

Recent Golf Divots

FRED BRAND, SR., president of the Tri-State PGA Section since its founding 22 years ago, is sporting a beautiful gold wrist watch these days. The watch was given Brand as a token of appreciation from the Tri-State chapter. Brand has been pro at the Allegheny CC, (Pittsburgh) since 1917. . . . Out Hollywood way, movie actor Bob Taylor is the latest golf addict. Martin Sykes, pro-manager of the Pico Fairways, who is teaching Taylor the fine points, says, "Taylor coordinates well, has good hands, a good head on him, and is an honest-to-goodness student of the game. He might go far."

A total of 4,621 players entered the four USGA championships during 1939. Of this total, 2,401 were in the public links event. . . . They'll have to put up a new women's championship cup at Churchhill Valley GC in 1940. Mrs. J. S. Gish won her 3rd straight club championship last fall to retire the W. W. Martin trophy. . . . Frank Hartig, pro at the Amsterdam, N. Y., muny course, was presented with a traveling bag and accessories by some of the Amsterdam muny golfers, just prior to Hartig's leaving early in January for his Melbourne, Fla., pro post.

Chillicothe, Ohio, golfers are getting the 'golf bug' unusually early this year. Approval was recently obtained for the building of a 9-hole municipal golf course on the site of the county fair grounds. The course is expected to be ready for play by June. . . . Members of Lexington (N. Car.) CC are looking forward to April 1st, when for the first time they will be able to use the new \$15,000 addition to the Lexington clubhouse. The new addition includes new locker-rooms for both men and women, a large assembly room for banquets and dances, a kitchen and a golf shop. Nine more holes are also being added to the Lexington course this spring, which makes the Lexington improvement job one of the season's best.

First annual Northern California Bachelor golf tournament will be held on the Tilden Park course in Berkeley, Feb. 18 and 25. The event will be open only to bachelors. . . . Roy Smith, Hillcrest CC (Indianapolis district) pro for 16 years, is giving group golf lessons at the Bush-Fezle Sporting Goods Co. in Indianapolis

this winter. Among Smith's outstanding pupils in recent years were Harriett Randall Ochiltree, present Indiana women's champion, and John David, former Indiana intercollegiate champ. . . . Jim Barnes, Essex County (N. J.) CC pro, former American and British Open champion, and who won the N. J. state open last year, is giving lessons in a Montclair (N. J.) department store this winter.

David M. Bell has been re-elected president of the Tri-State Golf Course Superintendents Assn. This is his seventh consecutive term. . . . T. H. Riggs-Miller, well known golf architect, and a familiar figure in greenkeeping for many years, died December 27 in Independence, Mo., of a cerebral hemorrhage. For the last five years he had been a resident of Kansas City and came there to re-design Swope Park course No. 1. He was 52 years old. . . . Norman Butler is the new pro at Columbus' (Ohio) swank Scioto CC. He succeeds Joe Thomas. Thomas has been named to the pro post at the Columbus Twin Rivers muny course.

Fire of undetermined origin completely destroyed the Danville (Va.) GC clubhouse late in December. Nothing could be done to save the building because of insufficient water pressure. Loss was estimated at \$20,000 with insurance coverage reported to be \$15,000. Plans are being made for the immediate erection of a new structure. . . . Walter E. Stoddard, retired golf professional, died Dec. 31 in Mount Kisco, N. Y. He was 62 years old. Stoddard had held positions at the Country Club, Brookline, Nassau G&CC, Weeburn CC, Bedford GC and Mount Kisco GC. He spent 20 years at the latter club, retiring when it closed two years ago.

A new body for the promotion of golf in the San Diego, Calif., district was formed recently under the name of the Golf Promotional Assn. of San Diego. As explained by Sydney Gaines, who was elected president, the general purpose of the association is to aid in the promotion of all golfing activity at both public links and country clubs. . . . Minnesota greenkeepers have been going strong for bowling, held just prior to the monthly dinner meetings. Most ardent enthusiasts are Mike Sanko, Len Bloomquist, Harold Stodola, Henry

Aneke, Emil Picha, Jimmy Graham, and Scotty McLaren.

Woodrow Wilson High school golf team of Long Beach, Calif., has won its league championship 8 times in 10 years, has taken the Southern California prep title 6 times since 1930, and every one of the teams has had at least one—and sometimes two or three — who consistently broke par. One year, Joe Nichols, then a 15-year-old kid, equalled George Von Elm's course record of 66, at Recreation Park, which is six under par, three separate times!

Findlay S. Douglas, USGA president in 1929-30, and at present president of the US Seniors Golf Assn., has been appointed assistant to the president of Universal Atlas Cement Co., a US Steel subsidiary. . . . Mrs. Estelle Lawson Page, former women's national champion, recently scored three holes-in-one in a 15-day stretch, making all three on her home course—Chapel Hill (N. C.) CC. She has made a total of 8 aces in her career. . . . Sam Snead has been named pro at the Shawnee-on-Delaware (Pa.) club, succeeding Jimmy Thomson. . . . Colored caddies at Pinehurst are building a 9-hole sand green course near Taylortown, the world's only caddie village. Pinehurst caddies hope to supply a national colored champion.

Workers have recently completed staking out a course on land six miles west of Buffalo, Okla. Plans are now being made to make the course accessible to the golfers, as the nearest highway is nearly three miles away. . . . Alex Gerlak, pro at Catskill (N. Y.) CC, is the recipient of a traveling bag presented by members of the club as a token of esteem and affection. Alex has served the club ably and well for 5 years. . . . The new \$100,000 clubhouse at the Paintsville (Ky.) GC, which had its formal opening recently, rates among the best club structures in the country.

The Wachusett GC in West Boylston, only state-owned golf club in Massachusetts, has recently been purchased by private parties who will operate the layout as a private club under the name of Wachusett View CC. . . . A plan to equalize golf handicaps for interclub and individual competition will be tried by the Northern Calif. Golf Assn. during the next 90 days. The new plan is "primarily for the purpose of equalizing play among golfers from different courses and will prevent chiseling on the stroke allotments. It will not mean much of a change in present handicaps."

Managers to Meet in Detroit this Month

PLANS for the 14th annual convention of the Club Managers Association of America, to be held in Detroit February 27-29, have been completed, according to late word from Jesse G. Wetzel, Detroit Club mgr., and general convention chairman. The program includes an outstanding series of interesting talks, educational features, and entertainment, and CMA officials are looking forward to handling one of the largest convention crowds in the association's history. Hotel Statler in Detroit is convention headquarters.

Many of the delegates and guests are expected to arrive in Detroit Sunday, Feb. 25, and tickets will be available for them for the Ford Sunday Evening Hour, provided advance reservations are made with Wm. F. Roulo, manager of Detroit's University Club and treasurer of the national association. Roulo is also publicity chairman for the convention. Monday will be devoted to registration, informal conferences, board of directors meeting at the Detroit Club, and an informal reception is scheduled for that evening in the Statler English room.

General chairman Wetzel will get the convention officially under way Tuesday morning with the call to order. Right after the invocation an address of welcome will be given by the Hon. Edward J. Jeffries, Jr., mayor of Detroit. CMA president Fred H. Crawford, of Louisville's Pendennis Club, will give the opening address. A business session will occupy the remainder of the morning's program.

Fine Program Announced

Educational program of the convention gets under way Tuesday afternoon and will continue through Wednesday afternoon. Round table conferences with Wm. Roulo presiding at the discussion on city clubs, and John Pomeroy, Red Run GC, Royal Oak, Mich., presiding for the country club group, is scheduled for Thursday morning. Also scheduled for Thursday a.m. is a meeting for women managers only. Mrs. Ruth S. Jones, Oak Hill CC, Pittsford, N. Y., will preside at this conference.

After luncheon in the Statler's large banquet room, the managers will finish up the business end of the convention in Thursday afternoon's sessions. 1940 officers will be elected during the final day's conferences. Annual banquet and dance