Proposes International Businessmen's Golf

SIR GUY CAMPBELL, internationally known Scotch amateur, proposes a wider basis for international golf matches after the war. Writing in Golf Monthly of Edinburgh, Sir Guy said: “I am not concerned with international events already established, for though well conducted by the approved authorities, they are by reason of the conditions in which they operate limited in scope. “I visualize something quite different; meetings which would ensure international intercourse rather than international rivalry. Therefore the teams I would send touring would be drawn from all sections of the community: agricultural, educational, industrial, intellectual, local government (other than political) professional (including professional golfers), service and social (including artisan golfers): they would be chosen regardless of handicap and age. The teams would consist of 16 players—with luggage a comfortable load for a post-war air-liner. There would be two “Test Matches” at least in each country toured. The rest of the time would be spent in private games mutually arranged and in sight-seeing. Test Matches would always be played by Foursomes, eight a side. Each Test Match would be over 18 holes and two days. In this way each couple would play each couple on the other side and all 16 players would be able to figure in one Test Match. Private games would be played by singles, threesomes, three-ball matches, better or worse ball matches, foursomes or four-ball matches as desired.”

He further suggested that the Rotary Club, as an international organization, is equipped to take the lead in establishing international golf competitions on a basis outside the traditional intense competition of international games.

GOLFDOM has discussed Sir Guy’s idea with American businessmen and has heard considerable comment in favor of the plan. The only objections we have heard is from normally pretty fair businessmen golfers who have not been able to play much during the war with the result that their games have so deteriorated they say they’d hate to have their golf exhibited as representative of anything American. However, the same condition applies certainly in England and Scotland, and as the proposed affairs would be for social purposes rather than desperate sporting competition, handicaps and genial temperaments should offset the scoring troubles.

Generally, though, American businessmen refer to their American prewar trade tournaments in endorsing Campbell’s suggestion. Local, statewide and national tournaments were held before the war in many fields of business. The union printers’ annual national tournament was one of the most pleasant trade holidays in American business. There were some lively tournaments in the plumbing business to which players came from distant points.

Speed and moderate rates of transatlantic air travel after the war and the opportunities for mutually pleasant and profitable business relations in the tremendous job of postwar building will set the stage for the international golfing events proposed by Campbell, so most businessmen queried by GOLFDOM agreed.

What American businessmen contemplated as the “sight-seeing” phase of the Campbell program accent strongly visits to British factories and other industrial operations in their particular fields of work. Several men prominent in American business saw in such trips built around the nucleus of international trade tournaments in the United States and Britain the possibility of mutual understanding and help in developing commerce on a wider and firmer basis than can be achieved by having the necessary commercial arrangements engineered mainly by powerful big business interests and government specialists.

Several comments were made, by those GOLFDOM interrogated, about Mexican and South American golf activities as providing a fine chance for mutually interesting and helpful international businessmen’s golf tournaments.

SKINNER WATERING AT MORaine —Warm compliments of condition of Moraine CC during the PGA championship were an endorsement of one of the most difficult golf course watering jobs undertaken by the Skinner Irrigation Co., designers and manufacturers of the Moraine watering system. It is nearly a mile from the pump house to the farthest boundary of the course and it’s uphill all the way. The green farthest from the pump house is the highest level on the course. The club asked that Skinner engineers tie-in an old 4-in. main, which was done. The soil is underlaid with gravel, which dries out quickly.