

Pros who have members intending to visit England and Scotland can get booklets describing the famous British courses from Golf Clubs Association, 524 Calendonian Road, London, N. 7.

ruling out one who had won its championship twice, the British Open once, and played on several Ryder Cup teams.

The inconsistency was heightened by the signing of a petition by some of the name players, demanding that Shute be allowed to play. It must be remembered that in a free country, as the U. S. is supposed to be, anyone has a perfect right to express his wishes by petition. A few years ago, certain players signed a petition to consider the case of Robert Harlow, then tournament bureau manager of the PGA, who was tossed out of his job by a political maneuver of the kind that has cost many pros their jobs. The signatories to that petition were threatened by a ranking PGA official with expulsion unless they withdrew their signatures. The same official threatened to resign from the PGA unless the Pomonok petition governed. Such vagaries make the public laugh. The boys ought to get together on their signals. PGA officials have expressed the conviction that it is imperative the dues deadline be strictly enforced; their implication being that unless the PGA championship trip were held forth as bait, the boys wouldn't pay up. That is debatable, too, in view of the good credit standing of PGA members and the emphasis the organization has put on the credit factor. In this matter of the dues deadline, the main complication is that of allotment of places, sectionally, for the championship. However, even that seemed to have been handled in the past without any public disturbance, by the stragglers paying at the first tees.

Lesser-Lights Have Legit Kick

Much of the jawing about the Pomonok case concerned making an exception of Shute, two-time former champion, and ruling out other tardy PGA members of lesser fame. The lesser known boys have a legitimate squawk there. At that, for the betterment of pro-public relations and the protection of the tournament sponsors, probably the fellows without comparatively recent championship records would have reconciled themselves quietly and philosophically to a flavor of favoritism which, theoretically, should be non-existent when the boys draw their drivers out on the first tee of a tournament.

But, the thing's all stirred up, and the public's talking. Whether the talk will die out and leave both home and tournament pros in public graces as a pro golf unity having good judgment, is your own guess.

Individually, the pros do all right with their members, but collectively, they are getting into deep water and had better beware. Now is an especially bad time for any pro squabble, with the PGA attempting to get introduced a coreless ball on which manufacturers are asked to pay \$1.00 a dozen royalty into the PGA, and still maintain current retail prices on which both pro and manufacturer are finding it difficult to make a reasonable profit. The public may begin to get fed-up and ask "How about us?"

"How about the public?" should be the PGA's first thought, just as "How about my members" is the first thought of the PGA member who makes a success of his business and stands high in the esteem of his members.

Public reaction was not considered when the PGA got itself into its mess at Pomonok, so the sooner the public is allowed to forget the PGA forgot about the public, the better it will be for pros.

Advocate Elimination of Sand Traps

VETERAN pros who were acquainted with the late A. H. Toogood, one of England's prominent pre-war pros, will be interested to learn that his grandson, age 8, not long ago became probably the youngest player to get an ace. The lad knocked in an ace on a 110 yard hole at a Tasmanian golf club.

News of the youngster's achievement was received by Ralph Stonehouse, Indianapolis pro, in a letter in which the boy's father, also an A. H. Toogood, commented favorably and enthusiastically on a statement by Ralph, reprinted in Golf in Australia. Stonehouse favored doing away with sand traps, saying that the star players had virtually solved the sand as a shot-making hazard.

Toogood, one of the top-notch Australian pros, maintains that grassy hollows provide a shot that's more puzzling to the stars, less aggravating to the average player, and less expensive to maintain than sand traps.