Masterson has made important improvements on his original machine. A special feed device permits the use of a soil much more nearly solid than the mud that was used at first. The new equipment is a compact affair, weighing about 250 lbs. It is mounted on pneumatic tires that will permit its use on wet fairways without damaging the turf. A 25-ft. hose provides a range of 50 ft. as the machine moves along the fairways.

The Seattle Park Department’s engineer estimates that use of the new method will save $7,800 a year in the maintenance of the city’s three municipal courses. The City Council has shown its appreciation by voting Masterson a substantial cash award for his invention.

Manufacture of the Masterson injector has been started by the Turf Services Co. of Snohomish, Wash. A number of the machines are in active use on a rental basis. The rental plan has been adopted in view of the fact that the work the machine is designed to accomplish is not ordinarily a year-round job.

Craigs, 41 Years Audubon Pro, Retires

BOBBY CRAIGS, 41 years pro at Audubon CC, Louisville, Ky., and his wife, Clementine, were guests of honor at a club dinner Dec. 16 at which Bobby’s retirement was officially announced.

Virtually the club’s entire membership attended. Craigs and his wife were presented with a round trip ticket to visit the old home town in Monifieth. Bobby was given a substantial pension for the rest of his life and a gold card of honorary membership in Audubon and cuff links from caddies. Mrs. Craigs was given a large framed colored photograph of Bobby. A portrait of the old pro was unveiled in the clubhouse by two of his amateur proteges, Chris Brinke and Bobby Nichols.

Charley Vittitoe and Alvey Humes spoke for the PGA and Bobby’s pro graduates and presented Craigs with a traveling bag from the Kentucky PGA. Eight of Bobby’s former assistants, now master pros, were present.

Col. Lee Read, with cooperation of club officials and Bill Kaiser, engineered the affair, biggest ever held for a home club pro. Telegrams from prominent pros and amateurs to Craigs decorated the club entry hall. Tommy Armour’s telephone call from Delray Beach, Fla., in tribute to Craigs added hearty sentiment.

Herb Graffis, GOLFDOM editor, spoke, naming Bobby as a beloved representative of the pioneer pros who have served splendidly in promoting the uniquely American policy of “the pursuit of happiness.”

Hopkins Trophy Matches Come to La Jolla, Calif.

AFTER three successful years in Canada, where it had its premiere, the International PGA team matches between the U. S. and Canada, for the Hopkins Trophy, will be held at La Jolla (Calif.) CC, Jan. 18 and 19.

Originated in 1952 by John Jay Hopkins, international industrialist, the Hopkins Trophy Matches will be played as a prelude to the $15,000 Convair-San Diego Open.

The 1954 Open and PGA Champions both will be members of the US professional golf team which will defend the Hopkins Trophy.

Ed Furgol, the Open Champion, and Chick Harbert, the PGA champion, will head a team including Bob Toski, Jack Burke, Jr., Marty Furgol, Jerry Barber and Cary Middlecoff.

The Canadian team, which will be headed by Vancouver’s Stan Leonard, Canadian PGA champion, will receive coveted invitations to the famous Bing Crosby tournament. As each player has his travelling expenses to and from San Diego paid, and also receives $750, those who desire can go south early and play in the PGA sponsored events prior to the Hopkins matches.

Ryder Cup Matches, Nov. 5 and 6, At Thunderbird, Palm Springs

T HUNDERBIRD Ranch & CC, Palm Springs, Calif., will be the site of the 11th Ryder Cup matches on Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 5 and 6.

The British team is tentatively set to leave England around October 13, in order to permit them to play at least one match on the way to Palm Springs and allow them requisite practice time there, according to Robert Hudson, a member of the PGA National Advisory Committee, who was instrumental in arranging the matches.

While the makeup of the United States team is still in doubt until the Ryder Cup standings are compiled, the 1955 PGA champion will be an automatic member of the team.