



The newly completed \$90,000 clubhouse at the Griffith Park Golf Course, scene of the 1937 \$8000 Los Angeles Open, has been described as one of the finest municipal golf structures anywhere in the country. It had its christening on the first day's play of the Open.

Here's An Argument: "Are Long Irons Vanishing?"

GEORGE ROOT, pro at Bunker Hills GC., Dubuque, Ia., puts into a letter to GOLFDOM, a matter that has been debated fairly often lately when pros get together. Have your own say. We're taking no sides. Writes Root:

Do you remember seven or eight years ago when the midiron was the duffers' favorite club? It was their most nearly reliable club in tough spots and even was used for driving by plenty of the dubs in distress.

Today the average golfer is shying away from the midiron and even some of the stars are using No. 4 or No. 5 woods instead of the irons.

Why? I've tried to get the answer and my conclusion, subject to revision when someone comes up with a better answer, is that the 1, 2, 3 and 4 irons have short, thick blades with comparatively small bull's-eye areas on which the ball is to be hit properly. Generally speaking, the rest of the irons, with large faces, are easier for players to use.

To my observation over the last several years, the week-end golfer seldom hits a good iron shot. Shanking is becoming more of a disease than it ever was before when these fellows try to use long irons.

I am inclined to believe that present iron heads are too small for the ball now in use. When even the duffers were pretty fair midiron players the smaller "bullet"

ball was in use and strange, but true, the iron clubs had larger blades.

With the coming of the present ball, clubmakers started building irons with compact blades for more power. Then flange-headed clubs, which also gave more power, came into great popularity. The weight used in the flange had to come from somewhere, so the size of the club face was reduced. These changes were accompanied by transfer of more weight to the hosel in many cases and with through shaft sleeve location in some cases further swinging weight was lost.

Give the average golfers more hitting space on the iron faces and I think you'll see them hitting more satisfactory iron shots and scoring better.

If I'm right on this, so far as the average player is concerned, not the keenly skilled star, maybe we are on our way to getting new models enough different in appearance to make iron club sales perk up. If I'm wrong in my observation and reasoning, will some of the experts tell me where, and how I went astray?

A RECENT issue of the New Yorker had a cartoon of a salesman in a store golf department showing a golf bag to a prospective purchaser. The salesman was saying: "This bag here has a cleverly concealed false bottom. Why, I don't know."

Richard Decker, the cartoonist, put across an accurate comparison of the difference between typical store salesman and the informed pros, who know their merchandise.