

Maxwell Heads Architects; Costs Studied at Meeting

Studies of costs of building and maintaining courses were the main topics of discussion at the recent annual meeting of the American Society of Golf Course Architects which was held in Palm Beach, Fla. These studies will be explored further when the architects meet again at LaChute GC in Quebec in June at the first



Plummer

Maxwell

Robinson

summer session ever held by the course designers. The next annual meeting will be held in the west at a site to be determined.

J. Press Maxwell of Dallas was elected pres. of the society at the winter meeting. The new vp is C. E. (Robbie) Robinson of the Royal Canadian GA and secy. is Ralph Plummer, also of Dallas.

Cost Savings Recommendations

At the Palm Beach conference, the architects agreed that great cost savings probably can be realized by more careful selection of course sites that will result in more effective use of natural terrain and less dependence on bulldozers. Excessive water, some designers maintained, boosts costs at some clubs because it increases frequency of mowing and creates an insect problem. In conjunction with the site selection, the architects recommended that much more emphasis should be put on picking locations where at least fairly ideal soil conditions exist.

The USGA and Royal Canadian GA are said to be concerned with the cost problems in course construction because of a desire to continue to keep the playing of the game within the range of the average income golfer.

GOLF'S BEST BUYING GUIDE
BUYERS' SERVICE • P. 135

BOOK REVIEW

Bed, Bath and Bedlam — "The Inside Story of Hotel Life." By A. R. d'Albert. Published by Vantage Press, 120 W. 31st St. New York 1. Price \$3.75.

This chronicle of the personalities who are the guests and those who are members of the staff of hotels is interesting reporting by a veteran widely known in hotel and club business. The tales that d'Albert tells will pleasantly stir the memories of many club managers who have managed hotels.

Wine Experts

Among a great many funny yarns d'Albert recounts is one about a dinner given by people who fancied themselves as wine experts. He relates numerous cases to prove his point that it's much easier to do a good job in a hotel (or club) for guests who really have class than it is for the exacting who haven't had enough experience in educated living to really know what they want.

Veteran Chicago Pro, Bob MacDonald, Dies in Florida

Robert George (Bob) MacDonald, 75, one of golf's old masters at teaching, playing and clubmaking, died in West Hollywood, Fla., on Mar. 29th after an illness of several months. He had held club jobs and operated winter schools in the Chicago area for more than 40 years.

Said to have the largest pair of hands in the game's modern history, Bob won the Metropolitan Open in 1915 when it was one of the country's "big money" events and placed third in the USGA Open that year. At the end of the season he joined with several other pros in organizing the PGA. Bob also was winner of the first Texas Open.

Contributed to Magazines

A frequent contributor to **GOLFDOM** and **GOLFING** over the years, Bob was professional at several Chicago clubs including Evanston, Bob O'Link and Edgewater. He is survived by his wife, the former Esther Ludwig, two sons, Bob, Jr. and William, three brothers, all of whom are professionals — Jack of Glenview (Ill.) CC and James and William, both of Dornock, Scotland.

Bob was born in Dornock and came to the U.S. as a young man.