

MAKING *the* SWING

By

HERB GRAFFIS

THE GOLF NEWS IN BRIEF



Tournament pros have no license to condemn greenkeepers for bumpy greens as long as pros continue their present habit of picking the ball out of the cup. . . Most of them lean over with their weight propped on the toes of their putters. . . That presses little holes near the cup. . . Those holes deflect putts. . . Especially the tricky putts inside three feet. . . If a caddy held the pin of a flagpole on a green he'd get scolded but the pros' habit of jabbing the toes of their putters into the greens is at least equally injurious to the smoothness of a green. . . It's something for the PGA Tournament bureau to bring to the attention of the boys. . . By the way, you've got to hand it to George Schneider as Tournament bureau head for straightening out that situation. . . Now the players all know where they stand and that no favoritism is being shown. . . Better starting times for the stars is because of the demand of the people who put up the money for the tournaments, not because of the Tournament bureau.

Western Open now is just behind the National Open in Ryder Cup point rating. . . Maynard G. (Scotty) Fessenden has revised the Western Open and amateur so they're again major events. . . It has cost Scotty a barrel of entertainment dough, time and energy, but's been a great thing for golf. . . Western Open at Buffalo with \$15,000 prize money and \$10,000 for the Evans scholarship fund cost the Adam & Co. some money. . . Gate might have been bigger with more extensive arrangements for advance ticket sale. . . Mike Parco, Buffalo driving range pro, leading the first two rounds, would have helped gallery draw if the gate had been under \$3.60. . . Tournament promoters now have to consider that people with \$3.60 are private club members who have seen plenty of stars in tournaments and can take a tournament

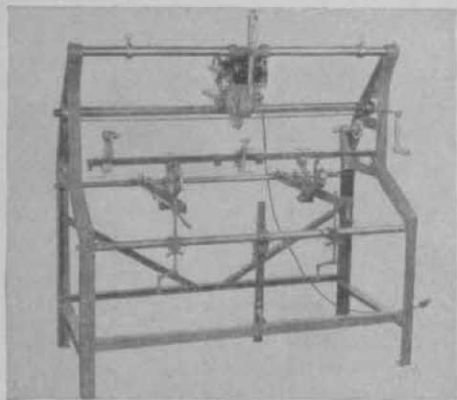
or leave it alone. . . It's the fee course and golf range players at \$1 per head who are going to account for big galleries.

Tom Utterback of Richmond was at the Western Open getting ideas for the 1949 PGA championship which he and his pals will stage. . . Tours of historic spots around Richmond are one of the features Tom plans for wives of players, galleryites and writers. . . Chick Evans is using 48 inch shafts on his woods and long shafts on irons and putters by advice of his oculist. . . Chick sure can handle those long clubs well except in a high wind. . . Fred Dowd, Western GA director, said at Brookfield CC during Western Open that 1949 Western Amateur will be played at Bellerive CC, near St. Louis, the second week in July.

Funny thing at the Western Open was Walter Hagen, Sr., rebuking Walter, Jr. for taking an 80. . . "I never took one in a championship in my life," said Walter, Sr. . . Just for the hell of it we've been looking through the USGA Open records to check. . . In the fourth round of the 1923 National Open Walter, Sr. took 86. . . In the fourth round in 1927 he took 81. . . In the second round in 1929 he took 81. . . In the fourth round in 1930 he took an 80. . . You shouldn't have taken that boy behind the woodshed, Pop. { . . . Walter is all for the idea of having his biography written. . . He likes the title "I've Met A Million People." . . . Bob Harlow will do the book if he can get Walter cornered long enough to yield necessary material for what should be a great tale of interest and entertainment.

Ben Hogan's book "Power Golf" is ranging from 5th to 15th among non-fiction best sellers in book stores of major cities. . . Maternity note—A lady cat, husband unknown, selected a golf bag in storage at shop of Billy Burke, Country Club of Cleveland, O., pro, and added five kittens to the shop stock. . . Louise Suggs visited the Western Open getting acquainted with pros. . . Sister Suggs has started on exhibition and summer school for MacGregor. . . British PGA has decided to allow amateurs to compete in their tournaments next year. . . Hogan-Oliver play-off for Western Open title drew about 3,000 Monday morning, Aug. 2.

One night of the Western Open Ben Hogan went to Mike Parco's driving range for a practice session. . . Word of Hogan's presence spread rapidly and brought Mike a large crowd of spectators and customers. . . Jimmy Demaret going fishing next month for vacation. . . Walter Hagen says the late George Eastman, Kodak magnate, called him "the best caddy in the world."



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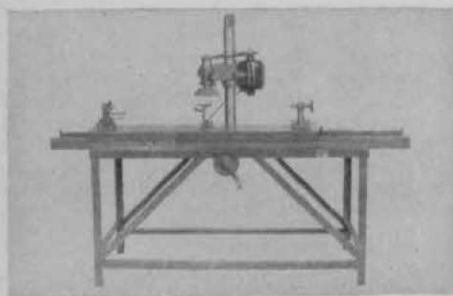
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Lloyd Mangrum's \$22,500 prize money in the George S. May tournament was highest figure ever earned in golf play. . . The Soldier Boy won \$5,000 as All-American leader. . . Plus bonus of \$5,000 for being leading money winner of the year. . . Plus \$2500 for 63 setting course record. . . Plus \$10,000 for winning "world's professional championship" staged by May, after play-off with Sneed and Harrison. . . Lawson Little won \$500 and Porky Oliver \$250 from May on bets on putts on the 18th green.

May's "world's professional championships" didn't have Hogan in the field. . . Ben and George didn't get together on terms. . . Hogan, first winner of U. S. Open, U. S. PGA and Western Open titles in one year, is in a tax bracket that makes a rest look very good. . . Hogan's absence apparently didn't cut down the \$1 gate which seemed to be larger through the week on a cash basis than when May was "papering the house." . . Monday play-off for "world's pro championship" drew probably an actual count of 7500. . . Charley Bartlett, Chicago Tribune golf writer, suspected that at least a third of those present at the play-off "never had seen a big-time fairway contest."

Have to hand it to May for discovering

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that private club members weren't enthusiastic about any tournaments except National Open and PGA. . . And that public course players and golf range customers wouldn't pay gallery prices as high as seats to a first class theatrical presentation. . . Tam O'Shanter's a flat course that allows only those in the first row to see shots but the newcomers to tournament golf attracted by May are willing to stampede and shove to get in the first row. . . Pinkerton marshals at May's circus didn't control crowds as they did at Augusta National.

Skip Alexander didn't wear a number at Tam. . . Skip, from the Carolinas, sah, was paired with a Negro contestant in one round. . . It was a laugh to Skip but made some Negroes in the field and gallery sore thinking Skip was paired with one of their race as punishment for not having numerals pinned on him. . . Negro golfers commenting on having to pay much larger entry fee in proportion to prize money in Joe Louis tournament than is customary in tournaments conducted by whites.

George S. May has been offered \$1,500,-000 for Tam O'Shanter. . . And turned it down. . . George has set his 1949 dates as Aug. 8-11. . . Henry Cotton will come

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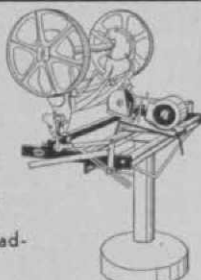
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over for exhibitions and tournaments this fall. . . Wisconsin Gkprs. Assn. and Midwest Assn. of Golf Course Supts. will hold joint meeting at Waterford Woods CC, Waterford, Wis., Sept. 20. . . Roger Legg Treat, born July 31 to Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Kim Treat. . . Roger's Pop is with Arthur D. Peterson Co., N.Y., course equipment and supply house. . . Carlton E. Treat, supt., Montclair (N.J.) GC is a grand-daddy of the new arrival.

No doubt now of the American tournament circuit proving itself valuable as a conditioner and training school for foreign pros as well as the Yanks. . . Henry Cotton after his American trip won the British Open stroking the ball better than he did in his 1934 and 1937 triumphs, according to those who saw his performances or studied action pictures. . . Roberto de Vicenzo's triumph in the North British Rubber 5,000 guineas Open reflected lessons he learned last winter in the American finishing school. . . Dai Rees, a keenly observant student of American technique while he was here for winter tournaments and Ryder cup matches, recently won the Irish Open at Portmarnock. . . Portmarnock is the longest course in Britain or Ireland. . . It's 7,208 yds.

British golf clubs already busy trying

15th hole on the No. 4 course, Olympia Fields Country Club, Olympia Fields, Ill.

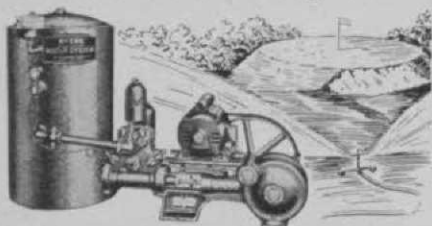
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to raise money for sending a Walker cup team over here next year. . . If the expense money can't be secured the matches will be cancelled, says Golf Illustrated. . . Bob Lyon who writes a sprightly golf column "Blastin' Out" covering LA suburban areas, says new courses are in prospect at Burbank and Torrance. . . Lyon says Gomer Sims and Cece Hollingsworth are leasing land for a public course at Alondra park, Torrance, Calif.

Pete Bullis, MacGregor salesman, got an ace on the 163 yd. third at Lake CC, Crystal Lake, Ill., July 17. . . Pete was playing with Jack Sherwood, pro; Stan Tanan and Fritz Franz, Tulane golf and football player. . . Now I suppose Pete wants to be switched from peddling to be a member of MacGregor's advisory squad. . . George Dawson, Chicago district mgr. for Spalding, and Fritz Witzel of Spalding's NY office, took time off between sales meetings at Chicopee to win the Longmeadow CC 4-ball championship.

Kebo Valley GC, Bar Harbor, Me., celebrating its 60th year. . . Shirley Liscomb, pro-gkpr, son of the man who laid out the course, has been with the club 42 years. . . Last year the club elected Shirley to membership. . . We've seldom heard a club president praise a greenkeeper like

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John J. O'Brien, Kebo's head, lauds Liscomb. . . Engineer's GC, Roslyn, L.I., N.Y., started as swanky private club and in recent years operated as a fee course, is for sale by Prudence-Bonds Corp., 10 E. 40th St., NYC. . . PGA 1919 championships, won by Jim Barnes, was played at Engineers as was 1920 National Amateur, won by Chick Evans.

Richard Speer Van Sisco, 81, owner of Ferncliffe GC, West Caldwell, N.J., died July 24. . . He'd over-exerted himself the day previously working in hot weather around his home. . . He was born on the course. . . Part of his farm he sold to Mountain Ridge CC. . . Ferncliffe will be modernized by Mr. and Mrs. Frank H. Henderson, heirs to the property, who have operated it as a fee course for several years.

Wonder when the PGA will issue its long-delayed record book and tournament players' biography volume? . . . Latest one was compiled in 1941. . . Western GA tournament press book and Wilson Sporting Goods Co. booklet on Wilson advisory staff members help a lot in getting publicity for golf personalities and show PGA what can be done. . . USGA first national Junior championship had entry of 495 qualifying on 41 courses for 128 qualifiers.

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H. B. Musser, prof., agronomy, Pennsylvania State college, has been appointed editor of the Turf Manual which the USGA Green section will issue. . . Plans for the manual have been approved by the board the USGA Green section named and work on writing the book is in progress.

Mary Mozel, pro sister of pro Joe Mozel at Lloyd's GC, Portland, Ore., twice set a new course record for women at Portland GC during July. . . Her first record was 73 and three days later she knocked in 71. . . That's better than many fellows did during the 1947 PGA championship on the Portland course. . . The floods didn't reach the Portland GC course and it's now in beautiful condition. . . Robert Trent Jones is architect of the new Rock Rimmon CC near Stamford, Conn. . . Construction of the first 9 holes has begun. . . The course will have escalators on two of the holes.

It was good for a loud laugh by the gallery at the Tam O'Shanter All A-May-rican play-off when a marshal yelled "Stand where you are at!" and a spectator helpfully retorted, "Watch your grammar." . . . Special scorecard at Mohawk GC, Schenectady, N.Y., this year shows a picture of Jim Thomson, Mohawk's pro-gpr., and a view of the clubhouse. . .

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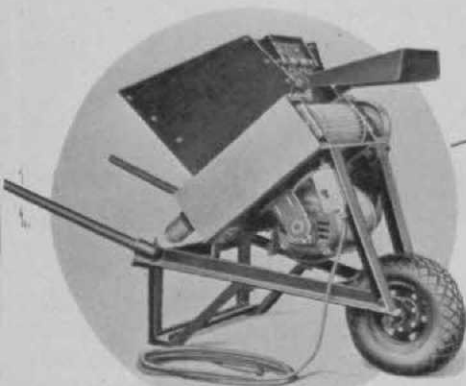


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Ridgemoor CC (Chicago dist.) recently held its fourth annual party for disabled veterans from Hines (Ill.) VA hospital. . . Clubs and balls were furnished for the kids who could play the course or putt. . . The affair finished with a dinner at the clubhouse. . . Ridgemoor members kicked in for buying clubs and balls for use at the Hines and Great Lakes Naval hospital courses. . . Veteran golf writers O. B. Keeler and Grantland Rice are ill.

Hermitage CC, Richmond, V., had a field day and gala dinner celebrating 20th year at the club of its great old Scotch-born pro, Tommy Galloway. . . Club presented Tommy with a \$2500 bond. . . Hermitage will be scene of 1949 PGA championship. . . Great growth of public courses in west and south reflected in entries at 1948 Public Links championship at Atlanta. . . 1949 Publix will be played at El Rancho, Los Angeles, which is just being finished. . . Seneca course at Louisville, Ky., will be host to 1950 Public Links championship.

Looks like Texas will continue turning out stars. . . Don Addington, 17, Houston,

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got 4 under par 67 at Brackenridge Park, San Antonio, to be medalist of state Junior championship which was won for second time by L. M. Crannell, Dallas. . . Earl W. Morris named Managing Director, Canadian PGA. . . No salary with the job. . . Club Managers Day at National Hotel exposition, NYC, set as Nov. 8. . . No more Philip Morris cigarettes as hole-in-one prizes. . . The company gave 1110 golfers 1,000 Philip Morris cigarettes apiece while the award was being made. . . Joe Kirkwood had his clubs stolen by kids at Western Open. . . Billy Bell to design Monterey Hills course near South Pasadena, Calif.

Johnny Bulla's criticism of treatment of American pros in British Open was ignited when Henry Cotton gave a couple of the American pros the ice instead of a lift when they were looking for a ride from the Muirfield clubhouse into town. . . We hear that some Winged Foot members are willing to bet in fancy figures on Willie Turnesa in a match against Frankie Stranahan.

Fred H. Bernet, former sec.-treas., Club Managers Assn. of America and for 14 years mgr., Missouri AC, St. Louis, appointed paid executive sec., CMAA. . . Richard R. Sandford named mgr., James River CC, Newport News, Va. . . Frank



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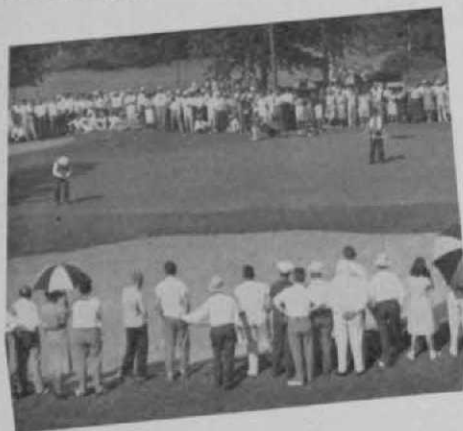
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W. Harding new mgr., Menlo CC, Redwood City, Calif. . . . Amateurs now wanting to turn pro have to wait 6 months after signifying their intention to the PGA before they are eligible for prize money in tournaments in which providers of the prize money have agreed to PGA terms. . . . Interesting legal possibilities in that ruling. . . . Prize money list extended in tournaments with more than \$10,000 purses by revised PGA tournament regulations.

PGA's national meeting this year will be held at Dunedin, Fla., PGA National GC, Dec. 1-3. . . . Twin Orchard CC (Chicago dist.) raised \$2,500 for hospitalized veterans recreation at its 1948 pro-am. . . . The club previously had raised \$5000. Hotel Traymore, Atlantic City, N.J., lists a "Byron Nelson salad." . . . King George VI in visiting the British Open this year became the first reigning British monarch to see that event. . . . Frank Stranahan is first golfer to hold British and Canadian amateur titles the same year. . . . Dorothy Kirby elected pres., Women's Southern GA. . . . Southern Women's 1949 championship to be played at New Orleans CC. . . . Onondaga CC, Syracuse, N.Y., celebrating its 50th birthday.

Joe Kirkwood offered \$50 reward and "no questions asked" for return of clubs

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stolen from his car at Western Open. . . The offer hasn't brought the clubs back. . . Louise Suggs now an honorary Lt. Col. in Georgia militia and aide to Gov. M. E. Thompson. . . Suppose I can do some strutting too on honors, having received appointment as an "honorary Tar Heel" from Gov. R. Gregg Cherry of North Carolina. . . That must have been arranged by Bill Sharp, N.C. state press agent and Bob Harlow so I could show credentials as another kind of a heel than that which I've been called by low characters.

Good to see that Al Zimmerman's getting back to tournament form. . . Al beat out such talent as Porky Oliver and Chuck Congdon for the Washington Open title. . . Nelson came back to win this year's Texas Open title. . . That elder statesman Len Mattson of White Bear repeated as winner of Minnesota PGA championship.

Premier Oil Refining Co., Longview, Tex., on its own private course sponsored a highly successful amateur invitation tournament for benefit of Gonzales Warm Springs Foundation for polio. . . 700 were at the barbecue and pool auction. . . Those Texans do things big. . . Flossmoor CC (Chicago dist.) celebrating its 50th anniversary. . . Flossmoor was host to

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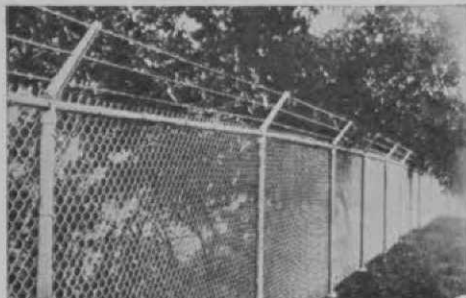
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1923 National Amateur won by Max Marston and 1920 PGA won by Jock Hutchison with a 1 up victory over Douglas Edgar.

Roberto de Vincenzo, whose golf in winning the North British Rubber tournament at Harrogate, was declared as good as Britain has seen this season, is a nephew of Jose Jurado. . . Jose was very popular on his visits to the U.S. . . Billy Maxwell, 18, who finished a stroke behind Byron Nelson, winner of the 1948 Texas PGA's Open event at El Paso, is one of twin sons of W. O. Maxwell, pioneer greenkeeper of Abilene. . . Norman von Nida to be operated on in London this month. . . His affliction is catarrh.

Morrie Talman, pro at Whitemarsh Valley CC (Philadelphia dist.), in a year has blind Bob Allman, 36 year old U. of Penn. alumnus, playing fine golf for a sightless fellow. . . Allman and Talman job was subject of Norristown Times Herald sports editor Red McCarthy's column and half page of pictures recently. . . Allman, formerly U. of Penn. wrestler and now successful Philadelphia businessman, qualified for the blind national championship with 134 over Whitemarsh's 6,670 yds. . . Double par on home course is standard qualifying procedure for the blind championship. . . Allman drives from

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160 to 200 yds. . . . The caddy lines up Allman's clubs. . . Allman putts by sound and Morrie says he is a good putter.

Naples (Fla.) Beach & GC installs new fairway watering system and \$50,000 clubhouse alterations. . . Paul Bell, pro, Rock Island (Ill.) Arsenal GC returns to Naples as winter pro. . . New York Trust Co. Index quotes Frank Menke estimating over 5 billion dollars will be spent by U.S. sports participants and spectators this year. . . The Trust Co. Index survey says there are 4 million golfers and 20 million bowlers.

It's difficult to make accurate estimates of numbers of golfers and bowlers because of differences in defining who's a golfer or bowler. . . GOLFDOM goes on the basis of active buying in defining a golfer. . . Its surveys indicate about 3 million golfers playing 5 or more games a year. . . But many who probably don't play that often consider themselves golfers, just as I, who haven't bowled in a year, may think of myself as a bowler. . . I bowl a fine golf score and golf a fairly good bowling score.

Art Sweet, veteran Chicago golf writer, making most consistently interesting golf broadcasts we ever heard. . . He's on twice a week through WNMP, Evanston,

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history and gossip. . . Jacobsen Mfg. Co.,
mower makers, gave Racine Boy Scouts
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ice. . . Ice Follies stars award Wilson clubs
as prizes to winners in San Francisco
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one of the biggest junior promotions con-
ducted in any city.

Ryder Cup 1949 matches to be played
Friday and Saturday, Sept. 16 and 17, at
Ganton club, 9 miles from Scarborough,
about 160 miles north of London. . . Club
was started in 1891. . . Harry Vardon
came there as pro in 1896 and registered
from Ganton, won U.S. Open in 1900 at
Chicago GC. . . Vardon was succeeded as
Ganton pro by Ted Ray who was there
for 9 years. . . Championship length is
about 6,400 yds. . . Par of regular course
is 36-33-69. . . Probably will be stretched
to comfortable 71 for Ryder cup matches.
. . Short 17th and 400 yd. dogleg 18th are
over a road. . . Pre-war pro record was
65. . . Course is rather tightly trapped. . .
Tough rough and trees are other hazards.

New right-of-way for Central Boul.,
Dallas, Tex., will cut 8 holes of Dallas
AC's course and site of clubhouse. . . Club
planning new layout. . . Long illness fatal
to Tommy Cox, 43, well known golfer and

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Deerfield, Ill.

mgr. of Sim Park munny GC, Wichita, Kans. . . JayCees of Great Falls, Mont., pushing construction of new munny course. . . New Cambridge (Minn.) GC now open for play. . . Choctaw CC, Poteau, Okla., enlarge clubhouse. . . Club was re-organized two years ago as private club. . . Dallas (Tex.) Open to be revived. . . Dallas selected as site for 1949 Texas PGA tourney. . . Herman Boecharadt back at Northwood CC, Dallas, Tex., as gkpr.

Cedar Rapids (Ia.) enlarging Ellis park munny course from 9 to 18 holes. . . 800 tons of black dirt being filled on new site. . . Fairways to be watered. . . Albert Schell, owner of Wichita Nurseries, sold 15-acre nursery tract to new Wichita (Ks.) CC to be used for club landscaping. . . Lakin (Ks.) CC building new clubhouse. . . Macon (Mo.) GC purchased from Theodore Gary by Bert Thieman. . . New Liberal, Kans., munny course now open for play. . . Bob Zander is pro-mgr. . . Hatherly CC, North Scituate, Mass., celebrates opening new \$100,000 clubhouse with 18-hole medal tourney open to all golfers with state handicap cards. . . New stone clubhouse replaced old wooden structure destroyed by fire a year ago. . . Caddo County G&CC, Anadarko, Okla., now open.

Meadow Lark CC, Great Falls, Mont.,

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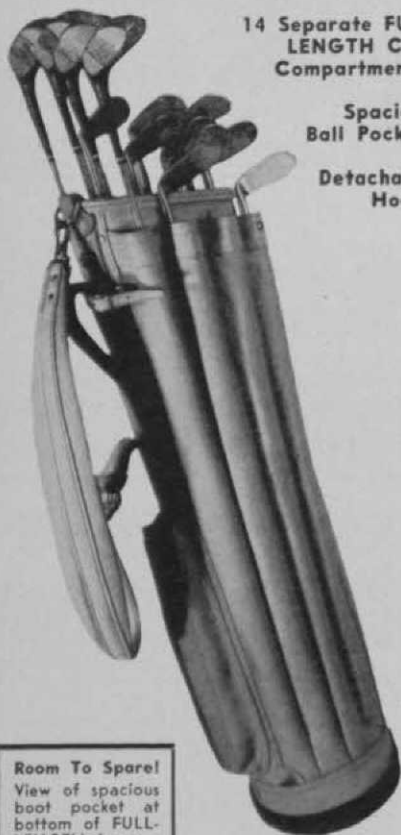
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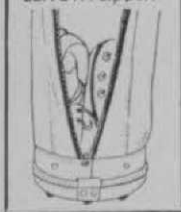


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ALABAMA

undergoing \$250,000 face lifting job. . . Under direction of Merritt (Johnny) Johnson workmen are completely remodeling old course. . . Ralph Meyer is Meadow Lark pro. . . Portales (N.M.) CC built during past year on 140 acres of old H-bar ranch recently completed and opened for play. . . This 9-hole, par 35 course has astoria bent greens, fairways of native grass, bluegrass tees. . . Course was designed by Wm. Tucker.

James Gilmore Harrison, Turtle Creek, Pa., building second 9 at Suncrest GC, Butler, Pa. . . Completed 18 at Suncrest expected to be an outstanding course of the district. . . Harrison's also revising design and construction of Bloomsburg (Pa.) CC. . . He's completed design for Willowbrook GC, Belle Vernon, Pa., and will construct 9 holes this year and 9 in 1949. . . Willowbrook is fee course whose owners made survey of upper Monongahela valley golfers in determining probable play and investment character of the new course. . . Another architectural job the busy Harrison recently has completed is planning new 18 for Park Hills GC, Altoona, Pa. . . Park Hills construction to begin early in 1949.

Congratulations to George Treadwell, Bill Terry and others of Memphis (Tenn.) CC for press book on National Amateur

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championship. . . This year's USGA amateur title event is first one played in south. . . First one, too, played on Bermuda greens. . . Field will find that Memphis gkpr. Jimmy Hamner makes that Bermuda superb putting surface. . . Women Golfer magazine, published by the capable and diligent Hope Siegnious at Greensboro, N.C., folds after hard work for almost 3 years. . . Unexpired subscriptions assumed by Bob Harlow's Golf World news weekly. . . Bob's doing a fine job of supplying coverage of scores and player news where newspaper sports pages have a big blind spot.

This year's National Amateur entry of 1,230 (reduced to 1,223 by withdrawals) was largest so far. . . Previous top was 1,118 in 1936. . . Last year's amateur entry was 1,048. . . Leo Fraser, chmn., Women's National Open at Atlantic City (N.J.) CC, says although gallery didn't come up to \$7,500 prize money and other expenses, the championship was "best golf show we have ever had in Atlantic City." . . . Field was 11 pros and 20 amateurs. . . Babe Zaharias with 300 won first prize of \$1,200. . . She led Betty Hicks, second, by 8 strokes. . . Babe had done well the week prior, winning \$1,200 first in the All A-May-rican.

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