

Swinging around Golf

NEWS OF THE GOLF WORLD IN BRIEF

Bill Cox, Britain's counterpart of Porky Oliver, played his home course, Fulwell, in 81 gripping his clubs only with his right hand . . . New Zealand has a Golf Foundation to the pattern of the U. S. National Golf Foundation . . . The New Zealand Foundation is featuring the promotion of junior golf.

Golf Illustrated of London reports that British PGA is finding no takers for its offer of the 1957 Ryder Cup matches for about \$30,000 . . . Says Ryder matches at Ganton in 1949 drew about \$18,000 (translated from pounds, of course) . . . Lucky the Ryder Cup matches here have acquired Bob Hudson as angel . . . Despite exciting and expert golf in the competition it doesn't draw well in this country . . . Thunderbird has expressed interest in having Ryder Cup matches as a quadrennial feature . . . PGA would be relieved of trouble of placing and financing the event but might risk having the Ryder Cup matches become primarily a feature of the Thunderbird entertainment calendar instead of an international sports competition.

Thunderbird hospitality lavish for both teams and British sports writers who made the trip and produced beautiful purple prose on the desert wonderland club . . . Jimmy Thomson on Caribbean trip this winter as sales missionary for Spalding.

Metropolitan New York club managers present Eric Koch, mgr. North Hills GC (NY Met. dist.), with an oil painting of himself during big testimonial dinner at Metropolis CC . . . Koch's been with North Hills for 25 years . . . Was Club Managers' Assn. pres. in 1946 and 47 . . . Wm. Buescher new mgr. Milwaukee (Wis.) CC . . . He succeeds Henry R. Dutton who now is mgr. Antlers Hotel, Colorado Springs, Colo.



HERB GRAFFIS

Forrest J. (Red) Large from Oak Park (Ill.) CC to manage Plum Hollow GC (Detroit dist.) . . . Donald D. Christian from Meridian Hills CC, Indianapolis, Ind., now managing CC of Orlando, Fla. . . . Robert M. Dorian from Brynwood CC, Milwaukee, Wis., to manage Scioto CC, Columbus O. . . . Lorne A. Cameron, formerly mgr., Scioto, now the Club Consultants, Inc., a club management advisory service.

Sidney T. Jessop of Medinah CC has been elected 23d pres., Chicago District Golf Assn. . . . At the CDGA annual meeting Charles N. Eckstein of Ravisloe was elected vp, Andrew W. Gatenby of Beverly, treas., and Stacy W. Osgood of Flossmoor, sec. and gen. counsel . . . The CDGA reported that more than 16,000 of its handicap cards were issued to members of CDGA member clubs in 1955 and that Chicago District Golf Charities raised \$11,221 for vet hospital use last year.

Perry H. Smith, 74, father of Horton and Ren Smith, died Dec. 7 at Springfield, Mo. . . . He had been in failing health for some months . . . Mr. Smith was a native of Springfield . . . He was a highly respected citizen whose admirable character is reflected by his sons . . . He was in farming and live stock business . . . His widow survives him.

Commonwealth CC (Boston dist.) sold to Gor-Sam Realty Co. at reported \$820,000 . . . It will continue operating as a country club . . . Lou Strong changes from Park Ridge (Ill.) CC to become pro at Tam O'Shanter CC . . . Lou's former asst. at Park Ridge, Ken Weiller, comes from Kishwaukee CC, DeKalb, Ill. to take over Park Ridge pro job.

The Country Club of Virginia gross revenue from 1955 National Amateur was \$64,000; the net, \$16,000 . . . The Richmond club's Board of Governors distribut-

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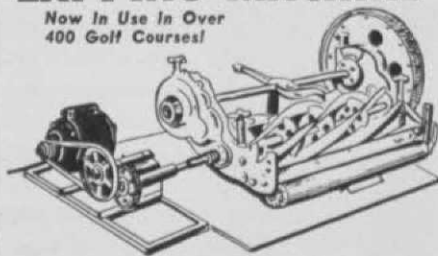
ed the profit as a bonus to club employees . . . Broadacres GC, 9 hole public course in Bloomfield, N. J. to be site of soap company research laboratory . . . Interesting point brought up by Lake Success (N. Y.) village ordinance halting removal of sod, trees, etc., from site of Deepdale GC former course which is to be used for home sites . . . Village officials say ordinance is control measure to prevent flood damage.

Sale of golf course sites for use as building plots is reminding municipalities of the clubs' very small use of municipal services in return for the clubs' tax payments . . . Some municipalities making 75 ft. minimum frontage for home lots, declaring that smaller plots and houses do not pay for facilities required to service them.

Talk in south about leasing municipal courses to private operators since desegregation court ruling . . . Airplane application of Chlordane to Marshfield (Mass.) CC for beetle control at low cost very interesting to New England supts. during their last outdoor meeting of 1955 . . . As result of supts.' planning and cooperation highly valuable to Supt. Frank Wilson dur-

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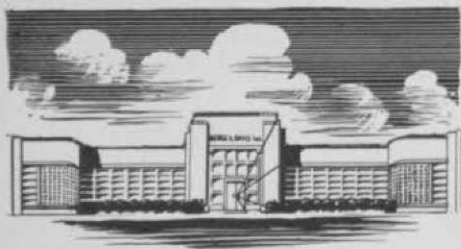
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ing Carling Open last year, New England supts. already are discussing similar work for help of Supt. Francis Malone of Blue Hill CC during this year's PGA championship and as aid to Supt. John Kealty of The Country Club of Brookline during the 1957 National Amateur.

Jack Fleck to be partner of Byron Nelson in match against Harvie Ward, jr. and Ken Venturi at Harding Park, San Francisco, Jan. 21, for benefit of California flood sufferers . . . Fleck suggested benefit match and Eddie Lowery got it organized . . . Letters of Fred Riggan, sr. that he wrote to Mrs. Riggan and their children, from trip Fred made to Africa with other American seniors is very interesting job of reporting a golfing traveler's wandering in a strange land.

Mark Cassidy's new course at Glen Falls, N. Y. to be in full swing this spring . . . Junior classes planned to be big feature again this year . . . In 1955 outstanding work done in junior instruction by Bob Haggerty, pro at Edison Club, Rexford, N. Y.; Bucky Hewitt, pro at Westvale GC, Camillus, N. Y., and Bob Smith, asst. to Jack Gormley at Wolferts Roost CC, Albany, N. Y.

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Women's criticism of high bidding in previous Calcuttas will reduce pool totals at several clubs this year . . . Wives say they could use the money better . . . Calcutta scandal exploded by Larry Robinson in NY World-Telegram Sun last fall quite interesting to Internal Revenue dept. . . . Simon-pure, 6-handicap, absolutely-on-the-level golfer who's won \$100,000 in Calcutta in past three years has declared every cent of it in his returns . . . He's very successful businessman in high tax brackets.

During formalities honoring memory of Leo Diegel and voting him into PGA's Hall of Fame fellows who knew Dieg well told how hard he worked in raising lot of money for vet hospital golf . . . Some nice stories came out about pros who gave Leo a hand along toward the end of his long illness when he really needed it . . . Doug Ford, PGA Playing Pro of 1954 to be playing pro for new Putnam CC, Mahopac, N. Y.

Third annual Early Wynn Ballplayers Invitation tournament will be played at Bobby Jones GC, Sarasota, Fla., Feb. 10, 11, 12, with Elks lodges of Sarasota and Venice as co-sponsors and proceeds going mainly to Harry-Anna crippled childrens' home.



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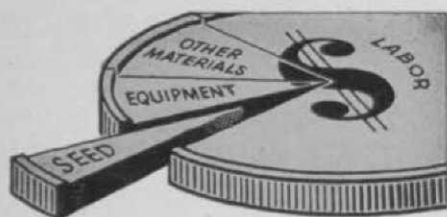
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In studying 1956 Rules of Golf note changes in amateur status rules at any age, instead of 18 or younger, as before . . . Amateur ruling eased to permit competition as members of industrial or business golf teams.

"A Night to Remember," Walter Lord's exciting book on the Titanic's sinking in April, 1912, says that included in the ship's cargo were 30 cases of golf clubs and tennis rackets for Spalding . . . Jim Barnes during recent trip back to Britain played in a holiday competition using only a 3-iron . . . Reports say Long Jim scored amazingly well for a 68-year-old golfer using only one club.

Plandome GC (NY) Met dist.) which appeared to be doomed to sale as a subdivision, bought by golfers who will operate it as a private club . . . Bob Toski and Marco S. Marinello, Holyoke, Mass., auto dealer, buy Mt. Tom GC at Holyoke . . . Toski will be pro . . . Illustrated sports section story in New York Times on sodding of new Putnam GC, Lake Mahopac, N. Y. . . Wm. F. Mitchell designed and built the course . . . Sod from Mitchel nursery at Sutton, N. H.

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Fine precedent was established by Colonia (N. J.) CC at party honoring its 1955 club champions . . . Colonia's supt., Frank Svehla was presented with \$500 check as a "token of appreciation for his fine work under trying conditions this summer." . . . George McKenzie retires after 25 years as supt. St. David's GC (Philadelphia dist.) . . . Club put on a tournament and dinner in McKenzie's honor and gave him a purse in further recognition of his able service.

Ernest R. Anderson, 68, former sec. PGA, died recently at Duncedin, Fla. . . . Ernest started in pro golf as assistant to his brother, Carl at Shenecosset CC, New London, Conn., and held pro positions at Lawrence Park, Bronxville, N. Y. at Newburgh, N. Y., and at Jungle CC, St. Petersburg, Fla. and was owner of a public course in New Jersey . . . He is survived by his widow and by his brother, Carl., golf architect in Miami, Fla.

Paris Letsinger, chmn. Program committee of the Ryder Cup matches, and his committee teammate Bob Hudson, got out the most interesting tournament program published in 1955 — and by a long margin . . .

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The book contained exclusive articles by well known golf writers on both sides of the Atlantic, and a lot of pictorial material . . . Advertising revenue was secured from sponsorship of the type and picture pages in the book . . . Book paid members' tribute to Thunderbird staff, Edgar C. Shill, gen. mgr., Jimmy Hines, pro. Eddie Susalla, associate pro, and Jim Kilpatrick, supt. . . . There's no other pro shop in the world nearly as big or fancy as the Thunderbird shop operated by Hines and Susalla . . . Kilpatrick's feat of bringing along the desert course into superb playing condition in three years calls for plenty of cheering.

Bob Williams, Beverly CC., new pres. of Midwest Assn. GC Supts., Amos Lapp, St. Andrews GC., vp; Wm. Stuppel, Exmoor CC., 2nd vp and Al Johnson, Indian Hill Club, secy-treas. Midwest directors elected at annual meeting at Glendale GC., Dec. 5: George Roloff, Roselle CC., Dave Mastrolleo, Arrow Head GC., Gordon Brinkworth, Olympia Field CC., Ed Stewart, River Forest CC., and Peter Bild, Woodridge GC.

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revenue from green fees and concessions hit a record \$177,701 in 1954-55 fiscal year . . . Lawton, Okla., new 18-hole public course and pro shop owned by Jack Greer, formally opened by prayer in pro shop . . . James A. Carlson pres. of Port Allegany (Pa.) GC which will have 18-hole course.

William Vincent Hoare, 79, died Dec. 7 in St. Petersburg, Fla. after a long illness. . . . Willie was born near the Westward Ho course in England and was one of the first British pros in the U. S. and was a contender in the early USGA Open championships . . . He won several of the driving championships that were National Open sideshows in the '90s . . . Willie also designed several courses and was professional at prominent clubs prior to joining the Wilson Sporting Goods staff in 1930 . . . In 1934 while at an Illinois Open championship Hoare suffered a heart attack and was an invalid after that.

Senior amateurs almost have a tournament circuit of their own in getting away from the snow drifts . . . Lakewood GC, the beautiful layout at Point Clear, Ala., had its Senior invitation handicap event Jan. 4, 5, 6 . . . the Sea Island (Ga.) GC

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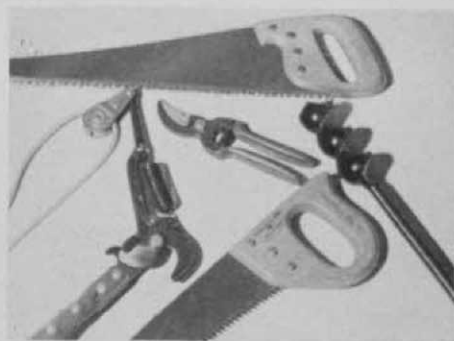
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annual senior's invitation is Jan. 19, 20, 21 . . . the first annual Naples Seniors' Invitation will be played at the Beach Club hotel course, Naples-on-the-Gulf, Fla., Jan. 26, 27, 28 . . . Harlingen (Tex.) CC "Life Begins at 40" invitation event is Jan. 29-Feb. 4.

Ken Murrery, pro at Royal Montreal GC, resigned recently because of an injury preventing his teaching and playing . . . Ken had been with the club for 33 years, taking over as pro in 1938 following the death of his father . . . The Murrays were with the Royal Montreal for 51 years . . . Ken served as pres., Canadian PGA . . . He will be with John Labatt Ltd., sponsors of the Labatt Open, in sales promotion.

Waterbury (Conn.) City Retirement Board told by Park Supt. James J. Curtin that retirement of East Mountain course supt. Andrew Lund, at mandatory retirement age of 73, would "create an immediate emergency." . . . Lund has worked for the city 51 years . . . Curtin told Board that Lund is in excellent physical condition and "looks and acts much younger than his age" and it would be difficult to replace Lund in his specialized job.

(Continued on page 82)



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SWINGING AROUND GOLF

(Continued from page 18)

Ross Sobel back from European trip to his winter job as pro at Westview CC, Miami, Fla. . . . During illness of Charles Schalestock, supt. Norbeck CC (Washington, D. C. dist.) his fellow members of Middle Atlantic Golf Course Supts. Assn. are serving as consultants to the club.

Quite a few testimonial dinners to pros late last season after October GOLFDOM (last issue of each year) had gone to press . . . Among these affairs was one given to Joe Natale, pro at Rolling Green CC (Philadelphia dist.), since 1927 . . . Henry Poe and Marty Lyons of the Philadelphia section PGA presented a watch and a scroll bearing signatures of 100 professional colleagues to Joe . . . Bill Boyle, pro at Iron Rock GC (Philadelphia dist.) also was feted and presented with gift from his members and fellow pros . . . Some more of them we haven't mentioned include big testimonial dinner to H. C. Hackbarth, retiring as pro at Little Rock (Ark.) CC after 48 years of service . . . Of 44 ex-caddies who started under Mr. Hack and who have become prominent businessmen around the U. S., 41 attended the party.

Knoll CC, Boonton, N. J. had a big party for Pro Danny Williams . . . Mt. Kisco

(N. Y.) CC put on a big affair celebrating 25th anniversary of its pro, Bill Goldbeck, with the club . . . Club topped celebration with \$5000 check and that's saying "I love you" in any language . . . St. David's GC, Wayne, Pa., honored George McKenzie, retiring after 25 years as club's supt., with tournament and dinner . . . Rhode Island Golf Course Supts. Assn. celebrate their 25th anniversary with a big dinner and present past presidents, including R. Wallace Peckham, first pres., with gavels. . . . Marty Tolomeo got his annual party at Twin Brooks CC put on by members who think the world of their man.

Charles H. Mayo, pro at Hackensack (N. J.) GC honored by his club members with a testimonial dinner . . . Prior to that affair British PGA presented Charley with a life membership for his 50 years' service to professional golf . . . He was pres., Metropolitan PGA in 1926, '27, '28 and pres., PGA Seniors in 1949 . . . He's been pro at Hackensack 11 years . . . Biographical notes and a tribute to Mayo in the dinner program tell of the "deep respect and warm affection" the club's members and everyone else who knows Charley have for him . . . Robert Trent Jones building course in beautiful seashore location for Lawrence Rockefeller's Dorado hotel in Puerto Rico.