

Swinging around Golf

NEWS OF THE GOLF WORLD IN BRIEF

Don't get excited about what you may hear of the PGA getting tied into any golf course-real estate promotions in Florida, Southern California or Arizona . . . PGA has enough headaches with Dunedin . . . Condition of the PGA National course during the Senior PGA championships has meant trouble for supts. who've had fine records elsewhere . . . It has had PGA Seniors contestants complaining loudly . . . Maybe the Seniors is played at bad time of the year or there's something fundamentally wrong with the layout . . . Nobody seems to be able to find out and some mighty good men have been trying.

Nevin H. Gibson's new book, "The Encyclopedia of Golf," must be getting established quickly as a reference work . . . We've already heard squawks that the book doesn't contain the records of the International Golf Assn. championships and the Left-Handed Golfers Assn. championships . . . By the way, the PGA should have its record books show scores of quarter- and semi-finals of its 1922 championship, fill in score of the Sarazen-Cruickshank match in the 1923 PGA semi-finals and some 1927 scores . . . USGA record book for earlier years is often sadly incomplete . . . Maybe old USGA files, newspapers and magazines such as probably are in library of Otto Probst could supply missing data.

Tommy Armour's new book, "A Round



HERB GRAFFIS

of Golf With Tommy Armour," will be published by Simon and Schuster in April . . . Book reviewers, who have seen galley proofs and some of the illustrations, forecast the book will have big sale, rivaling that of The Silver Scot's first book, "How to Play Your Best Golf," which set golf book sales record . . . The new opus is about a playing lesson with Tommy . . . Some of it will be serialized in Sports Illustrated.

Golfers in Florida have been talking about how smartly the girl pros have been attired in the winter events . . . A few of them always have been very carefully and attractively groomed but now almost the entire roster of the Ladies PGA is pretty nearly putting on a golf fashion show . . . That helps at the gate.

Still the best guide to what course maintenance cost really means in terms of money, areas maintained and extent of maintenance is the form the Midwest Assn. of Golf Course Supts. prepared in 1952 . . . Ray Gerber of Glen Oak, Donald Strand of Westmoreland and Bob Williams, now of Bob o' Link, prepared it . . . If present rate of population increase is maintained the U. S. will need 9,500 golf courses in 1970 if it reaches 1930's ratio of courses — one per 20,833 . . . Today there are about 5,745 courses in the U. S. (3,308 of them 9-hole layouts) . . . That's an average of a course per 30,641 Americans.

Front Cover

The eleventh tee at fabled Pine Valley is the subject of this month's GOLFDOM cover. It was taken by O. J. Noer, the peripatetic Milwaukee Sewerage Commission agronomist, No. 11 at Pine Valley is typical of many holes there. Top one off the tee and you're playing the next shot out of the sand. Many of the greens, too, rise out of the duneland and if you negotiate the distance from tee to green on quite a few of the holes without stirring up the gritty stuff, you've undoubtedly hit some very professional shots.