

golf is the native flint; BUT IT TAKES THE STEEL OF COMPETITION TO SPARK THE GOLF GAME. Therefore tournaments and competition are of utmost importance to golf.

There has been a laxity about some district and local tournaments in late years. Prizes are out of balance, emphasis is on winter rules, calcuttas, member wagers and such things. Many of such events are not equal in standard to the great game of golf. It is therefore our professional duty to exercise our power of persuasion and our superior knowledge of tournament affairs to build stronger events in our localities. It is our basic duty to know the rules thoroughly and make our decisions from the rule book quickly and decisively. The Amateurs expect this from us. And along the lines of rules, beware the self-appointed rules expert who can distort the rules of golf and use them for his own gain. Many cases come to light of false rules interpretations causing grief to ill informed players.

#### No Place for Shady Characters

We know professional golf. We are aware of its difficulties and hard spots and we know how kind it can be. We know how exacting its entrance requirements must be. We know it is not an easy spot for play-boy golfers who want to be connected with fine clubs so that they can play golf each day and never have a hard lick to hit.

So we have the great responsibility of interpreting the difference between true professional golf and the pseudo pros and the fringe amateurs who are trying to "hustle" a cash gain from the game. The stain of sordid commercialism is on too many in amateur golf today. There are fine yet misguided players who are flirting with trouble. These fellows want no part of true pro golf. They dream of soft jobs secured because they have a fine golf swing and easy small talk. They scheme for big prizes at amateur tournaments and hope that some way they can make material gain from such play. How quick can we pros tell them that they cannot make such ventures pay? How well we know that they are treading on dangerous grounds. Others of these misguided ones hope for golf angels who will pay the tariff and give the free swinger a free ride through leisurely days of golf playing. Why not tell the truth to such players as these; give them the bitter truth? The sooner they find out about this mirage the better they will be and the cleaner amateur golf will be.

We must protect the portals of professional golf. We must seek better types of young men to break into the profession of golf. Our eyes should always be on the alert to find the cleanest and smartest

type of young man in our caddie ranks and or on our scholastic golf teams. We should build stronger professionals.

Yes, and we should make it unmistakably clear that there is no twilight road into pro golf. Make the leap in the bright sunshine of public knowledge and proper leadership or shun every sign of shady half measures that might bring dishonor to golf and the individual alike.

So, let's look to 1953. A year of normal sales, without doubt. Let us take this chance to build a stronger game of golf. Let us grasp this opportunity to serve better in our job as professional, as the community leader of this great game, as the guardian of professional golf and amateurism alike and may our 1953 slogan be the same as that great one from Rotary International, "he profits most, who serves best."

#### National Golf Fund, Inc. Is Organized; Riggins, Pres.

A non-profit corporation has been formed to administer the proceeds of National Golf Day, sponsored by the PGA and Life Magazine. The corporation has been named National Golf Fund, Inc. and the first complete report on the success of National Golf Day was made at its first meeting held recently in Chicago.

The corporation, with Fred L. Riggins, Sr. of Port Huron, Mich., will administer a fund of \$80,024 realized from the first National Golf Day, May 31. Some 14,000 players succeeded in bettering Ben Hogan's score, their handicaps considered.

The fund will turn over 50% of these proceeds to the United Services Organization in accordance with the original object of the Day, at a formal presentation ceremony in New York, October 21. The remaining proceeds of National Golf Day will later be distributed among worthy golf charities and projects.

Members of the new corporation include seven ex-officio members. These include the three officers of the PGA: Pres. Horton Smith, Sec. Harry Moffitt and Treas. Harold Sargent; the Chairman of the PGA National Advisory Committee, Bing Crosby; Pres. of the Western Golf Assn., Gordon Kummer; the editor of Golfing and Golfdom magazines, Herb Graffis; and the editor of Golf World, Bob Harlow. Six additional members who are prominent in golf will later be elected by the present membership.

Directors of the new organization include Riggins; J. E. King, Vice-President of Time, Inc.; Milton Woodard, Executive Secretary of the Western Golf Assn.; Graffis and Thomas W. Crane, PGA Executive Secretary, who has been elected Secretary-Treasurer. The annual meeting of the Corporation will be held in Chicago, November 10.