

# Golfdom

The Business Journal of Golf  
REG. U. S. PATENT OFFICE

Vol. 7

FEBRUARY, 1933

No. 2

## USGA Still on "Gold Standard" — Rough-rides Phoney Amateurs

**E**ASILY AND speedily, the annual meeting of the U. S. G. A. held at Biltmore hotel, January 7, presented the score card for the last of the two years of the administration of H. H. Ramsay and inducted into presidential office serious young Herbert Jacques of the Country Club of Brookline. Jacques, son of the president of the U. S. G. A. for two terms, 1909-10, is no acolyte in golf association affairs, as he was chairman of the Implements and Ball committee during the change in ball specifications, which was training camp plenty for anyone. Ramsay, commenting on the selection of Jacques as president to fill the place for which the late Bob Cutting was nominated, lauded the Brookliner's acquaintance with golf club and association problems, his capacity for work, his consideration for the wishes

and needs of all golfers, and his devotion to the best interests of the game. The smiling Mr. Ramsay is a complete and convincing lauder. On Jacques his remarks echoed the judgment of every golfer who ever knew this scion of one of the earlier heads of the organization.

In his speech of acceptance, Jacques told that the association intended to maintain the Green Section service to golf to the fullest extent possible with a curtailed budget. The Midwest turf garden, which it was thought earlier would have to be abandoned, was retained as a Green Section help to the central territory.

Date of the Open at North Shore was advanced to June 8, 9 and 10, ahead of the hot weather experienced during the Open of recent years.

The part played by the professionals

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In no other sport does the professional come into such close contact with the amateur sportsman. Through golf shop services, lessons, as a playing companion and in his exhibitions of skill he makes possible the fullest enjoyment of the game to men, women and children, for which he naturally receives compensation. His business is to supply the needs of golf to the amateur.

The fundamental purposes for which the professional and the amateur play the game are so obvious that I am firmly of the opinion there is no place in the game for the individual who tries to straddle or encroach upon the field of either. If he cannot afford to play for recreation or to compete in tournaments, golf is never denied him, for he can earn an honest living in the respected vocation of a golf professional. —Excerpt from address of Herbert Jaques, president, USGA.

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Jacques emphasized as one of the strongest points in the game. He made sharply obvious the line between pros and amateurs and declared for fair but strict dealing with matters concerning the amateur status.

Report of the executive committee showed the association's assets had slumped from the previous year's report \$29,828.94. Tournament expense was increased \$6,141 from the 1931 item of \$13,706.31, the Walker cup matches accounting for \$2,982.87 and the Women's International team matches for \$6,239.95. Administration, general and committee expenses were reduced \$5,076.61 from the previous year's figure, \$28,411.02. Green Section expense was cut from \$47,032.82 to \$37,499.36. Dues from member clubs fell about \$5,000. Championship admissions income slumped approximately \$5,000 to \$15,967.75; the amateur championship share being \$6,647.75 and the Open's U. S. G. A. piece being \$9,320.

Membership of the U. S. G. A. now is at 1,138 clubs, a loss from last year so slight that it is an indication of clubs' appreciation of the U. S. G. A. functioning.

The amateur status committee reported 8 players reinstated, 34 applications not ready for action and decision on 74 miscellaneous cases. Nothing outside of the usual matters concerning legality of newly invented clubs came before the implements and ball committee during the year.

The U. S. G. A. in conjunction with the R. & A. continues to work on clarification and simplification of the rules and reported progress as result of a meeting in London in March, 1932.

A record figure of 213 players at the Louisville Public Links section championship was reported. The 1933 championship was awarded to the Eastmoreland Municipal course, Portland, Ore., as recognition of the interest the Pacific Coast has taken in the public links championships.

In summarizing the energetic and valuable work of the Green Section during 1932, Chairman Ganson Depew brought out that nearly 1,000 attended the 13 sectional meetings conducted by the Green Section in association with sectional groups. Considering the limits of budget and personnel, the Green Section work during the past year was a magnificent achievement for times of financial stringency and turf troubles in abundance.

## Locker Room Alley Rivalry Builds Club Spirit

**A**S A MEANS of increasing member interest, Olympia Fields C. C. (Chicago dist.) encourages the various alleys in its locker room to form clubs-within-the-club and hold inter-alley tournaments. Such names as Gasoline Alley, Tin Pan Alley, Eye-Dropper Alley and Sin Alley are used, and each of these groups has an appropriate coat-of-arms attached to the wall at the far end of its aisle.

Good natured raillery and insults are hurled back and forth between the groups, a good example being the following announcement recently posted by Gasoline Alley:

### GASOLINE ALLEY ASSOCIATION

*Olympia Fields Country Club*

#### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

*The names of the prominent golfers inscribed on this letterhead impart to you the personnel of the GASOLINE ALLEY ASSOCIATION.*

*The GASOLINE ALLEY ASSOCIATION was the initial alley association to be formed in our locker rooms, and having been undefeated in the many hard fought matches that have been played in the past still retains the Alley Association's championship cup.*

*A challenge from any alley (if there be one) not suffering with too great of an inferiority complex, will be welcomed and considered in the order received.*

Six other alley associations immediately accepted Gasoline Alley's challenge and dates were set for the playoffs.

From the standpoint of the club, such organization within the locker room is valuable in more ways than the primary one of increasing member interest. Attendance on challenge days is large, since no inmate of a given aisle wants to default his match to a golfer from a rival alley. This boosts departmental business considerably, especially since victors and losers must respectively celebrate and alibi the results of the meetings. At least once a year, each alley at Olympia holds its annual championship and banquet, much to the profit of the dining room.

**C**LAUDE JONES, Memphis driving range pro, is a smart gent in getting publicity. Other fellows ought to take a tip from him. He broadcasts golf lessons daily at 4:45 p. m. and writes weekly golf instruction articles for the *Memphis Press-Scimitar*.