

History of Golf in Britain A "Must" in Golf Education

If professional golf required a course of academic study to qualify a student for his degree one of the text books essential to such education would be *A History of Golf in Britain*. It is a book of almost 400 pages, well illustrated, entertainingly, instructively and authoritatively written. It is published by Cassell & Co., Ltd., London, and is sold in the U. S. by The British Book Centre, Inc., 122 E. 55th st., New York 22. The price is \$12.50.

The nearest there's been in the U. S. to this British book are H. B. Martin's *Fifty Years of American Golf*, an excellent work published in 1936 and now out of print, and "*The Story of American Golf*" by Herbert Warren Wind, published in 1948.

Martin and Wind did their research and writing single-handed. They did not go back to the roots of the game as the British book does, but of course were concerned to some extent, as is the British book, with U. S.-British golf competitive material. Bernard Darwin, Henry Longhurst, Henry Cotton, Leonard Crawley, Sir Guy Campbell, Enid Wilson, Lord Brabazon of Tara and H. Gardiner-Hill have turned out copy that makes this book a classic of sports scholarship and lively, informative sports-writing.

Bob Jones in his foreword says, "Here is not all championships and scores but as well the fascinating story of the development of the game, its clubs, its playing grounds, its implements and rules, with an adequate appreciation of successful tournament players and a perspicuous analysis of their contributions toward the evolution of playing methods. *** The American golfer will find much in this book to delight him. During the later years, of course, there is much of America in the story — especially the rubber-core ball and international competition."

Bob's right. The story is "fascinating."

Golf "Uniforms"

Bernard Darwin, now 75, writes of "Then (about 1884) and Now" with the keen observation and graceful style that forever has a fresh charm for the sports reader whether the reader is a bookish fellow or a guy who quit school after 8th grade. There is a delicate and grinning jab in the Old Master's reference to golf attire. He says, "When I went up to Cambridge many people there bought red coats with light blue collars and those of us who were in the team added the university arms in gold and ermine on the pocket." Then he tells about the Oxford golfers' coats, and winds up that reference by saying, "Oxford, again the first to put away childish things, played sober-suited like ordinary Christians, and soon Cambridge followed their example."

H. Gardiner-Hill, chairman of the Rules

of Golf committee of the R&A since 1949, writes the most informative material on the history of the rules of golf that has appeared in print. He traces the development of the rules from the code compiled by the Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers in 1744. The code, with one exception, was the same as that adopted by the 22 "Noblemen and Gentlemen being admirers of the ancient and healthfull exercise of the Golf" who met at St. Andrews, May 14, 1754.

Rules Changes Explained

The effect of changes in the ball on golf rules are noted. St. Andrews became, by request of clubs represented at the British Amateur championship in 1890, the authority responsible for drafting uniform rules. The rules went into effect in 1892. The R&A Rules of Golf Committee as now operating came into being in 1897.

Highly interesting are changes in rules concerning the tee, which in 1744 called for the ball being teed within a club length of the hole." Not until the rules of 1882 was there reference to the tee without distance from the previous hole being specified. Gardiner-Hill notes that the 1774 code contained no reference to the ball having to be played where it lies, and no rule against improving the lie of the ball or the stance of the player, which many golfers assume must have been fundamental rules from the start.

The writer explains the omission of reference in the rules to playing the ball where it lies by remarking "presumably the principle was so well known that it needed no mention."

Lost ball meant stroke and distance penalty from 1744 until 1888. The "unplayable ball" term does not appear in the rules until 1858. From 1812 on the penalty for a ball in a water hazard has been the same. The rules of 1899 first provided for a ball out of bounds. The penalty was distance only until 1920. From 1920 to 1950 the penalty was stroke and distance.

Sir Guy Campbell's chapter on *The Early History of British Golf* makes a convincing case for golf having originated as a game called paganica among the ancestors of the Turnesas, the Pennas, the Ciucis, Sarazen, Ghezzi, et al., and having been brought to Britain by Roman Legionnaires.

Golf Expense Account

Sir Guy also presents data from the note books of Sir John Foulis, Bart, in which Sir John's golf expenses in 1672 are recorded. A dozen and a half balls were on the expense account Jan. 6. Balls were itemized again March 2. Caddy fees, club purchases and "lost at golfe" also appear. There is no record of "winning at golfe," which indicates Sir Robert wasn't as proficient as later golfers named Foulis, or he was keeping his expense account for the income tax man.

Sir Guy Campbell also wrote the chapter

on "The Development of Implements — Clubs and Balls," which he carries from 1603 when William Mayne of Edinburgh became the first royal warrant holder among clubmakers, and from Aug. 5, 1618 when James VI gave a monopoly in ball-making and selling to James Melvill and Williame Bervick.

Club, Ball Development

The effect of different balls and playing conditions on club design and construction is very informatively related. Those magnificent old artists of clubmaking, Hugh Philp and Douglas MacEwen are referred to as, respectively, the Chippendale and Hepplewhite of clubmaking. The chapter is basic information for anyone who wants to thoroughly understand the implements of the game.

Sir Guy Campbell also does the chapter on "Links and Courses" and as a highly competent and experienced architect gives the reasons for the developments in British golf course design. Incidentally the only blind spot in the whole book is absence of history of British golf course maintenance on which Sir Guy has written some very informative magazine pieces.

Henry Cotton's illustrated chapter on "Styles and Methods" is an excellent treatise on the development of golf methods, done with the sound scholarship and accurate observation that characterizes Cotton.

The personalities, the elements that accounted for change, and the thrilling, historic incidents of British golf in the 1848-1914 period also are subjects for Bernard Darwin. Henry Longhurst tells of the highlights of 1919-1939, in which period there is considerable reference to American competitors. Leonard Crawley covers the years of "A Fresh Start: 1945-1950. Enid Wilson supplies a very informative and close-up history of women's golf in Britain, and pays high tribute to visiting American girl golfers.

There is accurate reporting and much back-stage stuff in all these chapters that deal with the competing personalities.

On Golf's Future

Lord Brabazon of Tara, former pres., English Golf Union and member of the R&A Rules Committee, writes a stimulating chapter on "The Future of the Game." He thinks encouragement of artisan golf will "restore golf to its pristine glory in this country." He has a lot to say about courses and equipment and expense control to increase the popularity of the game, and he makes good reading and good sense. He, as do the other writers, frequently refers to American methods as setting the new style. His reference to course maintenance and its future, in some respects, is not endorsed by American experience. But all that he writes in his chapter will spur

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NEW YORK'S "MET" SECTION: JOHNNY'S TEAM

Johnny Inglis has been president of the New York Metropolitan Section of the PGA for 25 consecutive terms and his team-mates say Johnny gets younger and more energetic each year. The section is alert and progressive with some of pro golf's top businessmen as members. Here, at one of the Met Section's meetings are, Seated: (L to R) Toney Tiso, Al Ciuci, John Inglis, Jack Sabol, Gus Popp, Ralph Leaf. Second row: Fred Annon, Bill Goldbeck, Roy Jones, Al Renzetti, Elmer Voight, Thos. J. MacNamara, Angy Manero, Steve Doctor, Dick MacDonald, Joe Phillips, Otto Greiner, Lee Armstrong, Tom Devine, Fred Grieve, Pat Circelli. Third row: Willie Klein, William Sackowich, Frank Esposito, D. Salerno, Sam Sharrow, Harry Dee, Clarence Doser, Claude Harmon, William Dowie, Joe Mazziotti.

thoughtful and probably constructive discussion.

"A History of Golf in Britain" is by far the best work of its general nature ever produced in golf. All this space given to a book review shows that we regard it as a "must" for those who are in the business of golf.

Name Teams and Alternates for Hopkins Trophy Matches

Jack Burke, Jr., Lloyd Mangrum, Dave Douglas, Cary Middlecoff, Julius Boros and Doug Ford, first six purse winners as of June 30, have been named as U. S. team to play in first Hopkins trophy U.S.-Canada competition. Tommy Bolt and Ted Kroll are alternates.

Bill Kerr, home pro at Beaconsfield CC, named captain and playing alternate with Bobby Locke, Stan Leonard of Vancouver, Pat Fletcher of Saskatoon, Gordon Brydson of Toronto and Jules Huot of Montreal as Canadian team with one player still to be named.

Matches will be played at Beaconsfield CC, Montreal, Aug. 26 and 27.

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Edward Dearie, Veteran Course Expert, Dies

Edward B. Dearie, 64, widely known as golf course builder and maintenance authority, died at St. Francis hospital, Evanston, Ill., July 21, after illness of a year. Prior to his retirement he was supt., Oak Park (Ill.) CC.

Dearie was born in Philadelphia and had his first major job in golf as pro at Hershey, Pa. He became associated with Donald Ross in course architecture, construction and maintenance work and came to the Chicago district in 1921 to become supt., Ridgemoor CC.

He was one of the pioneers in making studious, extensive and practical application of what the scientists could tell him about course maintenance and was a charter member and active in development of Midwest and National greenkeeper organizations. He was architect of 13 courses in Illinois and was in direct or supervisory charge of 11 courses.

Eddie was one of the most beloved and helpful figures in golf course maintenance work. He lost a son in World War II action, and shortly thereafter his wife died. He took those blows bravely but began to show effects of these tragedies after a couple of years.

He is survived by three daughters, Mrs. Jane O'Neil, Mrs. Mary Calvin and Miss Joan P. Dearie; two sons, Charles K. and Jerome; six grandchildren, five brothers and two sisters.