

Swinging around Golf

NEWS OF THE GOLF WORLD IN BRIEF

Hogan will be back for more National Opens but never again will he work as hard in training as he did for the Open at the Olympic club . . . That's the guess of fellows who know Hogan pretty well . . . Oak Hill at Rochester next year will be easier on the Hogan legs than the roller-coaster terrain of Olympic's Lakeside course . . . Hogan will be 43 when the 1956 Open is played . . . Amazing thing about Hogan's game at Olympic was the way he adjusted his swing, distinguished by superb leg action, to the handicap of a tight elastic bandage around his left knee.

Notwithstanding the impediment in Hogan's knee action Ben was declared by veteran pros to have stood out as the soundest shot-maker in the field . . . Hogan's putting is what has slumped badly in the past couple of years . . . He used to turn his head a couple of times for a look at the line after he took his putting stance . . . Then he got in the habit of rolling his head five or six times while over the ball and often stroked the ball with his head moving.

Jack Fleck, in the opinion of experienced tournament and teaching pros, who have watched him develop in the tournament circuit, not only will stand up as a champion, but will improve . . . His swing isn't as upright as the swings of the majority of younger tournament stars . . . His foot and leg action is pronounced . . . He gets a big hip and shoulder turn . . . His left arm is so straight it almost appears to be stiff . . . He's got big hands and fingers . . . His left hand is on top of the shaft so the V is pointing virtually straight up . . . His left hand grip is more of a finger grip than has been customary . . . If he continues to win you'll see the Fleck influence in a trend toward more finger gripping rather than finger-and-palm gripping with the left hand.

When he's coming into a full shot his left side is arched with the hip out toward



HERB GRAFFIS

the hole in the manner accented by Middlecoff . . . Fleck proved to be the most consistently good putter in the Open field . . . His hands are very close to his body . . . The way he keeps his head perfectly still while he's putting reminds you of Jones, Horton Smith, Guldahl, Little and Revolta when they were great putters.

He doesn't take much time putting . . . His putt of a few inches more than 6 feet, downhill and a bit past pole-high, to tie Hogan, required 24 seconds by our careful timing from the moment when he began lining up the putt until it dropped into the hole.

Fleck played smart, non-choking golf, free-wheeling on every shot . . . He used a spoon off several tees, including the 72d, so he could give the shot the complete treatment instead of trying to steer shots and stiffening his pivot . . . Same strategy with a spoon was employed by Peter Thomson in winning the 1954 British Open.

Hogan has the consolation of being the first to see high promise in Fleck . . . Ben fronted for Jack in getting Fleck an invitation to the Colonial Open . . . Fleck finished in a tie for 24th place with Bud Holscher and Doug Ford in the Colonial, at 296 . . . That was 20 strokes behind the winner, Chandler Harper . . . Six weeks later Harper didn't make the last 36 holes in the Open . . . That's golf for you.

A month before the Open Fleck bought himself a set of Hogan clubs which he played in winning the Open . . . That also is balm for Ben . . . John Reuter pointed out that Fleck and about a quarter of the Open field used Reuter's putter.

Pro shop business made it possible for Fleck to stay with the tournament circuit . . . His wife, Lynn, and his brother-in-law, Jack "Curly" Wayne, operating the Davenport, Ia., Credit Island and Duck

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Creek municipal golf facilities in Jack's absence.

Although Hogan lost on the greens he had only two 3-putt greens in the first four rounds . . . He missed plenty inside five feet . . . Snead, who finished tied with Bolt for third, at 292—five strokes behind the locked leaders—was the unluckiest putter of them all . . . Even his opening 79 could easily have been a two-over-par 72 with a behaving putter . . . During the four rounds Sam missed 18 makeable putts of 6 ft. or less.

Greens were fast and true, with a little poa annua in them . . . After the morning fog and other moisture dried out and traffic had dented and scuffed the greens they were about as fast as greens get but still remarkably true . . . Fleck's late starting times for the Saturday rounds didn't give him any advantage in putting but the greens, which were uniform in speed and without grain, didn't bother him at all.

Bent fairways were highly satisfactory to players . . . A point we'd never heard mentioned about construction before concerned some new tee areas . . . Turf was excellent but a few players said soil in

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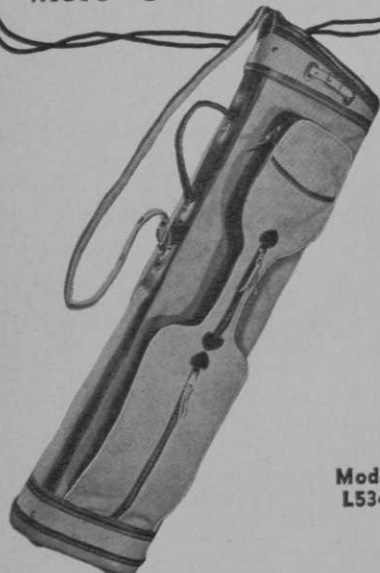
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these places was a bit too sandy and "gave" underfoot while swings were being made.

The rough made the field moan and bleed . . . It was wide-bladed, uniformly thick, and until about noon it was wet . . . It had been fertilized . . . Ropes for gallery control kept it from being tracked down . . . Fairways were widened in some drive landing areas after practice rounds . . . Whirlwinds cut down to about 2 in. deep strips about 2 yds. wide bordering most fairways, then 5 in. deep rough for 5 yds., the day before Open play started . . . This was in accordance with USGA specifications.

Players complained that the rough made men and monkeys even in recoveries . . . But that's what the field can expect in the toughest of all U. S. championships . . . Fleck got into the rough and recovered smartly . . . He had no complaints.

The course, designed by Sam Whiting, is one of the finest tests of expert golf without being unfair to club members, even without Open championship rough . . . Robert Trent Jones put in a few traps tightening greens to demand brainy reading of the course, and lengthened several

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tees . . . At first the field said the course was a "tee shot layout," then started talking about it putting the big premium on second shots, and finished by calling it an all-shot course.

Supt. Elmer Border and Green chmn. Edgar N. (Nick) Ayer went into early huddles with USGA Green Section West Coast director Charley Wilson about grooming the course . . . Its excellent condition represented more than a year of planning and work . . . Many members can take bows for the fine shape of Lake-side as for 17 days shortly prior to the Open Border, Ayer, Green committee members and others of the club had to do all course maintenance work . . . Course employees were out on strike.

Issues in the strike and terms of its settlement underline what GOLFDOM has said repeatedly about the urgency of golf club officials, the Golf Course Supts. Assn., the Club Managers Assn., and the PGA working out plans for early and general adoption of welfare and retirement plans adjusting the golf club employment situation to employment widely prevailing in industry . . . Only the Club Managers' Assn.

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of America has given much thought and action to this subject.

Olympic did a perfect job in handling all phases of the Open . . . Pres. Thomas A. Brooks, Gen. chmn. Robert A. Roos, Jr., and their committeemen, Mgr. Don Cameron, Supt. Elmer Border and pro Johnny Battini gave an exhibition of competence and teamwork that showed fine club organization can handle any problem in stride.

Battini's shop was doing plenty of business during the Open as was the sales tent outside which was manned by stars salesmen representing numerous manufacturers . . . Battini has a most capable staff which includes his wife, Betty, one of the first of the pros' wives to get very active and successful in pro shop business; Asst. Neil Colburn, Shop mgr. Ed Lagomarsino and Caddy-master Burt Fustini.

Wm. C. Chapin, who'll be genl. chmn., of the 1956 National Open at Oak Hill CC, Rochester, N. Y., and several of his teammates were at Lakeside learning answers in advance . . . Elmer Michael, Oak Hill supt., was at Olympic's Lakeside, going over maintenance matters with Border . . . Michael groomed Oak Hill's course

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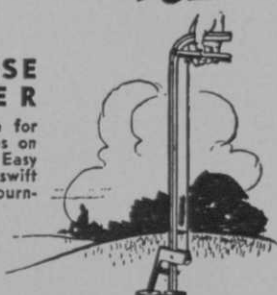
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on which 1949 National Amateur was played into superb condition.

Transportation of players and press between hotels and club, often a weak spot in championship operations was very good at San Francisco . . . Dodge dealers provided plenty of cars and were press hosts, and Mercury station wagons made frequent trips.

There never was a course laid out better than Olympic's Lakeside for spectators' view of the finish . . . The 18th, at the bottom of a natural amphitheater, had had ringside seats for at least 6000 . . . Wouldn't be surprised if gallery receipts weren't largest in Open history . . . Official program, again handled very ably by Ed Carter . . . The book was 264 pages; big majority of it advertising.

Unhappily, wireless didn't do any better than usual in handling the Open . . . Radio and TV outfits haven't been able to co-ordinate the scores in the hectic moments late Saturday afternoons . . . Experienced reporters in the press rooms at the Opens don't have that trouble . . . Some gorgeous prose that never went on the wires was written about Hogan's fifth National Open victory during the 20 minutes or so

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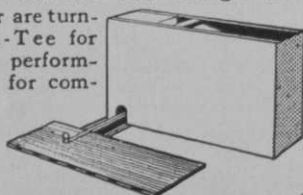


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between Hogan's finish and study of the press room scoreboard when Fleck reached the 14th tee . . . The reporters have seen too many of the late finishers make winning stretch runs in the Open to file any premature copy.

The truth is that American television has a long way to go before it covers a major golf tournament as well as the British Broadcasting Co. covered the 1953 Ryder Cup matches and the 1955 British Amateur with equipment on portable and fixed towers.

This 55th USGA Open definitely demonstrated that while the Open is out-ranked in money it still is the toughest of all American tournaments . . . When the USGA flag goes up on the club pole the contestants' nerves start to flutter . . . This year the USGA hiked the prize money 20 per cent . . . That gave Fleck a \$6000 start as a champion.

Topeka (Ks.) new public 18 open in July . . . Jack Wylie is mgr., and Ferrol Myzer, formerly asst. at Shawnee CC, Topeka, is pro . . . Expect to have Meadowbrook CC 9-hole course at Tulsa, Okla., in play in Sept. . . H. H. Arnold, for many years mgr. of the Miami, Fla., Miami

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Springs many course, fighting desperate battle in Jackson Memorial hospital . . . Arnold, critically ill, was told his campaign to get new clubhouse at the Springs had succeeded.

Strangely enough, Miami, with 250,000 population, has less golf facilities than any other city of its size in U. S. . . . Jimmy Burns, Miami Herald sports editor, urges city to build another course on LeJeune tract, only possible golf acreage available . . . Course shortage probably keeps from Miami enough revenue each winter from vacationing golfers to pay for ground and construction of new course . . . Considering economic importance of golf to Florida and excellent operating, physical education, recreation and social picture of golf courses at more than 100 U. S. universities and colleges, it is curious that there's no course at University of Florida which has more than 10,000 students and more than 700 faculty members.

Building 9-hole course near Warm Springs Indian reservation, Madras, Ore. . . . Baudette, Minn., golfers headed by W. B. Sherwood, building 9 holes . . . Fairfield (Ia.) CC to build new clubhouse and pool; \$100,000 project . . . Columbia

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(Miss.) CC, Wiley W. Wolfe, pres.; buys 9-hole course and clubhouse built in 1923.

Almansor 9-hole course of Alhambra, Calif. Parks and Recreation Dept., designed by Bill Bell, opens . . . Fred C. Cope, supt., and Stuart K. Spencer, director of recreation, hope to enlarge the course to 18 . . . Los Angeles Dept. of Park and Recreation has ordered preliminary plans for Whittier Dam 18-hole course, par-3 course and range.

USGA Green Section Northeastern Turfletter contained helpful information on control of aquatic plants which are bothersome problem with architecture featuring so many water holes . . . Sullivan County, N. Y., publicity strongly accenting golf as magnet for vacationers . . . Frank Emery, in golf maintenance for over 30 years, named supt. at South Pasadena (Calif.) 18-hole short course . . . Plant represents \$225,000 investment by R. L. Lohman and George Lane . . . Dave Taylor is pro . . . Robt. F. Warner, Inc., 588 5th ave., NYC 36, issues new edition of "Digest of Distinguished Resorts" . . . Book outlining 75 top resorts with golf, good for a pro to have around.

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(N. J.) CC modernized . . . Minneapolis-Honeywell Regulator Co. says it has 1000 golfers among its employees . . . Miniature golf course built by prisoners at Massachusetts State Prison . . . Course was discovered by officials after guards were disciplined for lowering clubs to inmates.

Des Sullivan, Newark Evening News golf writer, quotes Jack Semple, Rock Spring (N. J.) CC pro, proposing that PGA and Ladies PGA join for a mixed two-ball Scotch foursome championship . . . This should make a very interesting event and attract rich sponsorship.

Golf architect Wm. Langford says practice putting greens should be contoured to the extent they'll present similarity to greens of the course . . . Trans-Mississippi GA to increase its course maintenance scholarships at Colorado A&M from two to four students.

Houston (Tex.) CC planning new clubhouse to cost \$1,177,000 . . . Cherry Hill GC, near village of Flossmoor in Chicago dist., sold for home development . . . Plan to operate one of the two Cherry Hill 18s for the next two years . . . Nat Dolve, Golcraft salesman, says Joe Sodd, pro at

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Northridge CC, St. Paul, Minn., does standout job of applying to pro shop display and operation what Joe learns during winter in store merchandising methods.

Bill Corbett, pro at Castlewood CC, Pleasanton, Calif., 25 miles from Oakland, says Castlewood's two 18s and its 9-hole par-3 are getting heavy play . . . Castlewood courses were revived in 1952 by Harold Sampson and Billy Bell, and surrounding ground was sold to a corporation . . . Club has 1500 members . . . Corbett, a nephew of Sampson, was asst. to Ed Vines at Northmoor CC (Chicago dist.), prior to the Castlewood job.

When you read the tribute of PGA Seniors' Pres. Marty Cromb to the late Joe MacMorran you realize that professional golf back of the headlines and with the fellows who work to help their fellowmen in the pursuit of happiness is a truly glorious career . . . You also are pleasantly reminded of the deep and refreshing sentimentality of the Scotch . . . The most sentimental guy I think I've ever known is the veteran golf writer Scotty Chisholm . . . Can't recall a time in more than 30 years

(Continued on page 74)

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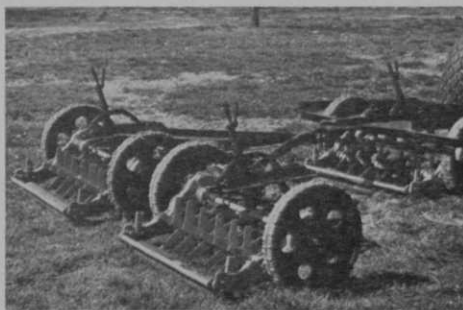
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Walter Kowohl of Selfridge Air Force Base, Mich., 220 yds. The shortest hole-in-one was recorded by the wife of a submarine officer, Mrs. John Dee, of New London, Conn. Her drive was 100 yds.

SWINGING AROUND GOLF

(Continued from page 22)

of knowing Scotty when he wasn't interested in making others happy rather than grinding for his own material welfare . . . Scotty looked great at the Open.

Floyd Farley has second 18 of Mohawk Park, Tulsa muny course, under construction . . . Osage CC in Tulsa another Farley job in work . . . Farley has completed plans for course at Texoma State Park and redesigned McAlester (Okla.) CC course, work necessitated by road construction . . . Farley says it's a race in the southwest to build courses to replace those being sold for residential and business sites, and to care for armies of new golfers.

Joe Dahlman, pro at Mohawk Park, Tulsa, Okla., back on job after months of hospitalization following motor crash

. . . Dahlman at Muskogee (Okla.) CC as starter for Oklahoma amateur, a job he's done for 30 years . . . Gus Wortham, insurance man, buys Houston (Tex.) CC to operate as semi-private course . . . Property is 178 acres . . . Club had been offered to city for \$1,625,000.

George Buck back again from Harder Hall, Sebring, Fla., as summer pro at Longshore Beach & CC, Westport, Conn. . . . Alex Stewart his teammate as supt. . . . Tom Bryant in his 19th year as Green chmn. at Kenwood CC, Cincinnati . . . Tom is one of those knowing and cooperative officials who is one of the biggest assets of a supt. and a club . . . Marion Mendenhall is Kenwood's supt.

Henry C. Glissman, 75, a pioneer in fee course construction and operation, and in turf nursery work, died recently at Omaha . . . He was a native of Omaha . . . He and his son Harold W. built and operated the Valley View, Harrison Heights, Dundee and Indian Hill courses and a large nursery and landscaping business . . . Mr. Glissman was active until a month before his death . . . He and his son sold the

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Indian Hills club shortly prior to the elder Glissman's passing . . . Harold is operating the course on lease.

New boss in the family of John Hawes, Golfcraft salesman in southeast . . . It's a girl who arrived to join Mama and Papa Hawes and four brothers in the family home at Chamblee, Ga. . . . Golf course income at Las Vegas, Nev., was \$51,704.75 from some 30,000 rounds in 1954 . . . Talk of building a second muni course in city property north of Las Vegas . . . Ken Hadland, Las Vegas park supt., recently honored by having a park named for him.

Don Krigger of Golf Course Supply Co., Pittsburgh, Pa., says Kittanning (Pa.) CC has noteworthy record of keeping good men . . . Course was opened in 1922 . . . Elmer Bowser, supt., and his brother Elmer, went to work on the course during its construction in 1921 . . . Blaine Hines, Kittanning pro, went with the club at its start, was caddy for a year and a half, caddymaster for two years and pro since 1926 . . . That's over a century of service to the club by the three men.

Dick Naughtin, pro at Lake of the Woods course, in Champaign County (Ill.), sends beautiful booklet describing the District and its course, and showing astonishing development of recreation in four years . . . Course, designed by Robert Bruce Harris, coming close to developers' ambition of making it one of mid-west's best . . . Course cost \$145,000, put up by Champaign and Urbana businessmen, with Hartwell C. Howard, retired businessman, contributing \$50,000.

Claremont CC (SF dist.) has 25 members over 80 who play 9 holes Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings . . . They play for a nickel a hole . . . Pro Dewey Longworth says he knows very few pros who could make a living in chipping and putting against some of these patriarchs for any amount of money.

Japanese-American group reported to be seeking land for building their own club in Los Angeles area . . . George S. May offers \$5,000 to any pro who can duplicate Lou Worsham's feat of holing out on Tam O'Shanter 18th from 104 yds.,

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during Tam's TV broadcasts every Tuesday from 10:30 to 11 p.m.

Alex Ohlson, Jr., and Tom Niblet, ex-buddies in the Marines, are building their own 9-hole semi-private Norton (Mass.) GC . . . They're doing it in spare time from their jobs . . . Niblet is supt. at Scituate CC . . . Ohlson, a real estate salesman, is son of Alex Ohlson, Sr., who retired after many years as supt. at the Lexington (Mass.) CC and now is living on Cape Cod . . . Expect to open Norton course in July next year.

Pennsylvania historical marker dedicated at Foxburg GC, "oldest golf course in continuous use in the U. S." . . . Course was established in 1887 and enlarged to 9 holes in 1888 . . . Harry R. Harvey, one of those who helped lay out the course, is still playing.

Don and Jill Gardner doing fine at their Golf Ranch in the Ozarks near Branson, Mo. . . . They've got a 9-hole sand-green course and range adjoining their restaurant which is a top-rated spot in that resort territory . . . Don was asst., then pro at Flossmoor CC (Chicago dist.) for 17 years . . . Jill was in radio on network shows prior to buying an Ozark farm in 1939 and converting it into a resort . . . Gardner giving a lot of lessons.

Norwood par-3 course in suburban Nashville, Tenn., now lighted . . . Pro Joe Norwood says play and teaching business very good . . . Ben Elam, formerly pro-mgr., Bay City (Tex.) CC now pro-mgr., new Mustang CC, Ganado, Tex., 9-hole private club opening this fall . . . Junior golf in Dayton getting strong help from pros . . . Miami Valley PGA held annual junior golf clinic June 20 . . . Dayton Recreation dept. holding Friday morning junior class lessons for six weeks with pros Harry Schwab, Jack White, Tom Blackburn and Al Copeland teaching at the Community and Madden Park courses . . . Clubs and balls furnished.

Wilton Garrison did interesting column in Charlotte (N. C.) Observer on Walt Masterson who pitched for Charlotte before he went with the Senators, and after military service, with the Red Sox . . .

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Walt quit baseball in 1953 to go with E. E. Taylor Corp. selling Strokemaster golf shoes and Ted Williams hunting and fishing shoes.

Louis H. Silverstein, Green chmn., Woodholme CC, Baltimore, Md., says he thinks they've got the right fairway answer for that district now in zoysia japonica . . . Club has new watering system, too . . . Ralph Plummer probably busiest golf architect in U. S. now . . . Course planning and construction really humming in Texas . . . Greenville (Tex.) CC 9-hole course opened.

James Harker, formerly supt., Klinger Lake CC, Sturgis, Mich., now supt., Bolivar (N. Y.) CC . . . Pros in Leicester, Eng., used newspaper advertising profitably in showing golfers why there's better value in buying from the pros . . . Rev. Vern Swartsfager, former Pittsburgh golf writer and now rector, St. John's church in San Francisco, had old-timers' reunion with veteran reporters in press room at the National Open.

Bob Solomon now pro at Indian Meadow GC (St. Louis dist.) . . . Bob was asst. to Ted Neist at St. Louis CC . . . Bill Duwe, former Indian Meadows pro, and his brother Don, open new par-3 course in St. Louis . . . Ira Bosley now pro-mgr., Waynesboro (Va.) CC.

Western Golf Assn. 52nd Open championship program a beautiful job with all ads being page illustrations of scenic attractions and activities in Portland and Oregon . . . Each advertiser's name only appeared at the bottom of a page . . . Portland GC committee responsible for this job produced a classic . . . The program was dedicated to the memory of

Bob Harlow, who pioneered in bringing tournament circuit golf to the northwest.

Women's Western Golf Assn. functioned with its usual expertness and class in putting on its 26th annual Open at Maple Bluff CC, Madison, Wis. . . . Attractive program, well filled with advertising, carried a cute line over the signature of the Program Committee: "So we salute our noble patrons, willing victims of a gentle blackjack."

Edgar C. Schill from Knollwood Club, Birmingham, Mich., to manage Thunderbird Ranch and CC, Palm Springs, Calif. . . . Don Manning now mgr., Louisville (Ky.) CC.

George O'Neill, 72, died June 4, at Miami . . . O'Neill came from Philadelphia to the Chicago dist. where he served as pro at Midlothian, Beverly and Lake Shore clubs and figured in the development of many fine golfers, among them Chick Evans, Eddie Loos and Elaine Rosenthal . . . While at Lake Shore he pioneered in golf class instruction . . . He became an excellent architect, designing many fine courses alone and in collaboration with Jack Daray, Joe Roseman and Jack Croke . . . An indoor course he designed for Henrici's restaurant at Chicago was the forerunner of miniature golf courses . . . Almost 30 years ago O'Neill was critically ill and received medical treatment financed by a pupil of his, the late A. D. Lasker, which cured him and resulted in tremendous advance in the successful treatment of anemia . . . O'Neill also pioneered in promotion of professional football.

Cameron Dunn, pro at the Silverado Club that Johnny Dawson, Pat Marko-

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SWINGING AROUND GOLF

(Continued from page 79)

vich and their associates have built near Napa, Calif., has a diary of his great-grandfather Willie Dunn that's rich source material for the golf historian . . . Glenview (Ill.) has passed a bond issued involving \$474,000 for purchase of Chesterfield GC.

Honolulu Junior Chamber of Commerce asked to sponsor Hawaiian Open to be played in late Nov. or early Dec. . . . Nut to be about \$25,000 . . . Ralph K. Ebling, pro at Haverhill (Mass.) CC, lauded by George Lane, pro at Merrimack Valley CC, Methuen, Mass., at Kiwanis Club lunch meeting . . . Lane after lecture and demonstration, named Ebling as "one of the great golf instructors in the country."

Charlie Hall, veteran pro at Country Club of Birmingham, Ala., and former national pres., PGA, feted at big dinner of club on June 25 . . . Charlie has been with the club since 1911 . . . Jerry Caldwell, club sec.-mgr., put on a dinner that was a championship performance in cuisine . . . Realty company considering building new 18 in Augusta, Ga.-Aiken, S. C. territory.

Charles Smith, mgr.-supt., Guadalajara (Mex.) CC, says their big annual golf party which draws many U. S. guests, will

be held Oct. 12-15, following Mexico inter-club matches, Oct. 9-10, at Guadalajara . . . Smith is helping golfers in Durango and Culiacan get 9-hole courses . . . Byrne Bauer, formerly mgr., Sunset Hills CC (St. Louis dist.) has bought famed Red Lion Inn at Stockbridge, Mass.

P. V. Beckett, who's pro at Blaney Park (Mich.) CC, is one of the first home-bred pros and, we believe, the oldest U. S. pro still on a job . . . He started in 1900 as asst. to Davey Hunter at Baltusrol when it was 9 holes, and in 1901 went as asst. to R. B. Wilson at Deal Beach, N. J. . . . He did a lot of clubmaking for Slazenger's too, in the pioneer days . . . He is mighty sound of mind and meat still.

Business Week, issue of June 25, has big story on golf business growth, accenting angle that a community without attractive golf facilities is deficient in qualifications as location for industry . . . Features course-building at Lawrenceburg, Tenn. (pop. 5,483) as giving the town a new look that interested corporation officials seeking factory sites.

Mrs. H. C. May, 87, mother of George S. May, owner of Tam O'Shanter CC (Chicago dist.) and noted promoter of tournaments, died June 18 at St. Petersburg, Fla. . . . May was at the National Open when advised of his mother's passing and flew to funeral services at Windsor, Ill.