

# USGA Expands Green Section Program; Elects Grainger

Isaac B. Grainger of New York was elected president of the United States Golf Association to succeed Totton Heffelfinger of Minneapolis at the annual meeting held Saturday, January 23, 1954, in New York City's Hotel Vanderbilt.

Among the most significant actions taken during the fast-moving session was the decision to expand the Green Section program with the establishment of new regional offices at New Brunswick, N. J., in co-operation with Rutgers University and at Tifton, Georgia, as additional sources of turfgrass information for member clubs.

The 1,743 member clubs were encouraged to urge the repeal or reduction of the present 20 per cent Federal tax on club dues and initiation fees as being detrimental to the growth of golf as a contributing factor to the mental and physical well-being of the people of America.

Retiring president Heffelfinger briefly reviewed the organization's repeal of its ori-

through the spread of the Calcutta pools.

The possibility of a USGA sponsored annual senior championship was discussed and it was agreed to form a special committee to meet with the United States Senior Golf Association and to study the matter thoroughly.

The membership was informed that the number of exemptions from sectional qualifying in the 1955 United States Open Championship has been reduced from all former champions to only the winners of the five previous opens. In addition, exemptions will be granted to the low ten scorers and ties of the last previous tournament, instead of the low twenty and ties as formerly.

Regarding women's golf, a course rating system was adopted as the basis for handicapping and entry fees for the women's amateur championship were increased from \$7 to \$10 to conform with the pattern established by other title tournaments.

Newly elected president Grainger anticipated some changes in the rules of golf in 1955. The former chairman of the rules committee also announced arrangements for a meeting in the spring of 1955 with a committee of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of Scotland to discuss the adoption of a ball of standard size. He indicated too, the possibility of an agreement on an international code for amateur status. (At present the United States regulations are more restrictive in the matter of expense allowances for players in some events than are British rules.)

Highlight of the meeting was the establishment of the Robert T. Jones Award for "distinguished sportsmanship in golf." Officials stated that a seven man committee, to be appointed by the president, will nominate the candidate for the new award each year with the first award to be presented at the January 29, 1955 meeting of the association.

The new officers elected to serve with Grainger include: Vice-Presidents John D. Ames of Chicago and Richard S. Tufts of Pinehurst, N. C.; Secretary Charles B. Grace of Philadelphia and Charles L. Peirson, re-elected treasurer. Committee chairman, appointed by Grainger, are: Rules,



Francis Ouimet (C), first amateur to win the USGA Open looks at painting of himself presented to the USGA by two of his friends, Edward E. Lowery, San Francisco and William H. Danforth, Boston. With Ouimet are USGA pres. Isaac Grainger (L) and Charles W. Littlefield a former pres. of the USGA.

ginal ban on the wearing of shorts by competitors in the women's championship last year and went on to reiterate the executive committee's concern about organized gambling in golf. He pointed to the hitherto spotless reputation of the game and warned of the danger of soiling that record



Pres. Leonard Strong and the GCSA board of directors are hosts to USGA Green Section officials and representatives of the press at luncheon following harmonious meeting and dinner arranged by the Green Section for purpose of clarifying general policy adopted by the Green Section.

Richard S. Tufts; Championship, John D. Ames; Amateur Status, John W. Fischer, Cincinnati; Implements and Ball, Charles B. Grace; Membership, John G. Clock, Long Beach, Calif.; Handicap, William O. Blaney, Boston; Green Section, T. R. Garlington, Atlanta; Women's, Mrs. Harrison Flippin, Merion, Pa.; Sectional Affairs, Charles L. Peirson; Public Links, Fred Dodd, Wichita, Kan.; Junior Championship, J. Frederic Byers, Jr., Pittsburgh; Girls' Junior, Mrs. John Pennington, Buffalo; Museum, Edward E. Lawery, San Francisco.

the meeting at which harmonious understanding was reached.

Pres. Leonard Strong and GCSA directors were hosts to Green Section officials and newspapermen Jan. 7 at luncheon. Joe Dey presented the GCSA with the USGA perpetual trophy, a large cup, for the GCSA supts. championship. GOLFDOM presented an annual trophy for the winner in the pro-supt. division of the GCSA tournament.

A pleasant surprise was the award of a plaque to Fred V. Grau, former director, USGA Green Section, by the GCSA.

### Green Section, GCSA Officials, Meet at Miami

WITH JOE DEY, executive sec., USGA, presiding in the absence of USGA Green Section chmn., Richard Tufts, detained at Pinehurst, N. C. by a severe cold, Green Section operating officials and committee members met at La Gorce CC, Miami Beach, Fla. with Golf Course Supts.' Assn. executives during the GCSA conference.

The session satisfactorily ironed out misunderstandings about Green Section policy which had some supts. under the misapprehension that the Green Section was discontinuing all activity in turf research to engage entirely in extension work.

Clarification of the Green Section policy which had been adopted after conferences with Green chairmen and supts. ended a controversial division between some supts. and the Green Section which was becoming a source of bewilderment and irritation to some club officials.

The Green Section was host to GCSA officials and others at a dinner following



### GCSA TRIBUTE TO GRAU

Fred V. Grau (L) accepts plaque from Pres. Leonard J. Strong awarded by the Golf Course Superintendents Assn. in recognition of untiring devotion to the progress and development of turf improvement. Presentation was made at recent Turf Conference and Show and is the second award to be made by the GCSA for outstanding work by men in turfgrass development.