

Swinging around golf

By **HERB GRAFFIS**

News of the Golf World in brief



Clubhouse tickets for the 1966 National Open at Olympic Club, San Francisco, June 16-19, sold out early . . . Masters tickets also were gone early this year . . . Not much chance of any of the other tournaments this year coming close to the Crosby tournament attendance . . . Bing's Clambake drew 120,000, 43,000 on the concluding Sunday . . . **Maurie Luxford**, general chairman, Golf's Golden Circle, which raises for the Jaycee-sponsored Los Angeles Open, hopes to have the kitty up to \$100,000 for 1967 . . . Luxford also busy already on plans with **Bing** and **Everett Crosby** and other teammates for 1967 Crosby event.

Twenty-fifth anniversary tournament of Women's Collegiate Golf Association, June 19-24 being played where the event was started, on Ohio State university's Scarlet course . . . **Miss Gladys E. Palmer** and faculty of Women's division of Ohio State physical education dept. organized and ran the initial event which had 38 players and was won by **Eleanor Dudley**, U. of Alabama . . . The championship was suspended during war years 1942-1945 . . . Now the championship is conducted by the Tripartite Committee on Golf, which includes representatives of the National Association of Physical Education for College Women, the Athletic and Recreation Federation for College Women, and the Division for Girls' and Women's Sports of the American Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation . . . Maids who've become famous in amateur and pro golf made their debuts as major champions in the Women's collegiate . . . Matrimony

claimed more of the Collegiate champion than pro golf . . . Maybe matrimony is easier work.

James L. O'Keefe, president, Chicago District GA and former president, Western GA is subject of a sparkling tabloid biography **Charley Bartlett** wrote in the USGA Journal—Father Bartlett told of O'Keefe's versatility as a collegiate champion swimmer and diver, golfer, musician, singer and dancer with **Whiteman's** and other bands, and successful lawyer. The O'Keefe story moved Bing Crosby and buddies to telephone Jim—Los Angeles to Chicago—early one morning saying "We've read about great things you've done but to settle an argument weren't you also the first guy to break the 4-minute mile?"

Seems there's been a record set this year in delays of PGA tournament rounds because of weather, but what hasn't been in the papers has been murderous effect of spring bad weather on pro shop sales in many areas . . . Superintendents in some localities also have been given ulcers by soaking rains preventing spring work on courses . . . Rains, according to one worried superintendent, stopped only long enough to allow a few eager addicts to tramp on soggy greens and start what'll be trouble next summer.

Big turnover in jobs has a lot of new ones in professional and superintendent posts but not so many changes in managers' connections . . . **Jim Wright** at Inwood, **Jack Doss** at Elwood and **Jerry Pittman** at Creek Club are three new pro assignments in the New York Metropolitan district . . . Doss replaced

Continued on next page

HERB GRAFFIS

Continued from preceding page

Phil Turnesa and **Pittman** succeeded **Bert McDougall** when Phil and Bert retired after many years of service to their clubs.

Leading clubs gradually are working out decent retirement plans for faithful and diligent employees who never have been overpaid . . . Seasonal nature of golf club operations, frequent changes of officials and non-union employment, plus so many of the private clubs' operating in the red, have delayed establishment of retirement plans by the clubs . . . A few of the older pros who have partially retired have gone to smaller clubs where the work isn't heavy . . . And what a great break that has been for members of those smaller clubs in getting expert pro service.

Cape Cod's oldest club, Cummaquid GC at Barnstable, Mass., opened this spring with a new automatic irrigation system on its nine-hole course and a rehabilitated clubhouse . . . Cummaquid was organized Aug. 17, 1895 and is believed to be the second oldest club in Mass. . . . **John Reid**, one of the organizers of the USGA and a founder of St. Andrews at Yonkers, had a summer home in Cummaquid . . . **Darrell Sheperd**, president, and **Albert S. Cross**, green chairman, got the improvement program going . . . **Bill Edlund** is superintendent and **Bill Spratt** is professional . . . **Warren Laffkin**, who died recently in White Plains, N. Y., was one of the veterans who built the Toro distribution system . . . He was hired by **J. S. Clapper** to work in Indiana, then started the New York Toro company in Yonkers, later moving to Scarsdale then to White Plains . . . He was VP of the O. J. Noer Turf Research Foundation . . . **Mrs. Laffkin (Matty)** and **Warren** were a merry and hospitable pair, widely known in golf business . . . She survives him.

Grant Wardlaw, now pro-manager, Cottonwood CC, Glendive, Mont. . . . His wife **Lou**, also experienced in golf club work, also will be at Cottonwood . . . They came from Silver Hills CC, Novato, Calif. . . . **Hugh Egan**, formerly head of the Junior Chamber of Com-

merce sports committee, now on the business staff of Nordic Hills CC, Itasca, Ill. . . . Shell Oil's "Wonderful World of Golf" announces that its sixth year of eleven one-hour color TV shows will start in January, 1967, with **Jimmy Demaret** joining **Gene Sarazen** for talking. Jimmy will be general announcer and Gene will continue with comment on the courses and players' techniques . . . **Gordon Biggar**, Shell's vp of public relations, says Peachtree GC at Atlanta will be U. S. course on the 1967 Wonderful World program with **Bob Jones** as honorary referee . . . Among the 1967 WW of Golf stars will be **Ben Hogan** . . . Contests will be filmed in Mexico, Venezuela, Bermuda, Morocco, Italy, Wales, France, Germany, Netherlands and Canada as well as at Peachtree . . . Shell's show is so far ahead as the most interesting, best-selling television show in golf that any one of the rest could be second without viewers caring much.

Masters as golf TV news gets lots of eyes and ears because it comes at a time of the year when millions of golfers north are inside . . . USGA did a nice thing for women's golf in picking up an NBC charge of \$15,000 for the first telecast of the USGA Women's Open . . . NBC couldn't sell that event to a commercial sponsor . . . Hence USGA knocked the \$15,000 off the \$70,000 NBC has contracted to pay for telecasting USGA championships . . . Nobody wants to pay for the other USGA championships (except, of course, the U. S. Open) . . . Shows how amateur golf has dropped as a competitive attraction . . . **Joe Dey** recently recalled that in 1930 when Jones completed his Grand Slam at Merion there were 3,109 season (six days) and 16,796 daily tickets sold, and at Canterbury for the 1964 National Amateur there were 1,065 season and 792 daily tickets sold.

Ladies PGA tournaments are steadily increasing their draw . . . Most sponsors are repeating and increasing purses for 1967 . . . **Robert Bruce Harris**, owner of the Delray Beach (Fla.) CC where a decidedly successful LPGA tournament was held this past winter, will be host to the girl pros again next year . . . Harris, one of the top golf architects

Continued on page 60

HERB GRAFFIS

Continued from page 10

and owner of several courses, says the way some of the girl pros read golf courses in determining playing tactics is sure to have a great deal of educational influence on women's golf . . . He thinks that pros who are doing fine jobs of teaching girls and women how to play golf shots have plenty of room for teaching the ladies how to play better golf by learning to see and solve the architectural problems of courses . . . Most women playing at clubs and at public courses haven't the slightest idea of golf course design.

Looks like the Tennessee amateurs get in the habit of winning . . . *Curtis Person, Sr.*, now 55 and winner of 20 senior events in the past 12 months, has won more than 80 tournaments . . . *Lew Oehmig* has won the Tennessee Amateur championship six times; 1937-49-51-52-55-62 . . . Lew is president First Flight Co. . . . *William (Sonny) Ryan* says

range pros have tremendous teaching responsibility in these boom times and teaching golf manners and fast play is no small part of the job . . . Sonny's been teaching at *Dave Felder's* Golf Center in suburban Minneapolis since 1959 . . . He's lost count of the number of people he has started in golf.

New Hampshire GCSA is figuring on a questionnaire service between members to handle problems that come up between meetings . . . *Robert Flanagan*, Coheco CC, Dover, N. H., superintendent who is N. H. vp and publicity chairman, says the mail order experiment in pooling the members' genius ought to be worth a lot to the state's clubs . . . Getting tougher for superintendents in metropolitan areas to hire course workers now that landscape gardeners are paying much higher wages for labor.

Jimmy Crossan, at 73, still getting on the teaching tee at 7:30 a.m. and keeping on the job until dusk . . . Crossan has been in range instruction work in the Los Angeles area for years since leaving

Continued on page 62

FUTURUS GOLF CLUB TILE CARPET

GUARANTEED THREE YEARS AGAINST ALL TRAFFIC!

HANDSOME, LASTING FLOORCOVERING
ECONOMICAL TO INSTALL—MAINTAIN

Check FUTURUS with ALL others:

- Absolutely SAFE and SKIDPROOF — wet or dry.
- HIGHLY RESISTANT to heavy spike shoe traffic.
- Women's spiked heels DO NOT penetrate its surface.
- NOT AFFECTED by exposure to fresh or salt water.
- EASILY INSTALLED by anyone — Cleans readily.
- Indoors or Outdoors — completely WEATHERPROOF.
- Neutral color tones BLEND with any background.
- STAIRWAYS — Safest, Most Durable of All.

Made from selected nylon cord heavy duty tires — buffed to chenille-like finish. Strips $\frac{3}{8}$ " thick are bound to glass-cloth impervious to moisture . . . then cut to 12" x 12" tiles.

For further information, prices — and USER-PROOF of
FUTURUS Carpet Tile service satisfaction — write:

FUTURUS, INC.

1076 West Ninth Street
UPLAND, CALIFORNIA

For more information circle number 199 on card

HERB GRAFFIS

Continued from page 60

private club jobs . . . He believes he may have given more lessons in the past ten years than any other pro in the world . . . **Herman J. Wedemeyer**, football great of the '40s now director of golf activities of Makaha Valley Club which will open first nine of its 18 in Hawaii this summer . . . **Bud Holscher**, pro at Lakeside GC, Hollywood, Calif., heads "20th Hole" campaign to get landing fields at golf clubs . . . Holscher, a licensed pilot, has a Mooney plane with fuselage modified to accommodate four golf bags plus other normal baggage . . . First Flight Golf Co. and Mobil Oil Co. also are sponsors of the campaign, which has enlisted many flying golfers.

James A. Linen, president, Time, Inc., succeeds **Howard L. Clark**, president, American Express Co., as president, International Golf Association, sponsors of the international pro competitions for the International individual trophy and the Canada Cup team event . . . Clark continues as an IGA director . . . Linen is a

low handicap golfer . . . He is vp of the Stanwich Club, Greenwich, Conn., and a member of Round Hill at Greenwich, Augusta National, Seminole and the R&A . . . **Sidney James** is IGA Executive committee chairman . . . The IGA official roster has an all-star lineup of Big Business executives . . . **Fred Corcoran**, IGA tournament director, built the association's annual championship into a show that developed world-wide pro golf into a multi-million-dollar operation for pros and golf in general . . . IGA's 14th championship will be played at Yomiuri CC, Tokyo, Japan, Nov. 10-13 . . . IGA championship in Japan in 1957 saw Canada Cup won by Japanese team of **Nakamura** and **Oho** and a golf boom started in the country . . . In 1967 IGA tournament goes back to Mexico where the event was played in 1958.

Pete Donnelly, now pro at Loch Ledge C&CC, Yorktown Heights, N. Y. . . . Donnelly has been assistant to **Herman Barron** at Fenway CC, White Plains, N. Y. . . . With golf now a big factor in drawing visitors and new residents to

Continued on page 64



TOP PRO®

Introducing AMERICA'S GREAT NEW FAMILY OF PREMIER GOLF SOCKS

found
only
in
pro shops



PREMIER QUALITY
Golf Socks

FOUND ONLY IN PRO SHOPS

NATIONALLY
DISTRIBUTED BY

Green Tee

Associates, Inc.

309 5th Ave., New York, N.Y.

A completely merchandised line of golf socks . . .

For more information circle number 216 on card

HERB GRAFFIS

Continued from page 62

Hawaii some veterans are recalling that **Art Bell**, who succeeded the late **Cam Puget** as pro at Pebble Beach, was born in Hawaii where his father was pro at Oahu CC for 35 years . . . Art was pro at Maui CC and Wailae CC in Hawaii before he came to the mainland to be pro at Midwick in Los Angeles, then at San Francisco CC, California GC (for 19 years) and Carmel Valley before going to what amounts to the Pacific Coast's St. Andrews.

Southern Seniors GA spring tournament at Dorado Beach (Puerto Rico) GC had all possible room reservations booked by members almost a month before the event, May 3 through 7 . . . What a happy thought it was for the American Seniors GA to present its Distinguished Senior Award to **Egon (Eggs) Quittner** . . . Quittner, 66, has been a member of Old York Road CC (Philadelphia dist.) since 1912 and has won Western Seniors, American Seniors and numerous other championships including

the championship of his own club four times, one of them on his 65th birthday . . . He says that since he became a senior he's played better golf than ever before.

There'll be a lot of driving contests in senior tournaments this summer since the driving contest in the PGA Seniors last winter stirred so much talk . . . Just to refresh your memory; **Mike Brady**, 78, who tied **Johnny McDermott** for the 1911 National Open championship and **Walter Hagen** for the 1919 title (and lost in the play-offs) won the PGA Seniors contest with a whack of 266 yards . . . Mike said he won the previous driving contest in which he'd competed (but he didn't say when) with a 320 yd. shot . . . **Charley Mayo** gave his drive a valiant arthritic bat of 212 yds. . . . Venerable **Johnny Inglis** got 191, **Victor East**, 189, **George Livingston**, who's 85, hit it 181 yds. •

FIVE YEARS AGO

New Ryder Cup format used for first time, U. S. downing Britain, 14½-9½, at St. Anne's-on-the-Sea, England, as Arnold Palmer won three matches, tied one.



Rogers

Model 720E Turf-Sweeper

Mechanical pick-up: two reels counter rotating—interlocking rubber fingers. 60 inch sweeping width—12 h.p. self-powered univ. hitch.

"One Man Operated"

Turf Sweepers

- Gathers—wet or dry—grass clippings, leaves, rocks, bottles, papers, dead branches, cans and other unsightly debris.
- Sweeping action of high modulus rubber fingers brushes turf clean . . . without damage!

Aerator

- Designed to aerate deep and clean under any ground conditions • Relieves compaction
- Renovates and removes Thatch • Prepares Seedbed • Smooths rough areas • Drains low areas • Vertical Slicing and Thinning

ROGERS MANUFACTURING CO., INC.

220 No. Mahaffie St. • Olathe, Kansas 66061

PHONE: 913-764-1615 or 913-782-0831

For more information circle number 145 on card