

Lou Strong re-elected to president's position

PGA Preoccupied with Money Worries at 46th Meeting

By **HERB GRAFFIS**

The PGA at its 46th annual meeting in Palm Beach Towers, Palm Beach, Nov. 23-30, struggled to untangle itself from a multitude of confusing details and keep pace with the growth of golf. That task wasn't tough enough so the delegates and officers had to worry about the problems of building new courses, a clubhouse and offices. In addition there were complexities of relieving unpaid officers of the burden of personally expensive and nerve-wrecking i-dotting and t-crossing jobs and, above all, the responsibility of letting the members know what is going on. That latter chore, neglected despite the PGA having highly competent publicity men, indicates the nature of the overhauling task the pro golf association delegates and officers see confronting them.

These things were accomplished at the meeting:

Re-election of president Lou Strong, Secretary Wally Mund and Treasurer George Hall.

Harold Sargent, PGA president 1958-60, was re-elected honorary president.

Vice presidents elected: Dist. 1, Tom Creavy; 2, Jack Mallon; 3, E. E. Johnson; 4, Frank Comisso; 5, Warren Orlick; 6, Dave Bonella; 7, Dick Forester; 8, Don Waryan; 9, Bud Oakley; and the newly formed Dist. 10, Jack Ryan, professional at Big Spring GC, Louisville, Ky.

Tom Mahan, Jr., Jack Mitchell and Don Fischesser retired as vice presidents. Their places were taken by Tom Creavy, Jack Mallon and Warren Orlick.

Although no specific statement of membership was released the PGA has about 5,000 members of all classes.

Income Over \$1 Million; Profit?

Income from all sources was slightly over \$1,000,000, mainly in the tournament field. The PGA championship cost \$140,000. Net from all sources for the

fiscal year 1962 was about \$140,000. General operations (other than tournaments) produced an income of approximately \$243,000, which slightly exceeded expenses.

There was no detailed financial statement such as the USGA makes public to its members and the press.

Initiation fee of new class A members was raised from \$25 to \$100. Dues for Class A were held at \$65 for the national body, plus the \$15 construction assessment which has two more years to run, plus sectional dues.

Assistant classification was changed from D to Class A, Junior, and dues were kept at \$30.

Hope for Courses Profit

No budgets were set for the PGA courses, clubhouse and office building in Palm Beach Garden. It is expected that the PGA expense of completing construction will be approximately \$1,250,000, of which the assessments for the building fund will provide \$250,000 and the rest will be borrowed.

Interest on the \$1 million borrowed and for clubhouse, course and office building operation will be handled by the PGA's normal revenue plus income from PGA members and guests at the clubhouse and courses, Lou Strong estimates.

Strong admits his view of the Palm Beach Garden financial prospect is optimistic. Others on the PGA executive committee do not agree. With the two courses and landscaping of the 470 acres calling for an annual maintenance expense of \$110,000 to \$120,000 and considerable competition from other attractive courses in the area, some executive committee members and delegates feel that the plant will operate at a decided loss at least for the first two or three years. Construction will start on the clubhouse in two months and the entire setup will be completed between Sept. 1 and Dec. 1.

A businesslike study of the situation will be made and construction and operating budgets will be compiled by a special committee by mid-year.

Named to Education Job

Don Waryan was appointed chairman of the PGA education committee, succeeding Don Fischesser. This committee has been progressing substantially with its major achievement being the establishment of the PGA Business schools. The schools operating along the pattern set by Emil Beck, have taken up some of the gap between the pro organization's educational

Columbia Hails McLeod on 50th Anniversary

Fred McLeod, who moved into the pro shop at Columbia CC, Chevy Chase, Md., in 1912 and found the surroundings so congenial that he never gave a thought thereafter to leaving, was given a 50th anniversary testimonial dinner by the club on Dec. 1. More than 300 persons, several of whom contended with Fred for National Open, PGA and other championships, attended the affair which was held in the Chevy Chase clubhouse.

Joseph C. Dey, executive director of the USGA, was the master of ceremonies. During the proceedings he presented Fred an exact replica of the Open Championship trophy which the venerable Scot claimed in 1908 at the Myopia Hunt club. The trophy was presented in behalf of Columbia members.

Notable Guest List

The guest list at the dinner read like a page torn out of a golfing thesaurus. On hand to re-live some of the ancient combats they had with Fred were Jock Hutchison, W. H. (Bert) Way, Billy Burke, Chick Evans, Wiffy Cox, Al Houghton and Gene Sarazen. Long Jim Barnes was to have been among the guests but couldn't attend because of illness. Others at the dinner were Richard Leathers, Fred's only relative in the U.S. Jimmy Thomson, Harold Sargent, Fred Corcoran, George Bird, William E. Briggs, Emanuel Deitz, Irving E. Cantor, Winship I. Green and D'Arcy Banagan, McLeod's assistant at Columbia. J. Tyler Bowie was in charge



Fred McLeod talks over some of the almost forgotten matches with Jock Hutchison, Chick Evans, Billy Burke and Gene Sarazen.

of arrangements for the dinner.

The Columbia shopmaster came to the U.S. from North Berwick, Scotland, in 1900 to take the head pro job at Rockford (Ill.) CC. He left there to take a similar position at Midlothian, near Chicago, in 1906 and two years later went to the St. Louis CC. He stayed there four years before moving to Columbia.

Great Open Record

The record of Fred McLeod, who will be 80 in April, ranks with the best of those who have starred in the various National Opens. Besides winning the 1908 USGA event, Fred was the runnerup in 1921, finished third in 1914 and fourth in both 1910 and 1911. In both the 1910 and 1911 tournaments he was only one stroke behind the winner. His best showing in the PGA came in 1919 when he was runnerup to Jim Barnes.

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programs and those of golf course supts' national and regional associations at state schools, short courses monthly meetings and annual conferences and the Club Managers' Assn. regional short courses and the club and hotel management courses at several universities.

National Golf Day was set for May 25 and the Round of Champions will be played between Gary player, PGA champion and National Open champion Jack Nicklaus at Dallas Athletic Club CC, May 28.

Columbia Broadcasting System has renewed a contract with the PGA for televising the PGA championship. CBS will

pay \$75,000 a year. PGA is budgeting \$1,000 annually for the section in which the PGA championship will be held.

Revision of arrangements for televising tournaments, exhibitions and special programs involving PGA players was discussed, with a possible idea of working out a pro pension deal. As in numerous other PGA plans and operations, the legal phases are perplexing.

The Name of the PGA National Distributors organization was changed to PGA Golf Equipment Co.

Tournament entry fee was reduced from \$1.25 to \$1 per \$1,000 of prize money with a maximum entry fee of \$100.