

Wild-Cat Oil Offer to Pros Not Sponsored by Manufacturers

A prowling wild-cat is causing confusion to the pros and consternation to golf goods manufacturers these days. The wild-cat, wearing the beguiling attire of a fancy label, is a Michigan oil wild-cattling enterprise baited with the letterhead of the National Association of Sporting Goods Manufacturers. To make things perfectly clear to the elect "twenty" who have been invited to step out for fame and fortune via the hidden treasure of Newaygo county, the National Association of Sporting Goods Manufacturers is a private enterprise and is not connected officially with the athletic goods chamber of commerce, the golf club manufacturers' association, or the golf ball manufacturers' association. Therefore, the pros who have been puzzled about the manufacturers going into wild-cat oil promotion, now may get their sights lined up straight. The manufacturers are not in the oil business.

On the letterhead of the National Association of Sporting Goods Manufacturers, carrying type to the effect that the communication is from "The Sporting Goods Clearing House" which has for its function "Credits," the following call-to-get-rich is handed out to the lucky two-score:

Dear Sir:

Please read carefully and then act promptly.

Certain it is that many of us spend our lives hoping and praying for opportunity and then fail to recognize it when it comes.

Here is an opportunity for you. Are you going to pass it by when all I ask of you is a little bit of your time?

You doubtless have read in the daily papers about the fortunes being made in the Muskegon oil fields.

My associate and I have taken title to 4,000 acres of land in Newaygo county, Michigan, on which we are going to drill for oil. In order to raise the necessary funds for drilling we are offering for sale 2,000 acres of this land at \$50 an acre.

If you have any selling ability then don't pass this offer by.

All I ask is that you agree to sell 100 acres for us; nothing less than 5

acres to one person, and in return for your efforts you are to receive 10 acres free and clear and share in the oil.

The same proposal is being put up to twenty people. If you wish to get in on this you must act quickly.

Yours very truly,

(Signed): S. O. Penrod.

Question the "Come On"

Mr. Penrod is the National Association of Sporting Goods Manufacturers. His headquarters are at 140 North Dearborn street, Chicago. Some manufacturers subscribe to his collection and credit reporting association but, as far as the pros' possible inference that this Michigan oil deal has the endorsement of the manufacturers, the assumption is without any basis of fact. It is quite a tribute to the pro credit standing that the boys should be picked as a solvent and inviting group, known by the cynical as "the sucker list."

Penrod, as operator of a credit information bureau ought to have fair information about the pros' financial standing, but in selecting the pros for a good going-over, thinking that the name of the "association" would establish a confidence not warranted, Penrod obviously is deep in the dark about the extent of pros' gullibility.

The reference to a selected twenty being Allah's anointed to whom the golden gate of opportunity is being held wide open, does not seem, from available evidence, to be just the sort of accuracy one would expect from a man who should be rather confined to the facts by the precision of dollars and cents constantly before him in his daily credit work. Those who have asked GOLFDOM to look into the matter indicate that a rather general and indiscriminate circularization has been the practice. One of the letters forwarded to GOLFDOM was addressed to a pro at an address a year old. That's not what we'd call a sign of very careful selection of just twenty lucky guys who just have to sell 100 acres of Michigan oil (?) land, and then play golf simply for a pastime, not

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a profession. The good old hooie, but, then Barnum understated in the sap birth rate of one a minute.

So this will let the pros know that the golf goods manufacturers are attending to their own business and not coaxing the boys into some speculation under the pretext that the proposition has the endorsement and backing of the substantial and representative manufacturers or the inference of a credit black mark if they don't kick in.

Southern P. G. A. Sections Join Forces

CAROLINA P.G.A., representing North and South Carolina, has been merged with the Southeastern P.G.A. This now gives the Southeastern territorial authority over Carolina, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and Florida. Fred Newham of the Carolina organization and Fred Hall and Arnold Miers of the Southeastern arranged the merger for their respective groups.

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