

# Swinging around Golf

## NEWS OF THE GOLF WORLD IN BRIEF

Stu White, pro at Ogden (Ut.) muni El Monte course, reports record play shows city's need of a third course . . . White says present courses bring business into community from outlying area . . . Biggest year yet for exhibitions . . . Hogan, Nelson and trick-shooters Kirkwood and Paul Hahn getting about all the bookings they can handle. . . Snead, Mangrum and other tournament circuit pros also in demand for time they take off from the circuit . . . Clubs that don't want tournaments want to see headlines . . . Gallery draw generally profitable for exhibition clubs.

Oscar Fraley, United Press sports columnist, jolted PGA by writing "The current tournament at Oakmont will go down into the already tattered history book of the Professional Golfers' Assn. as the most mismanaged of them all." . . . Delay in getting scores was a major point of complaint . . . Fraley said "Results of the matches have been kept virtually as secret as the inharmonious inner councils of the PGA." . . . Cause of score information delay was explained by PGA as due to failure of sponsors to provide required equipment . . . Fraley's blunt criticism probably will turn out good for PGA in reminding of necessity of complete preparation and check-up on tournament arrangements by PGA tournament staff and officials . . . Until the PGA has enough personnel and first class organization plan it'll have the worry of wondering who'll bid for its championship . . . The problem is much tougher than that of the USGA, which announces sites of its major championships two years in advance, because PGA championships require heavy financial guarantees from sponsors.

Despite operating flaws, some bad weather and the usual "upsets" knocking out gallery magnets early, Sports Editor Al Abrams, head of Dapper Dan organization which sponsored the 1951 PGA championship, said the event brought a good net profit to Dapper Dan charities . . . Oakmont again stood up as a magnificent test of shot-making and as example of superb maintenance . . . Rough for the PGA is cut shorter than for the USGA National Open and Amateur so the PGA didn't have Oakmont as tough as it'll be for the 1953 National Open . . . Pros agreed that there isn't a better test of golf for the entire 18 holes



HERB GRAFFIS

than Oakmont provides . . . Elimination of traps that only caught the 12-handicap-and-up members saved maintenance expense but didn't reduce accuracy demanded of the pro experts . . . And what pleasant golf atmosphere there is about the old Oakmont clubhouse.

There wasn't any surprise at Snead's victory in the PGA . . . The surprising thing about Sam is why, with his swing, he doesn't win them all . . . Marty Furgol looked good in the second round when he lost to Snead in 3 extra holes . . . Marty's protest against Snead's blowing an insect off Snead's ball on the 15th green, by a stretch of the imagination, might have come under Rule 10 (4) prohibiting cleaning a ball . . . That was a fine point Furgol finally decided to skip . . . Marty's later win of the Western Open again showed Marty as a fine player who will go a long way when he gets his temperament trained.

Walter Burkemo going to the PGA finals was a far and pleasant change from a few years ago when Walter's back was so badly damaged by combat injuries some thought he might be a hopeless cripple . . . Jack Burke showed well at Oakmont in going as far as Snead . . . Some critics used to say Jack, Jr., wouldn't do well on real championship courses but his performances at Pebble Beach and Oakmont refute them . . . Ellie Vines had tough going at Oakmont with an ailing back that threatened to compel his withdrawal . . . After winning from Phil Friel, 3 and 2, in the first round, Vines beat Picard, 1 up; Bradley, 2 and 1, and Bulla, 1 up, before losing to Burkemo on the 37th of the semi-finals . . . Three of Burkemo's matches (against Toby Lyons, Chick Harbert and Vines) were extra hole affairs . . . Walter beat Dick Shoemaker, 2 and 1, and the little veteran Reggie Myles, 1 up.

Chick Harbert, canny businessman among tournament pros, has bought himself a winter home in St. Petersburg, Fla. . . . He's also bought a restaurant and bar there . . . Lately pros have been saying finest swing of the younger players is that of Joe Kirkwood, Jr. . . . Maybe his victory in the Milwaukee Blue Ribbon tournament will give Joe, Jr. more confidence in his short game . . . Good to see so many of the pros' sons doing very well in pro and amateur competition . . . There are, among sons who

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come to mind, Harbert, Douglas, Burke, Kirkwood, Williams, Picard, Myles, Fry, Revolta . . . Carolina Golf Assn. first amateur junior-only tournament drew field of 83.

Santa Cruz County G&CC sells tickets to Hogan's "Follow the Sun" movie to finance course and clubhouse improvements . . . Mountain View, Calif. proposed new course to water greens and fairways with effluence from sewage plant city intends to build . . . Sacramento, Calif., city championship's field sets record with 237 . . . Player in Oregon Open penalized two strokes when his putt struck cup which came out of green when flag was lifted.

Mrs. W. M. Bering, Decatur (Ill.) CC re-elected pres., Illinois Women's Golf Assn. . . . Indianapolis Amateur will be played with field playing all of the city's 5 many courses . . . Indianapolis junior also played on each of the city-owned courses.

Monroe (N.Y.) GC opens new pool . . . Newspaper hole-in-one contests having record lists of entrants . . . In many cities merchants are in tie-up prize deals with promoting newspapers and getting a lot of publicity . . . James Hynds, Sr., named greenkeeper, Sand Point (Wash.) GC . . . Fine piece by Marco Smolich in Sacramento (Calif.) Bee on Lloyd Perrault, shop asst. to Pro Bus Pendleton at Land Park course . . . Perrault was former college ath-

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lete and 5-handicap amateur until polio hit him . . . Bus lauds Lloyd's work.

Frank A. (Midge) Murray, 57, died June 26, in a veterans' hospital at Detroit following 4 years' illness . . . Midge was 30 years in Michigan pro golf, starting as asst. to Walter Hagen at Oakland Hills, then going to Owosso, Birmingham and operating a fee course at Elizabeth Lake . . . He also served as MacGregor's Michigan representative . . . He was an active, cheerful and competent golf businessman who had a multitude of friends . . . He was in the navy during World War 1 . . . Midge is survived by his widow and three sons.

Big party for Johnny Minner, retiring after 25 years as starter at San Francisco's Harding Park course . . . According to Al Zimmerman, Pacific Coast pro who's been taking a holiday at British tournaments, most promising of younger British pros is 16-year-old David Thomas, asst. at Bourne-mouth . . . Ralph Godsy new mgr. at Peninsula GC (S. F. dist.) . . . Dick Quillen, formerly Peninsula mgr., switched to management of California GC.

Green Hills CC, Muncie, Ind., formally opened . . . Looks like this is the biggest year industrial golf leagues ever had . . . It's getting tough for them to get enough starting time in metropolitan districts . . . Seattle financed trip of its representatives to USGA public links tournament at Mil-



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waukee with hole-in-one contest conducted by Kings County Golf Assn.

Ralph Yankee now pro at Los Serranos (L.A. dist.) ... Porky Oliver's 295 yard drive in winning the PGA driving contest and his winning long drive in the Blue Ribbon open show the Fat Man is hitting them plenty fat ... Scranton, Pa., talking about building a muni course ... Saucon Valley CC doing thorough job of advance publicity on this year's National Amateur.

Oklahoma City, Okla., opens new 18 hole Lake Hefner public course ... The \$115,000 course, under construction for 2 years, was designed by Perry Maxwell ... Have you noticed how fairways have been narrowed and rough allowed to get longer for state amateur tournaments and even club invitation tournaments this year ... The championship courses are getting the new look ... Players and green-committees are finding the rough is an expensive hazard for sprayed shots but a cheaper hazard on the course budget.

Oregon Women's GA asked to take over girls' junior tournament ... Oregon GA officers believe girls' division would grow even faster with women's management ... Tehachapi (Calif.) Chamber of Commerce discussing construction of 18-hole course ... Joe Ezar, now conducting a golf school in Seattle, Wash., trying to promote 18-hole course near Redmond, Wash. ... De-

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spite prevailing government prohibition of course construction there's much planning of new courses in central states and west, to be built when ban is lifted, and not much similar talk in east where shortage of golf facilities is acute in many districts.

Problem of tournament circuit was spotlighted July 28-29 when Hogan and Nelson were playing for substantial guarantees in 36-hole tournament at Decatur, Ill., while St. Paul Open, one of the older tournament circuit fixtures was being played . . . Jim Frisina, veteran amateur, with 10-under 132 beat Hogan and Nelson by a stroke . . . Disclosure that Lloyd Mangrum and Sam Snead seemingly had gamblers' pressure applied during St. Paul Open was sports section sensation following Bradley basketball fix expose . . . St. Paul has been headquarters of college football pool gambling and harbors some notoriously unsavory professional gamblers. Mangrum's prompt action in advising police of the threats was a wise deal for golf . . . Mangrum is not a guy who scares easily . . . Or at all . . . When he took action you may be sure that whoever called him didn't sound like kidding.

Not many gambling racketeers we've ever heard of as being active in golf . . . Not much money bet on golf except in the week-end friendly games, the club tournament Calcuttas where the betting also is

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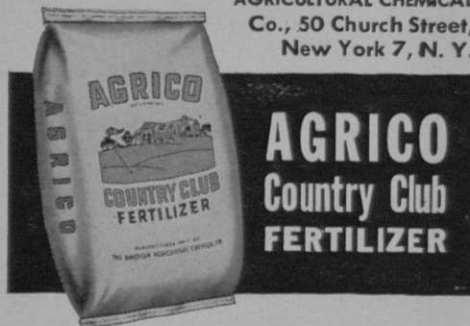
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among friends and by the golf hustlers who take the chumps . . . USGA frown on Calcuttas is a good thing . . . Some players might fall for the big money temptation . . . Even at Hot Springs where many of the gambling joint operators go, their golf gambling is almost altogether between themselves . . . Around Miami there was talk for several winters about pro golfers being too palsy-walsy with notorious gamblers . . . That warning took effect on all but the dumbest of the pros who were hungry for a fast buck.

When the Capone regime was brazen in Chicago quite a number of the most undesirable gorillas were golf nutty . . . Capone had a picture of himself in golf knickers in his office, flanked by pictures of Washington and Lincoln . . . One of the gorillas, active in the mob's gambling operations, used to team with an amateur who made a precarious career as a golf hustler . . . The amateur once missed a 3-foot putt on the 18th of a big-money match . . . The gorilla reached in his golf bag, took out a revolver and shot the putt-misser in a leg.

Frank Costello, rated by the Kefauver investigators the nation's gorilla czar, got into a reputable New York district club through some accident that didn't make the membership committee look good . . . Costello was asked to resign and got out without a fuss . . . Frank Erickson, boss

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gambler, now doing a slight stretch in the clink, also was a New York Met district golf club member until members became somewhat more discriminating.

Interesting annual event at Tilden Park course, Oakland, Calif., is that of pro Earl Nagle opposing the entire women's club membership in an eclectic tournament . . . Nagle lost, 3 down, this year . . . El Toro (Calif.) Marine base adding 9-hole pitch and putt course to its 18-hole, 6,674 yd. course . . . Pro Bill Foley designing new course.

Jim Wilson, 71, died July 23 at Gulfport, Miss., where he had been pro at the Great Southern GC for many years . . . He first went there for winter seasons but since 1943 had been there the year around . . . Prior to his Gulfport engagement Wilson was at the Park Ridge CC for 11 years and before that at Ravisloe GC, also in Chicago district, for 10 years . . . He served at Michigan clubs between his arrival and his connection with Ravisloe . . . He was one of the finest gentlemen in golf, an excellent teacher and player . . . Jim's grooming always was immaculate and his example did much to establish standards among pros . . . He was active in PGA affairs when the association was being established firmly . . . This beloved pioneer is survived by his widow.

Hawaiian Junior Chamber of Commerce

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starts a junior golf tournament . . . Expects to send players to US Jaycees' big annual junior championship . . . Club event that stirs up keen interest is the Bel-Air CC (Los Angeles) annual Derby . . . "Col. Duffer's Derby Dope" is printed on Racing Form style of sheet and is very amusing . . . If you want to stir up excitement at your club with something like this write Bel-Air's pro, Joe Novak, and see if he has a spare form sheet he can mail you.

Oakland Hills gate for 1951 National Open was \$110,892 . . . It was the record . . . Almost \$39,000 ahead of previous gate record set in 1950 at Merion . . . USGA gate cut of 60% was \$54,711 . . . Oakland Hills got \$32,826 after federal taxes . . . That plus program, concessions, parking and house net revenue made 1951 National Open financially the greatest tournament in golf history so far.

Oakland Hills sold 6,118 season tickets at \$10 . . . Saturday's gate sale was 4,836 at \$5 . . . Oakland Hills 550 members got two tickets each . . . Press, guest and staff tickets totalled 1,400 . . . If all the tickets were used Saturday the gallery would have been 13,454 . . . So the press references to a 15,000 gallery wasn't as far off as major tournament gallery figures usually are.

Arthur Lacey will be manager and non-playing capt. of the British Ryder Cup



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team ... Cmdr. Roe of the British PGA will not accompany the team ... Floods in central states have badly damaged some courses ... George Lake has another one of his big programs for juniors going at Long Beach (Calif.) Recreation Park course ... Program begins with evening movies, discussion and refreshments.

Western Seniors championship at Edgewater GC, Chicago, drew 222 entries from 19 states ... The vets (from 50 to 81 years old) played much faster than younger contestants in Open tournaments ... Starter Frank Mitchell sent the first 3-some away at 8 a.m. ... By 6:15 p.m. the entire field had finished ... James McAlvin won with 72-72-144 ... He was in 50-55 age bracket ... Chick Evans and Leo (Gabby) Hartnett tied for second at 147 ... Ray Jones was re-elected pres., and Wm. V. Kingdon was re-elected sec.-treas. ... Chick was elected honorary president ... Detroit, St. Louis and Tampa bid for 1952 Western Seniors championship ... Event will return to Edgewater ... Western Seniors, now in third year, has 450 members.

Jack Sabol's 25 years as pro at Westchester Hills CC (NY Met dist.) celebrated at party given Jack by club's members ... Wilford Wehrle's amateur status restored by USGA ... Joe Lawkins switches as pro from Forest Park to Island Shores (NY Met dist.) ... Another veteran, Pat Cos-

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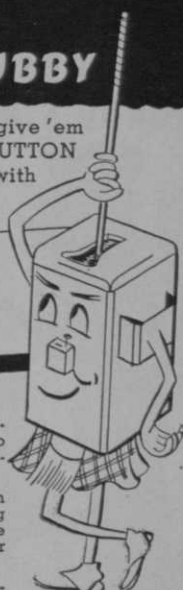
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tello, went from Island Shores to Forest Park, Queens many course . . . Walter Kozak now pro at Morris County (N.J.) CC.

Max Faulkner, new British Open champion, has no club connection so probably will cash in as free lance on tournament tours and exhibitions . . . British complain about "impolite non-appearance" of some Americans at 1951 British Open . . . With heavy tournament schedule on this side and steady demand for exhibition dates it's tough enough to get full array of American stars for American tournaments outside USGA National Open and the Masters . . . The Glory Road program of American pro golf stars of the low income tax days has ended . . . The pros have to play where the purses are handiest and expenses lowest . . . The tax man needs their money for the Marshall Plan and other urgent items.

U. S. Junior Chamber of Commerce national junior championship this year again set new record for entries with almost 20,000 lads . . . Hugh Egan, director of the Jaycees' sports and recreation program, gets the Jaycee chapters teamed-up in great shape in the liveliest sports promotion job in the nation.

Couple of brother acts doing OK in Chicago district . . . Hank Miller is pro-gkpr. at Briarcliff and a couple of miles away Hank's brother Bill is pro at Thorngate . . . Bill Miller's teaching asst. at Thorngate is

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Bill (Scotty) Saunders . . . Bill's brother Art is on Stan Kertes' staff at Bryn Mawr . . . Kertes, a standout example of top grade pro businessman and a sales and public relations personality, is to work during winter when Bryn Mawr's snowed in, as sales promotion man for a large corporation.

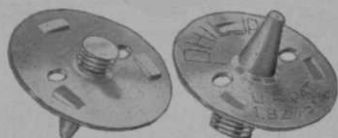
Tom Ream to return to Chicago dist. as mgr. at Ravisloe CC . . . Again you've got to hand it to the girls . . . The Women's Western Golf Assn. advance publicity and program for its 51st amateur championship at Plum Hollow rated ahead of most jobs men do in tournament promotion . . . Record entry of 598 in USGA's 4th annual Junior championship . . . Lads qualified in 40 locations for 128 places in the field . . . Mason Rudolph, Clarksville, Tenn., this year is first boy eligible to defend USGA Junior title he won last year.

Willie Low, Phoenix (Ariz.) CC pro, back on the job after an operation . . . Aubrey Lavender now pro at Riverwood CC, Portland, Ore. . . Niagara Parks Commission opens new course at Niagara Falls, Ont. . . Middle Atlantic PGA nominates Horton Smith as president of national PGA, Harold Sargent as sec., and Harry Moffett as treas. . . Skip Alexander recovered enough to shoot 69 at Lexington (N. C.) CC.

Ray Dobson, Minot (N.D.) newspaper editor helped make his own news when, as

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**PAGE FENCE ASSOCIATION** • Meressen, Pa.

president of the Minot CC., he officiated at the formal opening of the club's new nine July 1st. Ready last year, the added nine was withheld from play to permit unhampered turf growth. Entire layout is watered due to foresight of officials who had Buckner's engineer C. E. Stewart provide watering for second nine when system was installed on original nine some years ago . . . C. L. Hornung of Pro Golf Sales Co. Fond du Lac, Wisc., is recovering from an operation for acute appendicitis and will be back in harness soon.

Bruno Minkley of Acushnet recovering in Detroit hospital after several months' illness . . . Minnesota's 29th annual public links championship played Aug. 4 and 5 at Nemadji GC, Superior, Wis., where Barney Carlson is pro . . . That's the first time we can recall that a state championship was played out of the state . . . Willie Barber, brother of Jerry, leaves amateur ranks to become pro at San Fernando (Calif.) CC.

Livingston Platt elected pres., U.S. Seniors' Golf Assn. . . Ellis Knowles elected 1st vp and Frederick H. Haggerson, 2nd vp . . . Sherill Sherman, perennial sec-treas. of U.S. Seniors re-elected at meeting during the veterans' traditionally fine annual championship at Apawamis . . . Tom Robbins of Winged Foot, won the US Seniors with 73-67-140 . . . Tom is 58 . . . Comes by golf naturally; he's a Texan . . .

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Second in US Seniors was Prescott Bush, former USGA pres. and Yale athletic star . . . Bush's 66 in second round set senior golf record . . . It included a ball out of bounds.

### Pabst Scores with Tourney

Pabst beer's Blue Ribbon tournament at North Hills CC, Milwaukee, was definite promotional success for the brewing outfit. The \$20,000 purse plus expense of excellent promotion was comfortably offset by good gate for initial event. Association with country club atmosphere and market was especially good in view of adverse public reaction to Blue Ribbon's television programs getting the product associated with unappetizing fights. Reputable brewery sponsorship is OK with PGA tournament bureau but whisky sponsorship is unacceptable. Kefauver committee condemnation of big whisky interests as team-mates of organized mobsters makes the whisky money undesirable for golf tournament purses. Seagram's connection with Canadian Open is an exception that couldn't prevail in the U.S. Whiskey interests are having other embarrassing difficulties with golf clubs due to treating club managers about the same as B girls who hustle drinks in dives.



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