

SENIORS FROLIC AGAIN!

By HERB GRAFFIS

Augusta Host to Fifty Pro
Oldsters at December Reunion

WHO the champions were at the second annual tournament of the PGA Seniors really didn't matter a great deal, even to those whose well-labored muscles still retained cunning. What was paramount with the lads was the jolly spirit of the reunion and the informal rededication of themselves to the principles of conduct and thinking they've always had, and which have been responsible for making golf this nation's most popular participating game.

Almost 50 of the 240 qualified for PGA Seniors' membership assembled at Augusta, Ga., Dec. 6 to take part in the organization's annual tournament over the Augusta National course, and the meeting and banquet. Rain on the scheduled opening day threw the playing program back a day. Freddie McLeod and Otto Hackbarth tied at 154 for the regulation Seniors championship distance, and Fred won the play-off.

Teams of Fred Miley and Dave Livie, and of Jim West and Tom Clark, tied at 71 for best-ball honors in the curtain raiser of the play.

George Sargent, for 7 years president of the National PGA and winner of US and Canadian National Open championships, was elected president of the Seniors, succeeding Grange Alves. Alves was unable to attend the second meeting of the organization, due to illness. Dave Ogivile, Sr., was elected vice pres.; Capt. Charles Clarke, sec., and Val Flood, re-elected honorary pres.

Competition in the individual medal play was in three age classes: A—60 years and over; B—55-59; C—50-54. A pro must be 50 years of age and have been in pro golf 25 years to become eligible for Seniors' membership. In no other active sport could such an assembly of veteran talent be presented in playing, and this factor is so generally impressive that Senior pros whose youthful looks belie their years, take a proper lot of glory in their tournament.

The annual meeting of the organization was not held behind closed doors, so an opportunity was given to fully reveal the policies and personalities of veteran pros who have not only established golf on a firm basis in this country but who have

been leaders in the entire recreational program of the nation. O. B. Keeler, noted veteran golf writer of the Atlanta Journal, lauded the veteran pros at their annual meeting. Keeler, as well as other sports

THE OLD GUARD'S GLORY

by Herb Graffis

*When the hair upon your aging head is
getting thin and white
And the hours of your golden day are
edging toward the night,
You're no longer keeping records in the
former even fours,
But in the kids you've taught the game
you're placing future stores;
You can sigh in deep contentment and pair
up with Father Time
And can bank a wealth of memories if
you haven't got a dime.*

*You can laugh about the laddies that you
played with long ago
When you could slam that gutty ball and
really make it go,
You can rest those weary feet that trod
those fairways hard as bricks
And recall those feats of yesteryear when
your putter did its tricks.
Then, better off than most of men, you can
think of your life's game
And decide if you'd another chance, you'd
handle it the same.*

*Your heart looks at the calendar and says;
"It can't be true
"That I have reached the time of life when
my victories are few,
"For the scorecard that I've played by is
not that simple thing
"That registers the putts that sink or the
drives that gaily sing,
"The score that Life has marked for me,
won a title I'll defend,
"It showed me a star at shooting straight
and I'm champion to the end."*

(Recited by Tom Walsh at 1938-Annual
PGA Seniors Dinner at Augusta, Ga.)