



18th Annual Meeting
Professional Golfers Association of America at the
Morrison Hotel, Chicago, Ill. November 20th 1934

Burke and
Koretke
PHOTO

Left to right; front row: Dave McKay, Pittsburgh; Fred Brand, Pittsburgh; Dan Goss, Birmingham; Chas. Hall, Birmingham, honorary pres.; Jack Martin, Tacoma, vice-pres.; R. W. Treacy, Milwaukee, secy.; Geo. R. Jacobus, Ridgewood, N. J., president; J. B. Mackie, New York, treas; W. Maguire, Houston, vice-pres.; Jas. Anderson, Pontiac, Mich., vice-pres.; Tom Boyd, New York, vice-pres.; Jim Wilson, Chicago; Clarence Hackney, Atlantic City.

Second row: Martin Higgins, Fall River, Mass.; Jack Forrester, Hackensack, N. J.; Fred Henwood, Seattle; Geo. Norrie, Macon, Ga.; Geo. Crist, Buffalo; Marty Walsh, Omaha; Capt. Chas. Clarke, Cleveland; Miss Meredith Mielke, New York; Bert Way, Cleveland; Mrs. Irene Blakeman, Chicago headquarters; Neal McIntyre, Indianapolis; Al Nelson, Philadelphia; Joe Dahلمان, Tulsa; Elmer Biggs, Peoria; J. A. Patterson, Los Angeles; A. R. Gates, general counsel.

Third row: R. Guy Martin, Kenosha, Wis.; Lewis Meyers, Providence, R. I.; Steve Holloway, Albany N. Y.; Wendall Kay, Niagara Falls, N. Y.; Chet Irwin, Haworth, N. J.; Ed. Valentine, Detroit; Claude Whalen, Ft. Worth; E. Newkirk, Chicago; Alex Pirie, Chicago, honorary pres.; Dewey Longworth, Oakland; Harold McSpaden, Kansas City; Orville Chapin, St. Paul; Al Collins, Kansas City; J. B. Sloan, Racine, Wis.; John Inglis, New York.

Absent from picture were: John Farrell, Shopt Hills, N. J.; Stewart Boyle, New York; and Capt. Chas. Perkins, Hartford, Conn.

PGA ENTERS BIG BUSINESS STAGE

Annual Meeting Shows Organization Is Growing Stronger Every Year

IT MUST have been a great disappointment to the management of the Morrison hotel in Chicago when delegates to the 18th annual convention of the PGA, scheduled for November 20, 21 and 22, started to pack up and go home on the evening of the 21st. That was a full day earlier than was expected, so if the Morrison management is in the habit of banking on futures, it had to swallow several hundred dollars' loss in room rentals. President George Jacobus and his staff ran the proceedings like clockwork and saw to it that no delegate, impressed with his ability as an orator, took up too much of the convention's time wandering in forensic fields removed from the subject at hand. This efficiency permitted all business to be finished a full day ahead, which is why the hotel headquarters took the loss above referred to.

On second thought, the hotel didn't take it on the chin so much after all, because Tom Boyd arranged an unprogrammed dinner in honor of Jacobus, and over 100 delegates and prominent golf officials attended.

Looking over the box score of the convention gives one the conviction that the pro organization is doing a first class job of handling the third stage of the professionals' development. The first period of the PGA history was devoted to getting the boys organized. The pros then were teachers, missionaries and bench craftsmen. The second stage was in getting esprit de corps aroused and stirring up recognition of pro business possibilities. The present stage is that of getting educated and organized to control wisely a big business.

George Jacobus suffered the honor of again being elected president. The kid's volume and character of work for the pros has been such that all of the fellows have wondered how he could get it handled, but he has and can rejoice in having been right more times than he has been wrong, which is the best break anyone can expect. When the Jacobus boy has been wrong it has been when he has been trying to do something for the pros and not simply

standing by. That's another long count in his favor. The pros and Jacobus both are lucky in having George at a club whose officials and members taken keen interest in pro advancement, otherwise there could not be devoted to the presidential job all the time and effort George has given to it.

The official family of the PGA remains about the same as it was last year with one exception: Jimmy Anderson of Michigan replaces Jim Wilson of Illinois. Wilson is a veteran national and state official who has sweat and worried his trick at the wheel and earned the vacation he tried to get from this work last year. Jimmy Anderson is one of the keenest and most successful of the younger Scotch laddies in the pro game. He's no stranger to national PGA affairs.

Cash Position Fine

The amazingly good condition of the PGA treasury despite the raps taken by the benevolent fund is a tip-off of excellent management of the association's affairs. Jack Mackie as perennial treasurer of the outfit can be credited with taking the PGA through the depression in better fiscal shape than probably any other organization of similar character in the country. The ball deal last year, of course, was the big answer. The PGA treasury got more dough out of that ball deal than could have been made by any of the co-op buying experiments the boys have discussed at stein-spotted conference tables. This year the ball deal calls for a sliding scale of discounts for the individual pros, based on quantity purchased. The rebate is split between the individual pros and the PGA headquarters exchequer so the fellows have the answer to their plea for a deal that will help them pay their association dues and Mackie, the watch-dog of the PGA treasury, sees prospects of enough jack coming in to permit energetic functioning of the 1935 Jacobus administration.

The ball deal with the manufacturers bases the refund on "advertising," which has caused some of the smart pro gentle-

men to again refer to how the former individual refunds in the shape of free balls to pros "for advertising" were muffed. An idea of the free balls was that the pros would pass out a free ball now and then to members, which would have been a great stunt for beating out the store ball business and making friends for pros. But, the comrades point out, the balls thus received were sold instead of being given away—at least to a reasonable extent as samples—and eventually the boys beat themselves out of an "advertising" allowance in this shape.

Report of the publicity committee of Lou Myers, Doc Treacy and Elmer Biggs, the latter chairman, forecast the employment of a full time publicity man for the PGA. The committee called attention to the present and future possibilities of golf market development through golf instruction to school kids.

Ask Trade-Ins to Hike Volume

Comment on this report indicated that expansion of the school field might mean logically an increase in positions available for pros and consequently easing up of the strain on the association funds for relief of out-of-luck members. The hunch looks interesting because what the pros want is work and not charity. In some localities pros are taking old clubs as trade-ins on new sets and either giving these turn-ins away as prizes or selling them at dirt cheap prices to school kids or munny golf players. Since that publicity committee report has had a chance to sink in some pros have been discussing the chances of the PGA working out with the manufacturers a trade-in proposition that would dump out of the members' bags the clubs that have been in use for eight to 12 years and put these implements in the hands of school kids who have plenty of munny and fee course facilities available but no clubs to play with.

The PGA championship was expanded to qualify 64 players, instead of the 32 who previously made the grade, and in order to assure the best possible field for the event, no sectional qualifying will be required from members of the Ryder Cup team, the National Open champion, or the eight quarter-finalists in the previous year's PGA championship. The job of working out details of the event was left to the executive committee.

A warning against gambling elements

from the outside was sounded. The wagering gentry have designs two ways on the pros. They make books on the tournaments, thus using the pros in taking money from the public, and then they set up wheels and other instruments for proving you are wrong so the pros can shoot their dough during the championship evenings. The pros seldom bet on themselves during championships and when they do, only wager small amounts. They want their competitive business kept free of the bookies.

Class-A Filling Up

By provision of the PGA constitution, an initiation fee of \$25 becomes effective as soon as the Class-A membership reaches 1,200. Delegates were instructed to notify their sections that the present count on this class is 996, which means that only 204 more Class-A can join the association for dues alone. The close approach to Class-A capacity is indicative of the growing strength and national unity of the PGA.

At a meeting of the executive committee, following the last meeting of the delegates, President Jacobus appointed Alex Pirie to be chairman of a new "Pro-Greenkeeper Committee." Alex's job will be to make available to PGA pros a complete education in greenkeeping and course architecture. Thus, the committee expects to put the pro in better position to cooperate with the greenkeeper in working out greens problems, making the pro's services of greater value to his club.

Wistful, but entirely unofficial, hopes are being expressed for the elevation of a pro to the USGA executive committee. The pros figure that they are able to contribute something to the USGA work for the good of the game and by their individual and association conduct have identified themselves as qualified.

Pro intimacy with the playing conditions of the game, both among pros and amateur members, gives pros a position of authority in this division. However, despite all the howls against the antiquated stymie which were registered at the PGA championship, the convention took no action on the matter. Popular opinion is against the stymie and it's seldom played except in the major match competitions, but the players vainly await some official action ruling out this detail.