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gree of success or even approach it?

Golf has swept the country in the past few years like a giant forest fire and it has engulfed a lot of beginners who are hungry for advice. I never get anything much for nothing and I don't think the readers of free golf advice expect to sidetrack the local pro for golf lessons that are given free in newspapers. But those lessons may get pupils coming to me.

I had the good fortune to get hold of a pupil who came to me and asked me if I would agree to teach him the game. After three months of teaching and training, he dropped his game from 120 to 80. He thought I was the greatest teacher he had ever had and I knew he was the best pupil I ever had because he let me build a game for him by coming out and practicing the things I thought would help his game. He shanked the ball at times. I said nothing. I wept with him when he had a bad day and if he had a good day at golf, he radiated sunshine. If he played some shots poorly, he wanted to be alone in his misery but he didn't give up and finally he made it. Today he's as cocky as a rooster. Before that he was as meek as a lamb because he couldn't get a game with the boys with the 120 score staring him in the face every time he teed off.

If I get a tip at the race track that wins, I'm looking for the guy who gave it to me. If the horse finished out of the money, I forget my tipster. If a pro can show a pupil how to play a good game, the pupil will stay with him, but, like the tipster, if the pro can't help the pupil the pupil will

look for a pro who can.

Once in a whole a "natural" comes along and the pro gets the credit for making a good player. For every natural, there are a thousand hackers. Who's the Greatest Teacher? The Pro who helps his customer's game is the answer. But the pupil has to stay with him and give him a fair chance to do the job. If the pupil had double pneumonia, he wouldn't expect the doctor to have him out of the hospital the same day. There are plenty of golfers with double pneumonia swings who think the pro has a magic formula he carries around with him to be used at a moment's notice.

## Smith Suggests Improvement in Reporting Score Details

Horton Smith, PGA pres., came up with a good idea to Harry Gage, golf writer for Dallas Morning News.

Smith proposed:

"Instead of measuring a player's game by the number of 1-putt greens, take the footage of all greens where only one putt is needed and establish an average. Then average the length of putts on other greens where more than one putt is needed to get the ball in and compare these two figures.

R-12-

"This will give you an idea of how well a player is doing with his approaching, and will prevent a false impression of a tremendous putting game just because a player had eight or nine 1-putt greens.

"Many times writers make a big play of the 1-putt greens. If you would take time to determine the length of these putts you would find that the player had a much better short iron game than he did on the green."

Smith confessed that many persons had a false impression of his putting ability because he could usually get the ball close to the cup with his chip and short iron shots.

Mark Cox, Wilson Sporting Goods publicity mgr., arranged the first detailed "box score" of golf tournament coverage, at the National Open in 1949. The material, compiled on performances of the leading players in the field, gave the golfing public the best data it's ever had on how tournament scores are made.

Eventually, with the golfing public's interest in scoring details keen and constantly increasing, the USGA, PGA and other associations will have to modernize score information service.

## Preston Childers Re-elected Arizona Supts.' President

Members of the Arizona Greenkeepers' Assn. met recently at the Wickenburg CC as guests of the superintendent, J. W. Hanley and Henry Sheldon, green chmn.

After golf on a picturesque course and very fine greens, an excellent chicken dinner was served by Mr. and Mrs. Paul Bishop, who have taken over the management of the clubhouse.

The meeting was called to order by Acting President, Preston E. Childers of the Phoenix Municipal course. Officers were elected for the coming year. Childers was retained as president with W. H. Stanley of the Yuma CC as VP. Charles J. Treacy, supt., Phoenix CC, was elected Sec.-Treas.

It was unanimously voted to change the name of the association from its present name of Arizona Greenkeepers Assn. to the Arizona Golf Course Superintendents Assn. to conform with the name of the national association.

A considerable step forward was a decision by all present that the associations' By-Laws be amended to include Associate members, consisting of equipment dealers, nurserymen, cemetery associations, superintendents of parks and all others interested in fine turfs.

Elmo B. Oshannon, asst. supt., Wickenburg CC was taken in as an active member. Two new associate members were accepted: Glenn Shaw of the Shaw Lawn Mowing Equipment Co. of Phoenix, and Silas E. Damon of the Damon Fertilizer Co. of Phoenix.

