to his credit, eight victories and three runners-up in the Ontario Championship and ten wins and six runners-up in the Toronto Single Rink Championship besides other curling victories literally by the score. He is a Past President of the Ontario Curling Association, President Dominion Curling Championship Trustees and an Honourary Life member of The Royal Caledonia Curling Club—a particularly coveted honour. As a Lawn Bowler he is almost equally famous. In 1913 he was Captain of the victorious Canadian Lawn Bowling team which toured England. Mr. Rennie is President of the Wm Rennie Seed Company Ltd., Toronto, one of the largest and most successful seed firms in the Dominion, with branches in other leading cities. Great interest has always been taken by the Company in the advancement of Agriculture and the Rennie Homestead in Scarborough, has had the proud distinction of receiving the Gold Medal award for farms in Ontario. He is President of the Canadian Seed Trade Association, a Harbour Commissioner of Toronto, Past President of the Granite Club and is associated as a member in the following Clubs: Royal Canadian Yacht Club, Rosedale Golf Club, Canadian Seniors' Golf Association, Muskoka Lakes Golf & Country Club, Toronto Board of Trade, Rotary, Empire, York Pioneers, The Royal Caledonia Curling Club and St. Andrews Society.

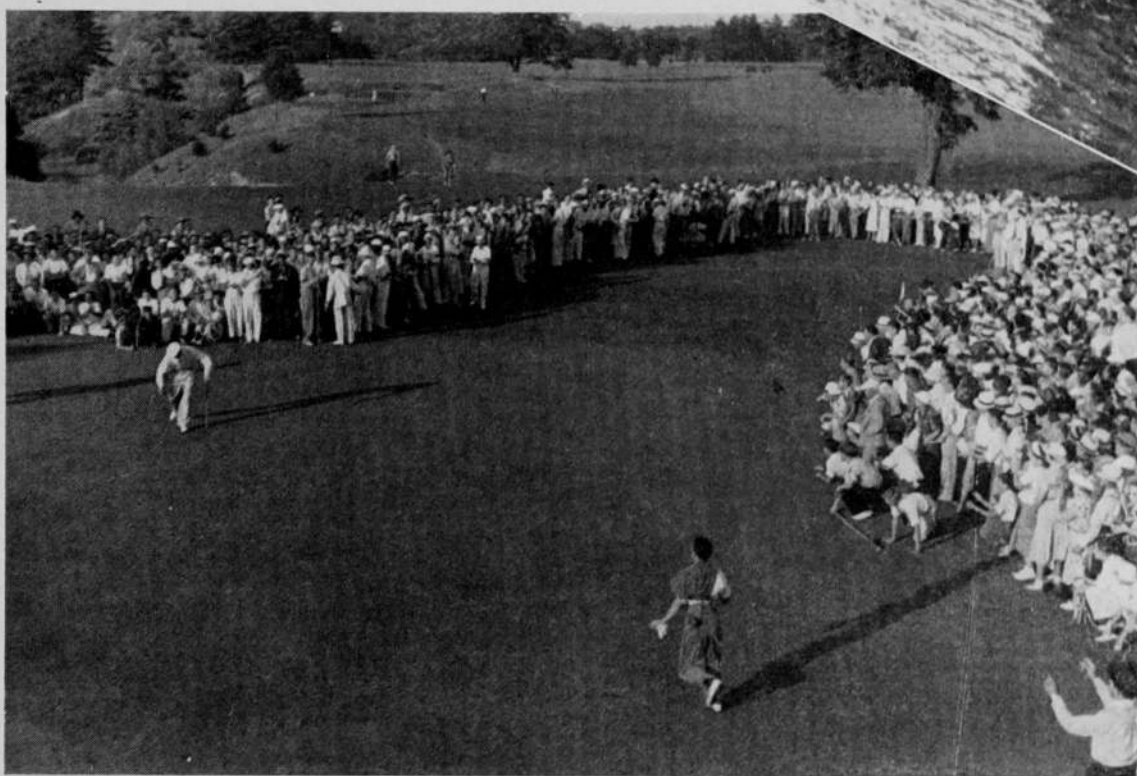
Still virile and active, Mr. Rennie retains his keen interest in business and the sports he loves and plays so well and that he may continue to do so for many years to come, is the sincere hope of well-wishers and friends, not only in Toronto the principal centre of his varied business, social and sports activities, but from Coast to Coast in Canada.

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN IN THE *Groove?*

by
H. R. PICKENS Jr.

Yes, practically every golfer has had his day when he felt that the "machinery" of his game was "hitting on all six"—a day when the sum total of his golfing ability was at his fingertips. Circumstance, too, subscribed to complete his momentary mastery of the game. For the average player to come in off the course and admit that such an event was a phenomenon would be too great and admission to expect. Playing "over his own head" Mr. Average golfer, being human, is not expected to admit anything more than that on such occasions he was "in the groove"!

In that he is likely quite sincere and probably not far wrong in his choice of expression as to what really happened. Indeed, when we experience such rare and joyous



Above Syd Brews, famous South African professional showing evidence of being in the "mental groove" at the 1939 Canadian Open. Below, Canadian Open champion, Sam Snead, just after he had played the greatest shot of the tournament, the chip which he almost "holed" at the 72nd.

occasions as described above we are, in a manner of speaking, "in the groove."

However, the point to be made, I feel, is that most of us think of being "in the groove" as a purely physical condition. A time when our swing is better than usual and more under our control. In a recent magazine article Ralph Guldahl, American Open Champion for the past two years, rather proved that this is a mistaken idea.

Guldahl stated that when he sank his final chip at the 1938 Open Championship in Denver his reaction was not so much elation as that of "wakening up" to the fact that the game was over. What this really meant was that during his spectacular stretch drive Guldahl had gotten into "the groove"—not so much with his swing as with his mind. The fact that he ended

with a dropped chip at the 72nd hole merely shook him from the "mental rut" of concentration upon his purpose.

Moreover, it is rather unlikely that it was a change in his swing which caused him to make his magnificent scoring bursts. Guldahl's swing has been pretty well "grooved" for a long time. As a result of these long years of habit it is doubtful if Guldahl could change his swing fundamentally except by conscious effort on each stroke. One could scarcely imagine him winning the Open championship while doing this.

The point is the same with the ordinary golfer! He may go out to the practice tee and spend several hours trying to make a new swing for himself and by practice "groove" it for the time. Yet when he is in the thick of playing a round and trying to
(Continued on page 22)

BERMUDA HOLIDAY

Below: "Bill Pentland and his diminutive mother, Mrs. W. J. Pentland, Toronto. Bill was medalist at the Belmont Manor Christmas tournament in Bermuda. Below: Mrs. C. A. Eames of Toronto seen on the Belmont Manor links where she played daily during her Bermuda visit.



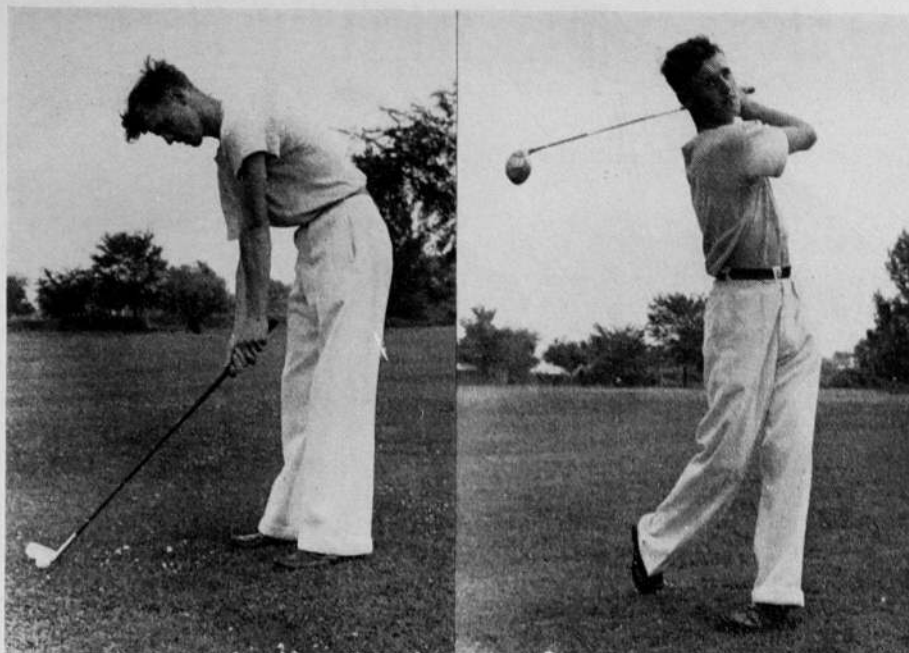
Belmont Manor's annual Christmas tournament in Bermuda had the largest entry that has ever been recorded. There were 97 competitors. The weather man was none too kind but valiant golfers still carried on. Bill Pentland, Toronto qualified with a 72—and won his first two matches. A message from the homeland called him back by plane so that he could not finish the tournament but he was medalist—and rated every bit of it. Mrs. A. S. Patterson of Australia and Toronto was runner-up in the ladies' first flight. Dorothy Campbell Hurd Howe won the Ladies' Championship Flight. We shall never see another Dorothy Campbell Hurd—we've lost the model—winner of the Canadian—Scottish and American International—and for good measure this last year won the U.S.A. Senior's title—no, we can't just match her.

Prizes were given by "Nic" Thompson in the main dining room on New Year's Eve at ten o'clock. There was "Nic" and his usual bit of yarn; Mrs. Hurd, Mrs. Patterson and Lloyd Jones of Colorado Springs, Detroit, and Bermuda, runner-up for men's first flight beaten eights—he also made a smart speech at the presentation of prizes.

Bottom left, Nicol Thompson, young Canadian professional at the Belmont Manor course, with a youthful pupil both at Bermuda and at his summer post at the Manoir Richelieu in Quebec. The youngster is N. T. Gilroy, son of Mr. and Mrs. N. T. Gilroy of Westfield N. J. He qualified in the Christmas tournament at Belmont with 112. Right: Mr. Lewis Miller, formerly of Chester N.S. at present living in Scotland and Col. J. L. Miller of Chester and Mr. C. E. Welch of the Bermuda Cottage Colony, all playing in the Christmas tournament.



Johnny Richardson, Calgary Open golf champion, long-hitting youngster who should prove a factor in the 1939 Canadian Amateur championship next year after a winter of golf in Southern California.



CALGARIAN IN CALIFORNIA

by
H. R. PICKENS Jr.

One evening during mid-December your editor was awaiting a friend on an incoming train to Montreal at a suburban station. The train was late and there was nothing else to do but wait. In the meantime there were other trains leaving and the usual group of Christmas students piling on and off. There were the general vacationers too — crowding and hurrying in characteristic Christmas bustle. In all this *hubbub* a group of young men with bags of some sort of athletic equipment suddenly emerged from a special bus outside the station. In a moment they were inside and had taken momentary possession of the ever-changing station lobby spotlight.

They were an orderly lot and seemed, after a fashion, to fit our general conception of typical American college men. Polo coats, gay plaid scarfs, flannel pants pulled a bit too high — one or two actually wore the tell-tale collegiate white sport shoes, if memory serves correctly. Then in the midst of them, one huge towering figure bearing a familiar face stood out. Hat thrown back on head, scarf dangling out a little, munching a bar of chocolate his eyes met ours and all of a sudden it registered — the fellow was no one else but tall Johnny Richardson of Calgary, 1937 seventh ranking in the Dominion and perhaps the most promising player of his age produced in this country.

There was the handshake and usual "what are you doing in this part of the country!" Between bites of candy the young 19-year-old, mid-westerner gave out that he was travelling with a hockey team. That in itself was hardly news, for we had heard that this powerful-hitting fellow was one of the best junior wingers in the middle West.

But all of a sudden it dawned that the only amateur team playing in Montreal that night was a visiting American club. The laconic Johnny probably wouldn't have even mentioned it had we not jumped at the conclusion that he was playing for the *University of Southern California Hockey team!* As casually as if he had been with just an ordinary team, Johnny related that his hockey had gotten him a bid to attend University of Southern California. He and some seven or eight young Canadians were on the squad and here they were some two thousand miles from home during their Christmas holidays playing outstanding college and amateur teams of Canada and the United States.

More "pumping" and Johnny gave out the fact that he was able to put himself through college, study petroleum engineering, with the opportunities afforded through his hockey ability. His jobs were working at the U.S.A. bowl for football games and working in the movies for hockey shorts and parts in feature productions.

"You see", drawled Richardson, "we get a couple of weeks work in the movies every so often. That brings us in a couple of hundred apiece. We're not considered as pros naturally because they hire us only as *factors with particular talent.*"

"We have to make the money string out or get other odd jobs to help out, but with ushering at the big games and sundries we pay our way. What's more you've got to make your grades, too, *or out you go like anybody else.* You can bet that most of us on the hockey team like it too well to let that end of the arrangement slip."

"What was your latest picture?" we asked.

"Duke of West Point".

"Do you see much of the famous stars?"

"Sure, they seem like a pretty regular bunch, but naturally that's just based on appearances for we don't exactly pal around with them."

"You say you usher at the big games, what were the best this year?"

The last one, that California-Notre Dame affair which we won 13-0 was the best game that anyone could want to see.

"What do you think about American football as compared with the Canadian game?"

At this one Johnny paused a minute then replied that the American game is much more interesting and that with the Canadian rouge, he thought it would be perfect!

"But what about golf?" we queried.

(Continued on page 17)

PRACTICAL AND SCIENTIFIC TURF PRODUCTION

By GEOFFREY CORNISH

Life Cycle of Grass and Rhythm of Growth— Grass Species Under Conditions of Close Cutting

PART I

In nature all plants follow a definite life cycle. If a grass plant was allowed to follow its normal growth after germinating from seed, it would continue to send out shoots and blades, then blossom and set seed, and if an annual, finally dry up. A perennial would continue to send out a few shoots for the remainder of the growing season. It can be readily seen that mowing interrupts this cycle, and as we know, seed is never able to set on turf grasses with, of course, the exception of annual blue grass. Yearly, however, the plant strives to set seed, endeavouring to approximate as closely as possible the rhythmical growth of its species. Each time it is cut it renews its efforts to reproduce itself by sending out additional shoots with even more vigor than prior to cutting. It is this urge of grass to continue growing until it sets its seed that we take advantage of in producing turf. Fundamentally then, were it not possible for some grass species to regenerate themselves after mowing, it would be impossible for us to have turf.

This perpetual vegetative reproduction and disturbance of the rhythm of growth no doubt causes an actual degeneration of the plant itself over a period of years. This in itself makes turf a delicate thing to work with, increasing the necessity for the most judicious use and care of it by the turfman. In this connection, it should be noted that the life of a good many plants in a turf has been prolonged far beyond their normal span by preventing them from seeding.

The cycle of growth of a normal grass plant is further expressed in turf by a quick and abundant growth in the spring and early summer, climaxing about June and tapering off until the autumn, when again there is a slight rise. It is true that this annual rhythm of growth is affected by climate, weather, and soil condition. However, their influence is secondary to physiological reactions of the plant itself, which cause it to grow vigorously at certain seasons, and slowly at others.

It should be observed that a healthy turf is made up largely of new shoots. In this connection, it has been found that in addition to the rhythm of growth, which expresses itself in top production,

Foreword

In recent years studies have been made by plant physiologists on the habits of growth of the various grasses. This work has been carried out in connection with pastures and other agricultural grasslands. As a result, this material for the most part has not been available to the practical turfman. The purpose of this article is to put forth briefly some of the recent technical developments in agricultural grassland maintenance, and point out their applications to turf work.

Primarily, it is fundamental that a closely knit turf is only formed by repeated mowing or grazing. Obviously then, the conditions under which turf is formed are unnatural. Therefore, it should be realized that turf is a somewhat artificial creation, both the individual plants and the soil in which they are growing being affected by the repeated clipping.

GEOFFREY CORNISH
Author

there is for each species a rhythm of shoot production. Again this is influenced by environment, but at the same time it is primarily due to internal causes. Despite external influences, there is still the tendency for each grass to follow its own rhythm in this respect. Accordingly we find an abundance of new shoots at certain seasons and few of them at others. When the new shoots are in abundance, the turf is most easily maintained in good shape. For most grasses under natural conditions, there are two climaxes in this so-called rhythm, one in the spring and one in the fall. Kentucky Blue Grass is an exception to this, since only the autumn climax is noticeable. Under turf conditions there is little doubt that these climaxes are partially levelled out, and there is perpetual shoot formation over the entire growing season promoted by the repeated mowing. In view of the importance of new shoots to a turf it is to be hoped that an agronomist will, in the near future, accurately chart

this rhythm of shoot production for each turf grass under natural conditions.

Two factors determine whether a grass species can survive under close cutting. Continued removal of all the leaves will eventually starve any plant, since it is in the leaves that plants manufacture food by the process of photosynthesis. Fortunately, there are a few species of grass which have a large proportion of their leaves close to the ground, which are not removed by the mower, thus enabling the individual plants to survive close clipping. Also it has been established that the ability of a grass species to survive under turf conditions is related to the ratio of roots to top growth. Hence the more roots in relation to the leaf growth, the more nutrients there can be obtained from the soil per unit area of leaf growth. Each turf grass has one of these characteristics predominately in its make-up and the other in a greater or less degree. For examples, Red Top and Timothy, two grasses which are almost turf species: both have favourable roots to top ratios but will die out from turf because they are not capable of producing many green organs below the height of cut. On the other hand, the turf bents have only a medium favourable root to top ratio, since they have not a vigorous root development. At the same time they have a low yield of tops high enough to be clipped by a mower, and under conditions of close clipping these grasses produce a dense mat of basal leaves capable of synthesizing sufficient food for the plant. The various fescues react to close clipping in somewhat the same way as Red Top and Timothy, because they are not capable of producing many leaves below the height of cut. They, however, last much longer in a turf than the other two grasses because they are deep-rooted. This gives them a very favourable ratio. Kentucky Blue Grass is something of an exception, since it has not a very favourable ratio nor does it produce many leaves below the mower. Its survival on a not-too-closely-cut turf and on suitable soil types can be correlated with its ability to become dormant in unfavourable seasons and its characteristic producing of underground root stocks.

Canadian at Brae Burn

Considerable interest is being shown in the sphere of Canadian professionals in the appointment of Roy Bronsdon at the splendid Brae Burn club in Boston. Bronsdon succeeds the great Denny Shute, former U. S. professional champion and British Open titlist, at this swanky club. It is indicative of the excellent groundwork which the tall ex-Scarboro Club caddy received in Toronto while gaining the assistant's post. In this step he was a contemporary of Jack Littler, Ottawa. He played hockey with such men as Hooley Smith and Harold Cotton as a youngster and since crossing the border back in 1926 has held berths at the Oyster Harbour Club, the Wianno Club and now Brae Burn. In the winters Bronsdon holds the professional post at the Mid-Pines Club in sunny Pinehurst N.C. crossing the border back in 1926 has held the Massachusetts Open crown and the pro-amateur championship of New England, but in recent years has devoted himself to teaching. His prowess in this capacity was largely instrumental in his Brae Burn appointment. It is a boast for Canadian golf that one who learned the game in this country should succeed Denny Shute.

Gray's Great Average

Bob Gray, the tall Scarboro professional who has been rated close to the pro pinnacle in Canada for the past two seasons justified his rating recently when the figures of leading averages among the Toronto professionals was made public. He played in the Toronto and District matches, the Canadian Pro championship, the Canadian Open championship and the Millar Trophy 36-hole match play event and needed only 71.1 shots for the 24 rounds. Runner-up in this neat computation was Lex Robson of Lakeview Golf Club who hustled through 21 rounds with 72 shots as his mark. Quebec Open champion Dick Borthwick played 23 rounds in 72.4 with the rest of the boys stringing out as follows:

| | Pld. | Str. | Gr. Av. |
|--------------|------|-------|---------|
| Bob Gray | 24 | 1,715 | 71.1 |
| Lex Robson | 21 | 1,528 | 72.1 |
| R. Borthwick | 23 | 1,676 | 72.2 |
| G. Brydson | 21 | 1,535 | 73.2 |
| W. Lamb | 18 | 1,320 | 73.6 |
| Bob Lamb | 25 | 1,865 | 74.1 |
| Bill Kerr | 24 | 1,799 | 74.2 |
| A. Hulbert | 17 | 1,262 | 74.4 |
| J. Johnstone | 20 | 1,498 | 74.8 |
| Sam Kerr | 18 | 1,356 | 75.6 |
| W. McWilliam | 15 | 1,140 | 76 |
| H. Borthwick | 24 | 1,832 | 76.1 |
| Reg. Sansom | 16 | 1,218 | 76.2 |
| Lou Cumming | 24 | 1,864 | 77.1 |
| Les Franks | 25 | 1,942 | 77.1 |

Woods Wins Again

Along about mid-December Fred Wood, Fraser Club, Vancouver, Open champion of Alberta and British Columbia walked off with another pro-amateur feature at the Marine Drive Club. Fred had a 72 and the old story was repeated as Stan Leonard placed runner-up with a 73. The venerable Davie Black of Shaughnessy Heights had the same and thus tied with his son Ken who posted a like total.



Thomson, with all his distinction as a tremendous tee shot hitter, seems to have gained yardage during the past few months.

Wood's Comeback

The play of Craig Wood in the Fall tournaments was sensational. After two lean seasons he seems to be headed for a come-back. Avoiding tournaments during the summer months, he devoted himself to the practice tee in search of a revised swing that would rid him of a troublesome hook

Snead Becoming Wealthy

Sam Snead posted a 1938 prize money total of \$10,000 in excess of his nearest rival, Johnny Revolta. Sam's straight playing returns came to \$19,553.49 as compared with Johnny's \$9,553.33. In addition to this Sam must have made another five or six thousand from testimonials plus a salary from his White Sulphur club of possibly \$4,000.00. In addition his book on golf may net him \$5,000 more and his movie short perhaps \$4,000. Then a salary from Wilson Western Sporting goods company. This is estimated by some to run about \$10,000—so figure it out! The young man of the long drives and accurate putts can hardly have missed picking up \$50,000 in the past 365 days. That's fairly big-time!

and apparently he has succeeded. Wood has discovered that by keeping the blade open he can play a cut shot. He won the New Jersey P.G.A. Championship in September, then established an all-time record with 286 for the 72-hole special tournament at Pine Valley. At Pinehurst he was second, with a 36-hole score of 140 and at Columbia, S. C. he again was second with 285 for 72 holes. He won the Augusta Open with 278.

Guldahl Ready

Guldahl has recovered from a recent operation and says he is feeling excellent, so good, in fact, that he likes himself to repeat in the Open at Philadelphia this year. He has never played the Spring Mill course, where the Open will be played, but he hopes to familiarize himself with it prior to June 8th, when the Nation's professionals will assemble in an attempt to prevent him from keeping the title.

Guldahl's plans call for him to join his associates in the winter circuit at San Antonio, for the Texas Open Championship, February 10th when he will go to New Orleans, then to Florida and then head north for Pinehurst, Augusta, Greensboro and way stations.



STANLEY HORNE
The Canadian P.G.A. champion whose appointment to the professional post at Montreal's Islesmere Club has just been announced.

Benevolent fund

Gene Sarazen has suggested the establishment of a Benevolent Fund for the P. G. A. Tournament Players. He would have the Association take a small percentage of all gate receipts and entrance fees. The fund would not be touched for a period of five years, with the accumulation then to be used for needy professionals.

Baseball has a fund of this character, supported largely from an annual all-star game. Sarazen has submitted his proposal to George Jacobus, the P. G. A. President, and it will be submitted to the Executive Committee for consideration.

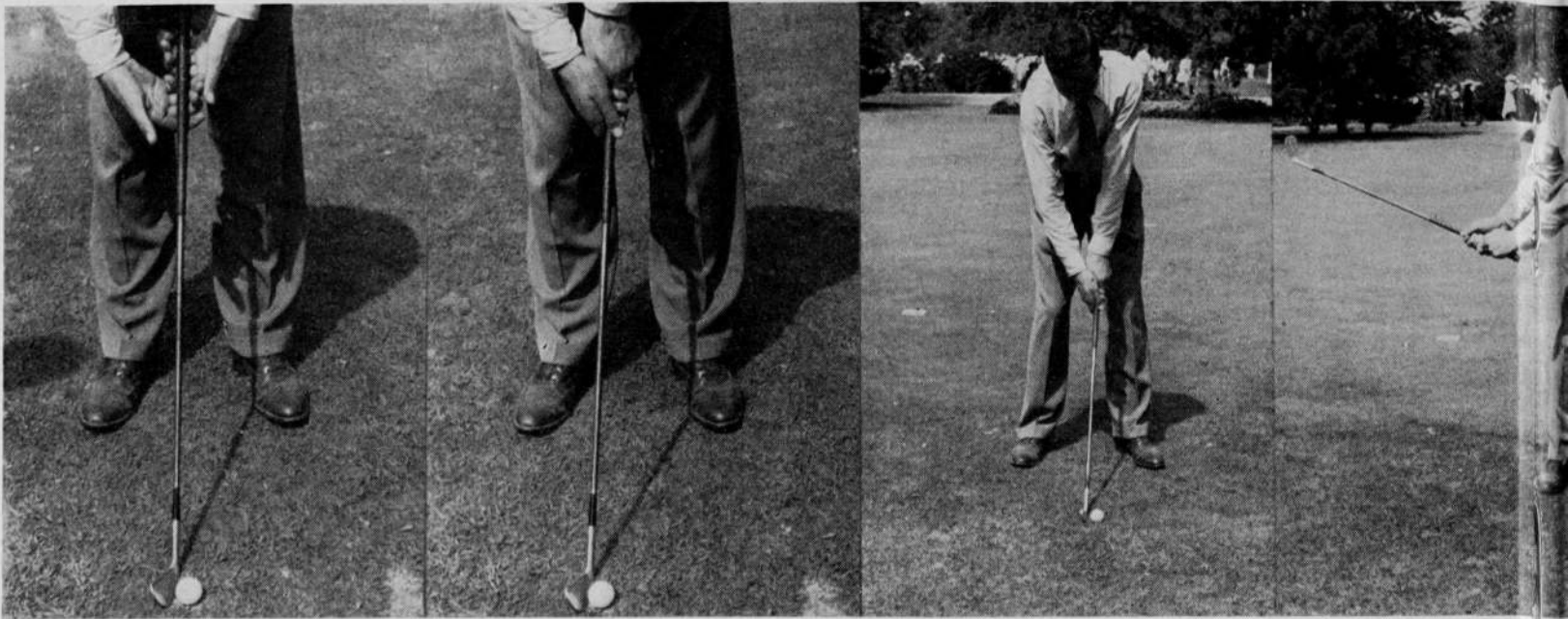
Sarazen's \$21,000

There has been some dispute as to Snead's claims to bring the greatest purse winner in a single year. It has been claimed on behalf of Gene Sarazen that his winnings in 1930 exceeded \$21,000—the year he won the \$10,000 first prize money at Caliente, but Sarazen points out that Snead's record is restricted to a calendar year, while his one big year was compiled from Spring to Spring.

Many of the professionals expect great things from Clayton Heafner of Greensboro, N.C., a new tournament prospect who is making his first Coast Tour.

Thomson Longer

Jimmy Thomson, generally regarded as one of the longest drivers in the world, never practices on his tee shots. In this respect he does not resemble Horton Smith, the putter superb, who rarely practices iron or wood shots, but devotes considerable time to practicing putting. It may seem amazing but



Club in fingers.

Feet fairly close.

Left arm straight.

Left arm straight.

In another part of this issue the reader will come across a few statistics which should prove of considerable interest by way of showing that our Canadian professionals are undoubtedly in a class with the best in the game. These figures have been compiled from the records of the Ontario professionals during the 1938 season. Naturally one expects low scoring from this "hot" group who hold positions at the various Toronto and District clubs, but when it is considered what stern tests the Toronto Courses are, it is indeed amazing to note that the leader, Robert Gray Jr., of Scarboro should have needed only 71.1 strokes for his 24 major tournament rounds during last season.

Bob Gray Jr. in this feat marks himself beyond a shadow of a doubt as one of this country's foremost contenders for the top place amongst our professionals.

In the above series of photos taken and posed especially for CANADIAN GOLFER, one sees the former Windsor, Ontario, star who learned his golf at the Essex Country Club in that city, demonstrate his interpretation of the swing for long-iron play. Gray is famous as a long hitter with all his clubs, but it is doubtful if his natural power stands out so markedly with any club as with his long irons.

It should be of general interest to follow the fundamentals which constitute Gray's procedure in these tremendous "whacks". In the first picture Bob, a six footer, shows a slightly open stance and it is interesting to note the fairly close position of his feet. Most long hitters of more than average height, strangely enough, do not use too wide a stance. Gray is no exception to this rule.

Note that in taking his grip Gray lets the club rest across the middle of his fingers and that he overlaps the little finger of his right hand over the index finger of his left hand in the conventional manner. A feature which the medium player may well notice in the first two photographs is the firm but relaxed appearance of the legs. Too many golfers if photographed in the same way would give the impression of rigidity and immobility. Gray's grip finds the two v's formed by the index finger and the thumb of each hand on top of the shaft running slightly towards the right shoulder.

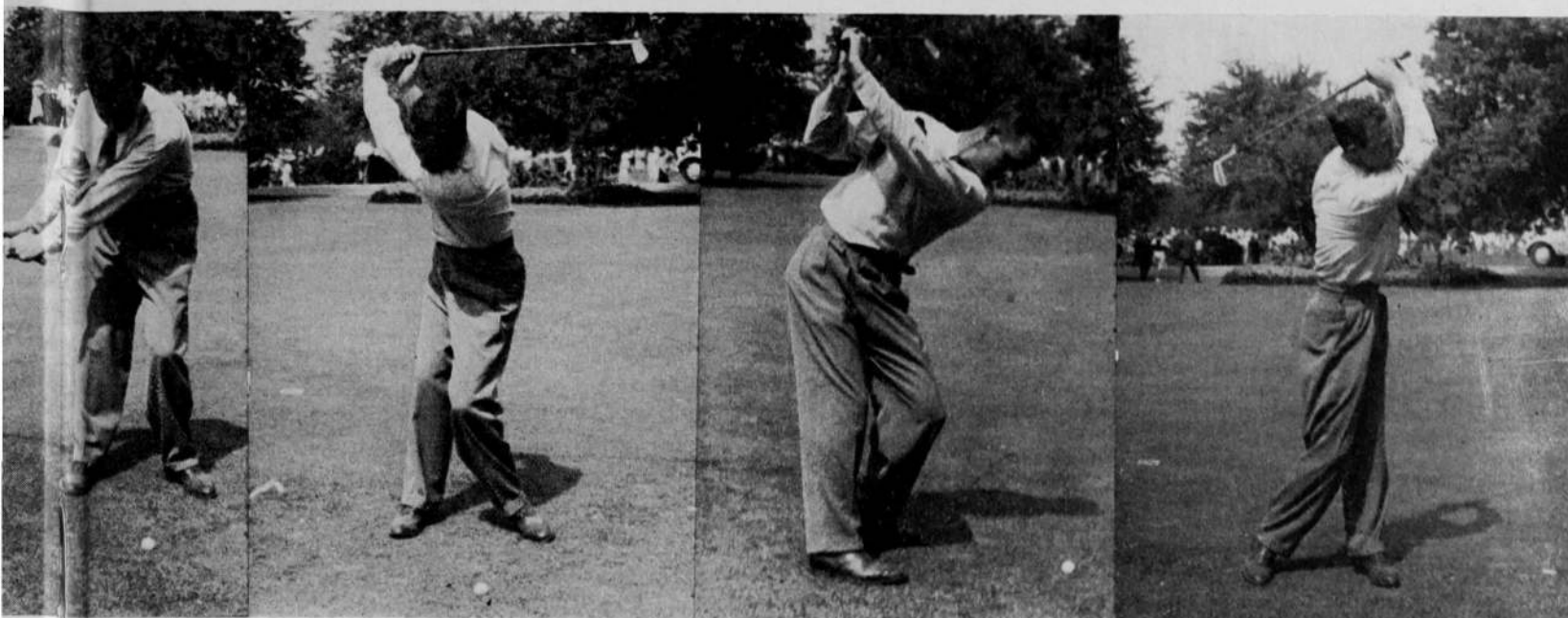
It is not difficult to understand why a player who strikes

HIPS AND SHOULDER

A Careful Study of the Po Swing of Bob Gray

such a position as does Gray at address (in the third picture) should be a threat to any other golfer in the game. As a matter of fact in the 1937 International professional matches between Canada and the United States Bob scored sensationally by downing American Open champion, Ralph Guldahl in individual match play! Notice how Gray's left arm has straightened at address, one has the feeling from looking at him that he is keeping behind the ball, but that despite the ram-rod straightness of his left arm *all rigidity stops at the wrist*. One senses that the club will move independently of the shoulders and arms through the medium of the wrists which seem *tensioned for control yet relaxed enough to allow the club to whip*.

In the fourth photo the initial movement of the backswing starts in an orthodox manner with the inclination of the left side to the ball and the beginning of the turning of the hips. The club is brought up fairly solidly with the hands and the left arm remains straight. The shoulders begin their turn with the head remaining stationary. At the top of the swing the club is parallel to the ground. Note in the 5th picture the left arm is still straight but the club is brought into this parallel position through the *complete flexing of the wrist*. It is a fact that most first ranking players pivot only enough to allow themselves to turn their hips so as to get the shoulders at *right angles to the line of flight*. Notice that Gray does this and thus takes full advantage of his large powerful build. The 6th photograph shows the same position from behind. Here again the left arm in a straightened position is most noticeable. One gets a better idea of the extent of the turning of the hips in this shot; likewise the fairly braced and straightened condition of the right leg.



Left knee in.

Note hips, shoulders.

Wrists flexed.

Shoulders fully turned.

HEADERS HOLD THE KEY

the Powerful and Accurate
Bob Gray Jr. Scarborough

Moreover, the centre of balance, which is the hips, has not been swayed or moved, *except by turning*. It is a fact that in this matter of hip action *many great golfers do sway their hips* as they shift their weight from right to left foot, but Gray, as shown here, does not. He is an excellent example of the "hip-turning school" in as much as he proves that exceptional length can be obtained without the much-discussed "lateral sway". This is one of the major distinctions amongst golfers of top flight, and would be very obvious if the reader would follow diminutive Paul Runyan U.S. professional champion for example, through several holes and then pick up a player of the Bob Gray type. It is said that Runyan requires his unique wide hip sway to get extra distance. However, a golfer hardly as powerful as Paul Runyan, diminutive Jose Jurado of South America, a few years ago astounded golfers of this continent with his great distance *and yet he held closely to the non-swaying hip-turning method*. This matter of the turning of the hips in opposition to swaying is one which has puzzled many, for in some cases the sway results in extra distance when it is incorporated in the swing so that it never varies. However in other cases, such as Bob Gray's only the turning seems to be required.

One generalization which may be made no matter what sort of hip action a player may have is that his distance will depend largely upon keeping his hips back of the ball on the return pivot. By that it is meant that he should not throw his hips out at the completion of the turn. The hips should never be rigid through the "hitting area" although it is well to anchor one's self with a braced left leg early in the downswing. To

Throughout all these pictures it is most interesting to note that every one show the head "anchored" in much the same position.

do this, (in practice) be conscious of getting the left heel down onto the ground early in the downward motion. With that accomplished and the left leg straight, deliver the blow as a left handed back handed slap. The left arm should be kept straight throughout this procedure. Meanwhile, the hips have been turning so as to come against the ball, or so it feels, to support the club-face at impact!

Notice in Bob Gray's finish that here again the hips have been turned to directly face the hole, the hands are high and the weight is well out on the left foot. However, the body is *predominantly straight* and the hips have not been thrown out beyond a spot over the left heel. One of the most insidious habits in golf, slicing, inevitably results if the hips are allowed to turn or sway too soon in the downswing.

In looking back over this photo series it might be well to note the splendid position of the hands in 5 and 6. One of the standard checks on correct wrist action at the top of the backswing is exemplified here for the club is directly over the hands. That is, *the hands are under the shaft*. Possibly in generalizing upon that mysterious matter of extra distance which Bob Gray is able to get we may point to the freedom of his shoulders and hips and the completeness of their action in turning. This may best be observed by comparing these items in photographs 5 and 7.

All in all there are very few people who cannot guide a golf ball reasonably straight and who cannot swing a golf club fast enough to get the necessary distance to reach most greens in par figures, as long as the *hips and the shoulders function correctly* in allowing one to get into the correct hitting position. I believe it is from these two departments that we may learn most while observing Bob Gray jr. of Scarborough Toronto, in action.

A quiet easy backswing is the only way to attain this proper hitting position. It can be learned this winter indoors at a golf school or even the parlor and once it has been acquired an extra thirty yards is guaranteed.

GOLF'S UNCROWNED CHAMPIONS

Proving that Getting into the Records is the Escape from Oblivion

By Bertie Paxton

The above question was raised a few days ago in one of our club rooms. The discussion which followed by no means settled the question as most of the names suggested were those of present century players. It is quite true that there are several fine players still living who have just missed the coveted honor by a single stroke or by some piece of very hard luck; but cases of that kind are scarcely what we meant. The person who raised the question wished to know who was the greatest player of his time but who, for some reason or other, never was able to put the finishing touch on his career by winning the Championship.

Amongst the professionals, there is no outstanding case in recent years except, perhaps, McDonald Smith. You have got to go back fifty or sixty years to get the best instances. Davie Strath was the name of one such player and Willie Campbell was the other. Neither of these two ever won the Championship and neither of them ever looked like winning it. Of course, many other players have got as far as that but when the record of these two is searched, and their standing amongst the other golfers of their day is considered, either or both of them might justly be termed the greatest golfer that never won the Championship.

Take the case of Davie Strath, for instance. In his early days at St. Andrews he and young Tom Morris were the closest of friends. They played an endless number of rounds of golf together and Morris always admitted that Strath was his match. This was surely great praise from the man who won the Championship four times in succession—who won it, in fact, every time he played! These matches between the two friends were played during the years that Morris was carrying all before in the Championships. Moreover, Strath during these same years played Old Willie Park three challenge matches for considerable sums of money, and won two of them. Willie Park at that time was looked upon as the best player on the South side of the Forth and had several Championships to his credit. In fact he had no real rival till Young Tom Morris came on the scene.



MACDONALD SMITH

One of the greatest players of our day has been the quiet Scott MacDonald Smith but proficient as he is his name is conspicuously absent from the national title records.

A player like Strath who could hold his own with two such men must have been a great golfer but you will look in vain for his name amongst the winners of the more important competitions far less the Open Championship.

Old Willie Park, it might be mentioned, is the man who, for a bet, drove a ball over the gasometer at the end of Musselburgh links. The ball was tee'ed on the face of a watch. How many of our showy young professionals could duplicate that feat and how many of our club captains would lend their watches to be used as a tee in the event of such an attempt being made!

After the death of Tom Morris and towards the end of Davie Strath's career, Willie Campbell came on the scene. During his early days at North Berwick he had no equal as a match player. He started a strong favorite for the Championship on several occasions, for in the Middle Eighties it was several times won by players little known at the time and long since forgotten, but the result was invariably the same. Some piece of bad luck or some interruption from the spectators, and an explosion of temper followed. A wild miss-hit was the next thing and then came one or two vicious attempts to get his ball out of some difficulty. By the time all that was done his card was irretrievably spoiled and all hope of winning was again gone.

Ben Sayers, whose name is still remembered in Scotland although Campbell is almost forgotten, was the only one who could occasionally beat Campbell in a challenge match and he could only do

that on North Berwick where the holes were short and long driving did not count for so much as on St. Andrews or similar courses. Sayers was a poor driver and Campbell had few equals at that part of the game. Moreover Sayer had an irritating way of turning his back and sniggering quietly when a bad lying ball or a visit to a bunker seemed about to rouse his opponent's temper. Campbell knew of the habit and Sayer did not even require to snigger. He had merely to turn his back.

There was one memorable occasion when one of the spectators beat Sayers at his own game. At the fifteenth hole at North Berwick where there is a low wall across in front of the teeing ground, Campbell was still down and, from his somewhat indifferent play, seemed likely to lose the match. There was a general rush to get through the little gate as soon as the players had driven off; and Campbell hung back and allowed the crowd to get ahead. Then one of his backers handed him a large flask of whisky which he drained without stopping, and from that point he went on to give an exhibition of brilliant, reckless golf. Many of the crowd must have been surprised at the sudden change and, no doubt, they wondered what had got into him. But only a few of us small boys knew. Campbell won on the last green, and his victory was uproariously acclaimed by those who had been expecting to lose their money.

Golf of that kind was thrilling to watch; when everybody's temper seemed about to flare—players and spectators alike; when free fights in the gallery were a common occurrence and fifty pounds sometimes depended on the last putt. Musselburgh was a great place for that sort of thing. So was St. Andrews. But it is never seen now. Exhibition games—tame and tiresome at the best—have taken the place of challenge matches: and afternoon tea and cigarettes are far more popular with the onlookers than the old-time free fights. Perhaps it is just as well, though the old game, supposedly the pastime of old men in its early stages on the American continent, certainly never lacked red-blooded virility in those "good old days"!

Improve with Figures

Here's how to Cut your
Score with no Practice

A short time ago while looking for a suitable Christmas present for a golf-minded friend in a large departmental store I came across a well-bound booklet designed for ardent golfers who like to keep a record of their scores for the entire year. Having kept record they can look back and see their averages and ascertain just what "being on their game" means in terms of actual figures. For most players this in itself would be a blessing, for if any game in the world breeds misconception of one's own rightful scoring range it is the old Scotch pastime.

Someone has aptly expressed this in the following sentence.

"A golfer is 'on his game' when he is playing better than he knows how." So if keeping an average book serves no other purpose than to clarify this matter of actual ability for a number who are constantly grouching at scores which are, in reality, just their ordinary games, it would be better for the game if all players kept them.

But the average book plus a little alteration (suggested by a golfer of my acquaintance) can be of definite value in the business of improving one's average! If you keep a record of every round played over your home course during the year you may profit well from some of the figures you derive. This may sound a trifle impossible, however, here is how it may be done.

The usual average book provides only vertical columns and your rounds of 18 holes are entered one after another with date and remarks concerning them. But this is not enough to do what we have in mind, for while by adding the total number of strokes you have taken for the season and dividing this figure by the number of rounds played you will find your seasonal 18-hole average, this information in itself, only settles how good or bad you really are and provides no indication of what has been responsible for your failure to do better,

For most people a real study of their own course is a revealing thing and can easily produce a new attitude in their attack on each hole. The keeping of an average book enables one to study his own course scientifically and in doing this be in a position to know what holes and which shots have been one's undoing!

The manner in which one goes about finding out these revealing and helpful facts with the help of his record book is simply this. In addition to adding the figures for each round vertically. Add the totals for each hole horizontally. Divide this total by the number of times you have played the hole and carry the fraction out two decimal places. You then know your average for each hole on the course during an entire season! These figures are not vital until you now subtract each of the 18 individual averages from the par of the hole each represents. For instance if you have averaged 6.27 on the fourth hole which is a par five, then you conclude that you have been 1.27 over par for that hole for the year. Having done this with 18 holes you will be able to see which hole you have played worst and which best.

Since it is with improvement that we are concerned, *analyse the holes you have played in the highest average over par.* Ask yourself if it was a series of missed fairway shots which caused your undoing here or a recurring badly judged pitch etc. When you see that on certain holes you have been going as high as

(Continued on page 24)

Winter Golfing "AT HOME"

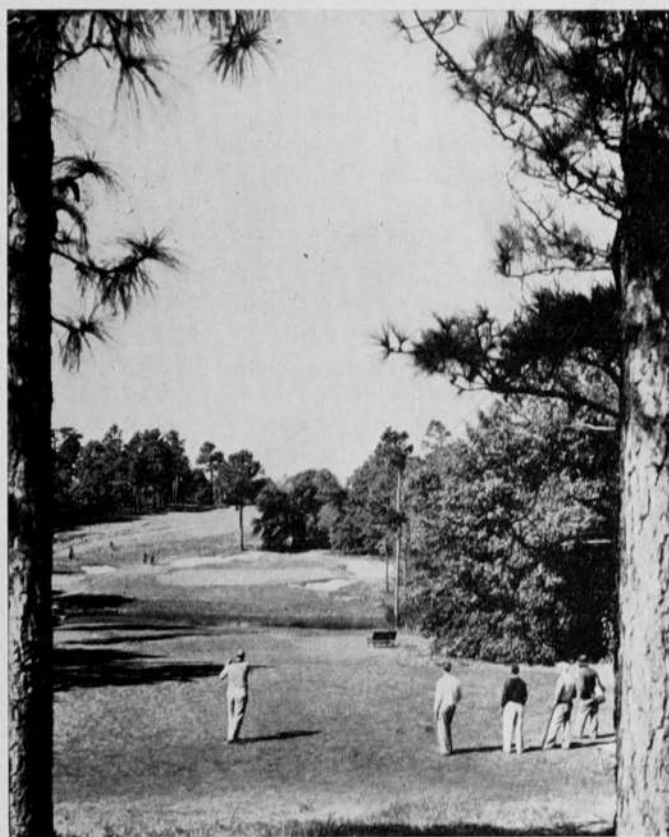


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SHERLOCK VAILE

Detects

SO my dear Watson, you Watson, you are going "to take up golf." It might be worse but so long as you do not allow it "to take up" you, it need not be disastrous.

My father was for many years a member of Beldam Vale Golf Club and I could not very well avoid hearing much of the strange talk of the inmates—I mean members.

We had, as you know, outstanding surgeons, engineers and physicists and I always wondered what magic there was in the gates of a golf club that could invariably make these men park their intelligence with their cars and attempt to perform the most impossible contortions of which the human anatomy is incapable. However, so it was, Watson, and as I still require your able and always willing collaboration in my criminal researches, I have set down a few notes to save you much time and tribulation in fruitlessly endeavoring to make your muscular system do things that were never contemplated by its designer.

In one installment, my dear Watson, I cannot tell you all you should know of the idiosyncrasies, hallucinations and fetishes indulged in by would-be golfers and if I should seem to omit any step in the operation of driving the ball, which practically includes all other strokes except those covered by the putt, I would have you remember I am assuming that a man of your scientific training will, without undue delay, employ a good professional to instruct you in the technique of the most unnatural stroke in the whole realm of sport, the golf drive. I would have you know, Watson, that there is no such thing as a "natural golfer," although one often hears the term used. The only "natural" golfers, my dear Watson, are the dubs—and that is why they are dubs; so see to it that you fall not by the wayside, as have too many, by not knowing how to temper nature with art.

I must speak to you about the stance. It is unnecessary for me to stress the fact that everything you do in golf, from the six-inch putt to the 350-yard drive, comes from the soles of your feet.

You must therefore see to it that your weight is distributed evenly between the feet and also evenly all over the sole of each foot and you must take no notice of the

futile nonsense trying to persuade you, even in the drive, to have most of your weight on your heels. I am sure, my dear Watson, that this utterly non-sensical idea will never get very far with you. Obviously, from putt to drive you must play with a body bent forward and naturally the weight must tend to go forward onto the ball of the foot, whence comes the life of the foot in golf. You may take it from me, Watson, that the heel is merely a resting point for the anklejoint, which is extended and used in various other ways.

Do not let them persuade you to stand with your feet close together. They should be about as wide apart as your shoulders. Some of those who try zealously to play golf remind me of the Eiffel Tower turned upside down. That would not, Watson, be considered good engineering.

You know what it means, Watson, to have instruments that "fit" in your surgical work and suit you. Thus it is in golf; so get a good professional to assist you in acquiring a set of clubs suited to your height, strength and weight. Many players waste much time and acquire many bad habits because they try, at the beginning, to save money by not taking necessary and proper lessons.

Golf seems like a very simple game to the uninitiated, my dear Watson. It really is not and one should not tempt fate by acquiring bad habits which are hard to eradicate, especially when acquired in middle age.

You will have to decide on your grips for both putting and driving. The two overlapping grips are well known and commonly used, so I shall not waste time on them here.

You will hear nonsense about holding your putter lightly, so as to get touch, and worse nonsense about holding tightly with certain fingers and thumbs and otherwise with others. Forget all that nonsense. Hold it firmly with both hands even to the tips of your right fore-finger and thumb where most of your touch is centered in the sensitive nerves under the nails thereof.

You will also hear much talk of the hand-lag, commonly called "wrist-drag," at the very beginning of the stroke. This is supposed to ensue by reason of the inertia of the head of a thirteen-ounce club in the hands of a six-foot, 200-pound man



with hands like hams. You may quite conveniently forget this, for it is just another one of those things.

It is important that you visualize yourself early and merely as a human golf-ball driving machine. By so doing you can get your swing center, that part of your spine between your shoulder blades, definitely located in your mind, stoutly refuse to move it during the stroke, at least until after impact. The center of the swing is of great importance, my dear Watson. It will prevent your being bamboozled into tossing your weight from one leg to another in trying to imitate a golf-ball driving machine with a fixed swing center!

It will be unnecessary, my dear Watson, to point out to one of your anatomical knowledge that golf is a two-handed game wherein the right is dominant as in every other two-handed ball-striking game. When one knows this and accepts it, one has no further need to think about a perfectly natural case of collaboration.

Now let us consider how the club is started back to the ball. At the top of the swing, your back will, or should be, nearly at a right angle to the intended line of flight and your hips slightly less so.

You will now start your downward swing by about a 90 degree rotation of your hips toward the flight line combined with the beginning of the extension of the bent right leg. These movements return the left side. Unless it is correctly executed, the body is very apt to turn around before the hands are given a chance to swing the club, with the fatal result that the club comes *in* from the *outside* by virtue of its having traveled *out* across the line of play.

Both Hands in Operation

As the down-swing is started the left arm is still in control minus any pull or drag to it. In fact, both arms and hands are swinging almost as if the golfer was

(Continued on page 17)

AN INSTRUCTIONAL FANTASY BY P. A. VAILE—ABOUNDING IN MEATY TIPS FOR ALL GOLFERS

Says Sandy

● "I don't care much to play with Shanker he is always cracking up his own putts."

"Oh! I don't know! He is a good deal easier to play against than Softleigh, who is always running them down."

● An English golfer holidaying at a Scottish resort noticed an elderly native walking on the course each day. One day the visitor said to the starter: "Who is that old fellow with a beard who's always strolling about alone?"

"Oh, aye," said the starter, "that'll be Auld Wullie. He lost a new ball at the fourth in 1918."

● It's easy enough to be pleasant When your ball flies straight as a bird, But the man worth while is the man who can smile

When he hooks out of bounds with his third.

● The business man's slogan is "Get on or get out." But when bunkered short of the green he had better alter it to "Get out—and never mind about getting on!"

CALGARIAN

Continued from page 9

Johnny's eyes brightened! "You know", he began, "I took one lesson from a smart pro in Los Angeles on putting. That was always my weak spot. I have a different style now. I try to keep the angle of my right wrist in relation to the end of the putter shaft the same throughout the stroke."

"I'm going out for golf and the coach has told me that I will probably make the team quite easily. Anyway this Southern California golf should do some good."

Johnny at that moment saw his coach and we were introduced. Before a word could be said the New York train was rushing in and the travelling Trojans from California and points west in Canada were climbing aboard . . . playing New York's "Saint Nics" the next night! As he ran for the train, bag in hand, Johnny shouted back, "Hope to see you back here in Montreal for the Canadian Amateur championship next summer! I'll be practicing for that. S'long!"

Next morning the papers carried a story about the California hockey Trojans who had played McGill the evening before. McGill, long recognized as the best collegiate hockey team on the continent, had beaten the visitors in an interesting and hard game, 5-2. But the first goal of

Sherlock Vaile Detects

(Continued from page 16)

throwing the clubhead through the ball. That is the feeling I have at this crucial stage of the down-swing.

As the left arm is doing the swinging downwards, the right arm drops down close to the body with the right elbow almost touching the right hand pocket of your trousers. It straightens out gradually and meets the ball perfectly straight, so the maximum of under-hand driving power comes from that hand. Underhand driving power is all important in the matter of distance.

With the ball on its way the body is still facing forward while both arms should be straight and almost touching the body. This is a very important position in the golf swing and I cannot place too much stress on its importance at this time. It clearly shows the arms are still swinging from the shoulders and they must not be accompanied by the body until the moment of the momentum of the stroke has pulled the right foot off the ground and caused the turning of the hips and shoulders so they are facing the line of play. The bracing of the left side against the impact of the blow has allowed the club to pass by, thus affording the greatest possible speed at the moment of impact. But if the right side starts turning before its time—before the blow—the speed of the clubhead is considerably reduced, because the body cannot turn fast enough to produce speed such as can be obtained when the arms swing the club independently of the body.

I hope I have made myself clear. I have done my best to tell you how I swing.

the game was put in, we noted, by a young fellow by the name of Richardson who can sing "Home on the Plains" with impunity and some day may walk off with our Canadian Amateur golf championship.



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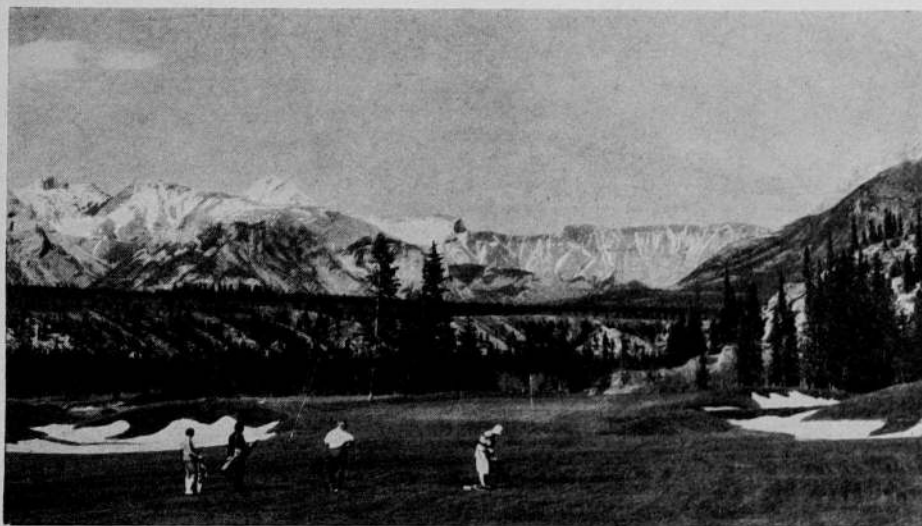
GOLF HOLES OF DISTINCTION

The fifth hole at the Gavea Country Club, Rio de Janeiro. A mountain stream skirts the fairway at right and crosses in front of an elevated well trapped green which is surrounded by a wealth of topical growth. The rolling Atlantic is the background.

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MEDITATIONS

of a Professional

AT the close of a year many businessmen take inventory. It is an idea the pro can apply to himself. In the pro business there are not the big stores, the expensive locations, the large and varied stocks of merchandise and the big payrolls of many other businesses. In the pro business the biggest and most important asset is the pro himself, so it is up to the pro to inventory himself to see how his business stands. He might as well do it now while the lessons of the 1938 season are fresh with him.

We hear fellows complain about the pro business. If they look into the matter intelligently they can determine whether the trouble is with the business so they'd better get out and locate in a new business, or if the trouble is with them and can be corrected by thinking and working.

Those of us who listen to our members tell of their business affairs know that there are troubles in every business. No businessman can avoid trouble in trying to make a profit. Maybe we weaken our position by dwelling too much on the general troubles in our business instead of trying to improve ourselves individually; so we can handle the tough problems of our jobs.

What are we doing for ourselves individually is the most important question in pro golf today. Are we studying our own business enough? The greenkeepers with their short courses at state colleges and their educational meetings give us a good idea of what we have to do to score par in the educational line.

I've been in golf since the age of 12 when I started as a caddie. As caddie-master, assistant pro, pro-greenkeeper and professional—and as a club member—I have looked at the pro's job and have decided that it affords a good career for a young man, but it's a dead-end for the fellow who thinks that it's an easy living and a place where one can get by with the minimum of unpleasant effort, study and self-denial. No one is going to help the pro who isn't doing all he can to help himself.

My first ambition in golf came when I was a high-school student in Lincoln,

Ill. Bill Schwartz was pro there and I wanted to hit a drive like Bill did. I later learned that hitting the ball wasn't all there is to golf. George Ebbert took me into the shop and I began to learn that the member, not the pro, is the most important person at a golf club. George told me to always remember that. As caddie-master and later as assistant pro and pro-greenkeeper I was constantly reminded that there's no place like a golf club to tactfully act like "the customer is always right" whether the statement is true or not.

Every pro has members who are difficult to deal with and who make unreasonable demands, usually through lack of knowledge rather than through meanness alone. Learning that early does a lot to help a young man make a success of a pro job. The knack of anticipating possible shortcomings and complaints in pro department service has to be developed. Older pros have told me of many cases where pro jobs were lost because pros got bull-headed about some matter that could have been handled to everyone's satisfaction by a pro who had the right attitude toward his job.

Realizing that a pro job is a responsibility and not an opportunity to show-off, I think is another important point the pro must check up on when he makes an inventory of himself.

People talk about Walter Hagen being a great showman, but when I recall how he acted when I had the profitable pleasure of playing an exhibition match with him, I will put Hagen's feeling of responsibility toward golf away ahead of his showmanship. He knew I had stage fright and he put me at my ease. He taught me how to do a better job of teaching by making the students feel comfortable. The courtesy and friendliness the Haig showed me never has been forgotten and the other great players who have something of Walter's fine manner toward the younger pro are doing more than they realize to help golf.

Pro's First Duty Is to Aid Golf

The pro's job is to help golf. If he doesn't do that first he is in a poor posi-

tion to help himself. I believe that one of the best jobs pros are doing to set themselves in right is the work of junior instruction. From my own experience I will say that no pro needs to fear giving "free" instruction to junior classes because he feels that proper value won't be placed on such instruction by pupils and their parents or because he thinks he should be paid for what is really valuable time and hard work. If the pro doesn't get big cash returns eventually out of his junior classes, whether free or at nominal charge, then the pro needs to study his manner and method of handling these classes and revise his work.

What I aim to do with the juniors is to get them started off right. I teach them the proper grip, stance and to keep their heads in place. Most of the rest must come to them by imitation or intuition. You can't go into detail with the youngsters. They won't know what you're talking about. Show them, and they'll get it right away.

One of my 13-year-old class pupils, Betty Jane Cline, has scored a 39 on the par 34 Highland Park course and plays Bloomington CC (par 35) consistently in the low forties. She has gone on to Sandy Armour, a great fellow and a fine teacher, and all of us expect a lot from her if she continues her present interest in golf. One of our 10-year-old boys, Peter Elliott, has played on our course in competition, and always is in the low forties. Our other youngsters for the most part have developed so that their parents have taken a great interest in individual lessons for themselves. The kid classes were the greatest adult individual lesson advertising and sales idea I ever had.

The widespread success of progressive pros in the juvenile class lesson work has shown us all what is to be gained by looking ahead. We have a great business future in golf if we study, and educate ourselves into a command of the situation, and don't waste our time passing the buck for unavoidable troubles in the golf business to someone else.

RULES-- *Queries and Answers*

The rules of Golf are eternally fraught with odd circumstances which bring into play the golfer's complete knowledge of them. It is this fact which helps to make the rules of the game almost as much of a study as learning the game itself. In a way this is a blessing for not all can be champions on the score card, but everyone may know the rules as well as the champion.

Among the recent interesting cases which came before the Royal Canadian Golf Association was the question placed before their Rules Committee by Mr. Morton G. Bogue, Chairman of the Rules of Golf Committee of the United States Golf Association. This question was to come before this Committee at a later date and the U.S.G.A. deemed it well to have the opinion of the R.C.G.A. as weight to lend to the discussion. It is interesting to note that the R.C.G.A. did not agree with the ANSWER submitted by Mrs. Ralph C. Noble which accompanies the question. Of course the R.C.G.A.'s decision would hold in Canada at any case so may be taken as authentic ruling.

The following is from the correspondence, "enclosed herewith is an inquiry which was submitted to our Rules of Golf Committee, with respect to which the members of the Rules of Golf Committee are not in accord. We would appreciate the views of your Committee upon the matter, as the question will be submitted to the Executive Committee of the United States Golf Association and your views will be helpful."

QUESTION:—A. and B. were playing each other in a match play tournament. A. shoots on the green first. B. follows and her ball goes over the green and disappears. Fearing that her ball might be lost in the deep hazard beyond the green, B. shoots a provisional ball. This provisional ball dislodges her opponent's ball on the high side of the green and it rolls down very close to the cup. On arriving at the green, they find B's first ball on the edge of the hazard. A. claims the right to putt her ball from its position close to the pin. B. claims that her second ball was only a provisional ball and until the first ball had been declared lost or unplayable it should have no bearing in the match and that A. should replace her ball on the green where it originally came to rest. What is your ruling?

Submitted by Mrs. Ralph C. Noble, 4701 West 17th St., Los Angeles, Cal.

ANSWER:—B. is correct. Inasmuch as B's original ball was found and was played, B's provisional ball then became an agency outside the match, and A's ball should have been replaced. Under Rule 17 (3), if the lie of a ball at rest on a putting green be altered by any agency outside the match, the ball shall be replaced without penalty. However, if B. had given up the original ball and continued play with the provisional ball, A. would have had the option of replacing her ball or of playing it from the position to which it was moved by B's provisional ball, under Rule 32 (2), dealing with play on the putting green: "If the player's ball move the opponent's ball, the opponent, if he choose, may replace it, but this

(Continued on page 21)



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United States Golf Association

CALENDAR OF 1939 COMPETITIONS

Open Championship: Philadelphia Country Club (Spring Mill Course), West Conshohocken, Pa.

Closing of entry list—May 15.
Sectional qualifying rounds—May 29.
Championship—June 8, 9, 10.

Amateur Public Links Championship: Mt. Pleasant Park Course (Clifton Park Course also for qualifying rounds), Baltimore, Md.

Closing of entry lists for sectional qualifying rounds—Details to be announced through local representatives. Sectional qualifying rounds—the period June 30-July 10, inclusive; exact dates to be fixed by local representatives.

Closing of entry list of qualifiers at U.S.G.A. office—July 13.
Championship—July 24-29.

Women's Amateur Championship: Wee Burn Club, Noroton, Conn.

Closing of entry list—August 9 (August 2 for players whose handicaps have not been computed and cleared by certain sectional associations and who submit attested score cards to the United States Golf Association).
Championship—August 21-26.

Amateur Championship: North Shore Country Club, Glenview, Ill.

Closing of entry list—August 14.
Sectional qualifying rounds—August 29.
Championship—September 11-16.

New Knowlton Pro



LENNIE HAVMON
formerly assistant professional of Royal Montreal Golf Club, who has been appointed professional at Knowlton, G.C. for the coming season.

A well known figure at the Royal Montreal Golf Club where he was popular with the members, Lennie Harman, has been appointed professional at the Knowlton Golf Club for the season 1939.

His association with the Montreal Golf Club goes back to 1924. Following his initiation as caddy, his aptitude for the game resulted in his becoming special caddy for Charlie Murray, following which he was transferred to the professionals' shop and later made assistant to the professional.

In 1936 Lennie Harman was the runner up for the assistant professionals' championship of Quebec and the following year he was winner of the assistant professionals' championship of Canada. During the same year he was fifth in the Quebec open championship.

In 1938 he was professional at St. Margaret's and distinguished himself on this par 68 course by making a record of 62.

His wife—"Rosie" to the Dixie players—who was in charge of caddies at Royal Montreal Golf Club for a good many years has been engaged by Knowlton Golf Club as starter and caddie master for the season 1939.

"Professional Appointment Anxious to secure professional or assistant professional post at some club in Ontario, Quebec or Eastern Canada. Have had about four years experience as an assistant, have four uncles professionals and have lived on the golf course all my life. Open for immediate appointment, please write P.O. Box N.B. 1339, CANADIAN GOLFER."

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GOLF GOLD

Dug Up By Charles Herndon

"Undue effort is the hardest thing you have to control."

"Trying to think about half a dozen things at one time will ruin anybody's golf swing. One at a time is about all anybody can stand."

"The way to learn golf is to get a correct understanding from your instructor of what you must train yourself to do, then practice it consciously until you make it sub-conscious, and so much of a habit that you can forget it, and know that it will function in the swing correctly and automatically."

"The swing, like any other structure, collapses when overloaded."

"Think of applying your greatest effort after hitting the ball and it will astonish you how many things it will smooth out in your stroke, as well as the amount of distance you can obtain."

"In every iron shot the purpose in the player's mind must be to hit down if he is going to get the ball up. The club will take care of the rise."

"The player should have a clear mental picture of each shot."

"A smooth, even, steady, unhurried back swing is the basis of better golf."

Pressing is extra effort, which lessens or destroys control. It is only the energy which is transmitted to the ball that counts.

With an easy, graceful, rhythmic pivot golf becomes a real pleasure.

Tenseness is the golf swing's worst enemy; relaxation is its best friend.

RULES—QUERIES AND ANSWERS

(Continued from page 19)

must be done before another stroke is played by either side."

The correspondence was submitted to Mr. R. C. H. Cassels, Chairman, Rules of Golf Committee of the Royal Canadian Golf Association, who replies:—

"We duly received your letter of yesterday with the enclosed letter from Mr. Morton G. Bogue, Chairman, Rules of Golf Committee of the United States Golf Association, and attached correspondence. We have no hesitation in expressing the opinion that A. was entitled to play her ball from the spot to which it had been moved by B's provisional ball. It is our opinion that in the circumstances covered by the Provisional Ball Rule a player is permitted to have two balls in play until such time as he reaches the place where the original ball is likely to be and elects, subject to the Rules, which ball should continue in play. It is, therefore, our opinion that both B's original ball and provisional ball were in play at the time when the provisional ball moved A's ball. Rule 22 (2) says that the player may at once play another ball provisionally and that the player may continue to play with the provisional ball, etc. Surely the provisional ball was in play when it moved A's ball and, if so, A. was entitled to take advantage of the fact that her ball was moved nearer the hole. We cannot see how it can be said that in the circumstances B's provisional ball was an agency outside the match."

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TALKING ABOUT GOLF

(Continued from page 5)

joy and met the grand philosophy of the old Scotch game.

A long time ago Mussolini forbade Italians to play golf. Hitler probably allows the game to continue because the courses in his country attract revenue from visitors. He needs money—for what purpose we can surmise. Probably all those who know golf will agree that any country where the "head men" really played understood and appreciate the basic ideals of golf—that country would probably never be led into barbarous preparations to assert "impossible domination." Certainly no country which can spend \$44,000,000 on golf equipment in a year is very likely to place its whole population on war time food rations during peace time to build bombers!

DAVE SPITTAL PASSES

(Continued from page 2)

golf publications. Professional golf in Canada is all the poorer for the passing of this colourful and versatile Scot who will be sorely missed on the golf courses of Ontario, next season. He was visiting at the home of a fellow professional, Archie Crompton, Gerrard Street, Toronto, when he reached for a cigarette, was seized with a heart attack and passed away before medical aid could be secured.

Surviving are his brother Willie, also a well known Ontario golf professional, his mother and brother in Scotland and a sister in New Zealand. Many brother professionals, former pupils and golfing friends, attended the funeral services at the historic St. Johns Cemetery Norway and paid their last heartfelt respects to this outstanding exponent and teacher of "the games of games."

● The English visitor to St. Andrews was improving apace. "Well, ma maun," he said to his caddie, in what he fondly imagined with the genuine Doris, "and hoo dae ye think we'll get on the day?"

"Weel," quoth the caddie, "ye're learnin' Scots a good deal easier than ye're learnin' gowf."

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN IN THE GROOVE

(Continued from page 7)

score he will find that as he becomes more and more absorbed with playing the course and less his swing he will lose the new unnatural features and will revert to his old methods unconsciously.

This brings home the fact that we all have a natural manner of hitting a golf ball and without literally years of laborious practice we inevitably find ourselves doing it the old way once our minds become fastened upon directing our shots rather than on how we are making them.

In the accompanying pictures the gallery photo shows Canadian Open Championship Sam Snead playing perhaps his greatest "pressure" shot of the whole Canadian Open tourney. This was his chip for a "one putt green" at the 72nd hole. He had to do this to tie Harry Cooper and he almost sunk his twenty yarder which you see here. This was the result of extreme concentration which Snead demonstrated throughout the year. One might say that he was "in the groove" all season, but his swing was no different than usual. His superiority was in his ability to think solely and clearly of his play. One outstanding occasion during the year when he wandered from the mental "groove" was when little Paul Runyan gave him an unmerciful beating in the final of the American professional match play championship. Runyan's short accurate game merely got under Snead's mental "skin" and the same unbeatable "blasting Sam" made a number of bad mistakes. For the moment he had gotten out of the "mental groove" so essential to winning.

In the other picture, one of Syd Brews, outstanding South African professional who was a competitor in the Canadian Open this year, we have another study in what can be accomplished when a player is in the "mental groove." From a lie such as this one, deep in the reeds and water, a man's physical swing is only incidental to the amount of concentration he can put on the situation. Brew's hit a fine shot from here. Concentrating in golf is nothing more than *thinking of the right thing at the right time*. To do it however, one naturally must have all the answers to every situation at his command. *Getting "in the groove" is the ability to apply them.*

Expressed in another way one might say that the golfer makes the majority of his mistakes in his mind before his swing lets him down. Harkening back to the 1938 Canadian Open Championship the shot which Harry Cooper made on the 72nd hole, a hook out of bounds, which cost him the title—that shot was not the result of getting out of the "groove" physically for Harry had been hitting a number of his drives with a little hook bend all day. For a split second the greatest medalist of all times got out of his mental groove" as he unwittingly started his shot too far to the left. That one lapse cost him an Open championship!

So as a parting bit of common sense suggestion to the medium or worse golfer make sure you are in the mental groove and you will find that your faulty old swing will perform remarkably well for you. Moreover you will have lots more of those happy days when everything goes right! Chances are that all the practice which you have time for will not improve your game once you get out there battling those three palls of yours! Yes, when the "pressure goes on" the right "mental groove" rather than the newly-grooved swing will bring you the dimes at the 19th hole!

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Water and Cutting a Danger

Some of the playing conditions which golfers seem innocently to require are not conducive to the best health of the grass on their golf courses. This is indicated in several instances in the spring issue of *Turf Culture*, a publication dealing with greenkeeping issued by the United States Golf Association Green Section.

Many golfers like their putting greens well watered and on the soft side in order that shots may stop quickly. "From the standpoint of the health of grass, most greens are overwatered," according to an article in *Turf Culture* entitled "The Effect of Watering on Brownpatch". "A good share of overwatering is due to the demands of golfers for excessively soft greens . . . Much damage caused by brownpatch could be avoided if water were used more sparingly . . . If greens are overwatered early in the season the roots will remain shallow and the greens will therefore quickly suffer in dry periods. On the other hand, if a moderately dry green is tolerated during the spring months there is a tendency for the grass to develop a stronger root system, with the result that less water will be required to keep the turf in good condition during the summer."

Many golfers prefer grass in fairways to be relatively short in order that a ball after landing may have as long a run as possible. In answer to a question as to the proper height for grass in fairways and on lawns, the Green Section advises:

"In general we find that bluegrass and fescue on fairways have been cut too close. Our recommendation is that mowers be set as high as the golfers will permit. The higher the fairway grass is cut, the better it will withstand adverse conditions. There naturally is a limit to the height that can be tolerated on fairways. Since this height is below that which is best from the standpoint of the grass, we make no specific recommendation as to height but simply urge that the mowers be raised as far as as the players will allow, realizing that this will be decidedly different on various golf courses. Our experience has been that as the mowers are gradually raised, the players will tolerate longer grass and will actually find that the playing conditions will be greatly improved even though the roll of the ball will be less."

Did You Know this One?

QUESTION: In a four ball game played at Kanawaki Golf Club some time ago A. and B. were playing against C. and D. counting one point for Low Ball and one point for Low Aggregate (combined players score each side). Playing the 7th Hole C. pulled his shot from, what we call, "Fairway" into the trees on the left hand side. Announcing that his ball might be lost he elected to play a Provisional Ball and dropping the ball proceeded to do so. Unfortunately he pulled his Provisional Ball and it went into the woods so far that he abandoned it as lost and useless to try to locate. He then decided to walk up to where his first ball entered the woods and after hunting for a few minutes found the ball but also found it was unplayable. C. argued that having found his first ball, though now unplayable, he did not have to take into consideration the Provisional Ball which he had played and which was lost but could continue playing with his first ball only taking the penalty for unplayable lie. A. argued that as C's. first ball was unplayable when found C. must count the Provisional Ball already played and play another ball from spot where first Ball was played. Will you please give us a decision as to what is correct?

ANSWER: The decision of the Rules Committee is that when the player decided that his ball was unplayable the provisional ball became the ball in play and that, if that ball was lost, the player must go back to the place from which the original ball was played and drop a ball, counting an additional four strokes. If the original stroke was the second stroke on the hole, the player would play his sixth stroke with the third ball; if the third stroke, he would play his seventh stroke, and so on.

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JIMMIE TODD



Teeing off at the fifth, Mid-Ocean Club, Bermuda

Plans for the sixth annual Mid-Ocean Invitation Tournament, one of Bermuda's most popular events with Canadians, have been announced through invitations sent out by the tournament committee headed by J. W. Nicoll of Montreal. The tournament proper is scheduled to start on February 24th with the party leaving New York on February the 18th, and according to the itinerary there are several contests to be participated in while enjoying practice rounds. Some of the players will stay at the Mid-Ocean Club, but the Bermudiana will be headquarters for most of the party. A special feature is the invitation

extended to wives and members of their families who are included in all the special arrangements and for whom several scratch and handicap events are listed. The Mid-Ocean Club is Bermuda's longest and best test of golf and offers a great many opportunities for spectacular shots as per the evidence above. This tee stands high above the Bay and with the green tucked over in the left hand corner of the hill, any ambitious player can take a short cut to the hole according to the power in his tee shot. Those timing their Bermuda visit with the Mid-Ocean tournament are assured the best of golfing holidays.

From Victoria, on our golf-minded West Coast, comes news that Jimmy Todd, that City's ace golfer, has forsaken the amateur ranks. Jimmy's ability on the fairways is well known across Canada through his appearances as a member of British Columbia's Willingdon Cup Teams, and in our national championships. The Victorian, a left-hander, and the portside's number one exponent, was Canada's third ranking amateur in 1938 by

virtue of his impressive record. Within his province Jimmy has captured almost every available championship at some time in his career, the winning of the B. C. Open Championship in 1937 with a four round score of 270 being one of his most impressive victories. Last season Jimmy's smooth swing and long tee shots made him a much watched participant while he was turning in one of the lowest scores in the interprovincial matches

and through to the fourth round of the amateur where he was ousted by Quebec's Phil Farley. Members of the Tillicum Club, Jimmy's home course, tendered him a banquet and presented him with a travelling bag at a ceremony attended by 500 members, an indication of the esteem Jimmy so rightfully enjoys. We add good luck and best wishes from his many friends in the East.

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IMPROVE WITH FIGURES

(Continued from page 15)

two over par on a number of occasions resolve during the forthcoming year to play solidly for a bogey thereafter.

Knowing what is better or worse than average for yourself all along the line will first make you concentrate on eliminating silly repeated blunders, will tell you when to play safe and give you a better picture of what to expect on each shot on your course when you come to it.

Granted that this sort of thing does not appeal to many as a hobby, yet such a book carefully compiled during the evenings of the playing season, will afford lots of pleasant entertainment and keen planning for a new confident outlook on taking the old "backyard" for some lower scoring when the snow disappears and the new active playing season is born.

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