

# Swinging around golf

By HERB GRAFFIS

News of the Golf World in brief



National Club Association Newsletter commenting on population factor of country clubs with Farmers Home Administration financial backing being raised from towns of less than 2,500 to 5,000 population said: "Financed by these low interest, long term FHA loans these (club) facilities may be a boon to the small community, but they also could represent a very real danger to the existing private clubs in some of our larger rural areas. These clubs, privately financed, may be hard put to compete with newer facilities funded by their own tax dollars."

Club Managers Association of America nine Workshops this year have more than 100 over last year's record 553 attendance . . . A month before Southern Senior's GA annual championship at Ponte Vedra Club, Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla., field limit of 160 was entered.

Miserable summer for turf in many areas . . . Shortage of water in central states and east was accented by many clubs needing rain for newly planted trees . . . Scattered cloudbursts and heat brought brownpatch and dollar spot to courses where preventative programs were believed to have these diseases practically eliminated . . . *Poa annua* departure had many courses in Midwest with worst fairways and greens collars they've had in years . . . Daytime spraying was done by some superintendents and they quieted the complaints of inconvenience from members by telling the reasons for the urgency of the operation . . . **Jim Manka**, superintendent, Inwood CC (NY Met district), brought Inwood through the misery period with only a few small areas of temporary

trouble . . . Jim said last summer again demonstrated that you've got to pay the price of eternal vigilance if you want to keep your course in A-1 condition . . . Manka says the fellows who were beginning to think they could relax on Saturdays and Sundays found they've had to keep close guard all through the weekend heavy play.

In Minnesota, **Gil Foster**, in charge of Keller many courses said the summer has been harshest on grass he has seen in 35 years . . . *Poa annua* control by methods recommended in Turf Management, the USGA book **Burton Musser** prepared, still seems the only way, and that's not a one-year job . . . Golf Association of Michigan issued to each member club president, course superintendent and chairman a report on "severe damage to highly refined and delicately maintained areas," noting that "continued heavy play and golf car traffic added to the turf woes." The bulletin, signed by **Frederick Adams**, chairman, **Charles Chapman**, **William Holt** and **Andrew Bertoni**, concluded "All members realize that everything will soon be normal if patience, tolerance and cool weather prevail. No one feels worse about it than the golf course superintendent." . . . The August course picture was especially painful as courses generally never looked better than when June was "bustin' out all over" this year.

**Maureen Orcutt**, Englewood, N. J., and the late **Pamela Barton**, London, England, elected to Ladies PGA Hall of Fame and will be inducted at Metropolitan New York Golf Writers dinner Feb. 21 at New York . . . Miss Orcutt,

Continued on page 124

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## GRAFFIS' SWING

Continued from page 9

on the sports staff of the N. Y. Times since 1937, has won 64 women's championships, including the first USGA Senior Women's title in 1962 . . . She was USGA women's amateur runner-up in 1927 and 1936 and on four Curtis Cup teams . . . In 1937 she lost to Pam Barton, 4 and 3 . . . Miss Barton won the USGA Women's Amateur and the British Ladies championships in 1936 . . . She was a flight officer in the WAAF during World War II and was killed in a plane crash in November, 1943. . . . The Ladies PGA Hall of Fame was founded in 1948 by Fred Corcoran . . . It has a room in the Augusta (Ga.) CC clubhouse.

Billy Casper's acceptance of the Radix Trophy for lowest scoring in 1965, at a small luncheon at the Oak Park (Ill.) CC prior to the Western Open was the most graceful, soul-cheering talk heard from a golf champion in years . . . Bill, since his return from being with fighters in Viet Nam and since his going for religion, is Exhibit A of inward peace and outward technique . . . His belly diet probably helped but so did the soul diet . . . Casper was at lunch alongside Chick Evans who won the Open (and the Amateur) just 50 years ago . . . Chick played the first two rounds in the Western Open . . . Over 90 both sweltering days but no bellyaching from our Chick . . . This year's Western Open yield to the Evans Caddie Scholarship Fund set a new record . . . Tommy Mc-

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Mahon, in commenting on association with his buddy, the late Harry Radix, said that Harry Radix introduced him to golf about 1919, when McMahon started out at Lincoln Park at 4 a.m. with a brassie, a mashie, a niblick, a putter and three balls for \$1.05 . . . Radix left an estate of \$2 million, a considerable amount of which was earmarked for bequests in golf, figure-skating, and to employees at the Chicago Athletic Assn.

By the ratings you hear in locker-rooms of private and fee courses all over the country the golf TV programs still are: Shell's Wonderful World of Golf, No. One . . . The Masters, second . . . The Open, third . . . The others are "who cares?" except when some boo-boo has a cheap golf ball on a commercial of a PGA co-sponsored tournament.

USGA gave women's golf a boost with its sponsorship of the telecast of USGA Women's National Open at Hazeltine National GC, Minneapolis . . . Gallery wasn't as good as the golf . . . Sandra Spuzich, winner, was a PE teacher from Indianapolis . . . She went to Tommy Armour for finishing school and the Great Armour worked on her approaching until Sandra was near the screaming-meemies . . . Then her short game won her the Woman's Open.

High probability that Hazeltine National GC, a design of Robert Trent Jones, will be National Open site in 1969 . . . It's Baltusrol in 1967 and Oak Hill in Rochester in 1968 . . . When Jack Nicklaus was griping about the USGA having the hands of a time clock

Continued on next page

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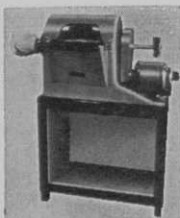
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## GRAFFIS' SWING

Continued from preceding page

goosing him in an annoying way because of slow play at Olympic's Lakeside course during this year's Open I recalled the 1956 National Open at Oak Hill when Doc Middlecoff (with the possible exception of Bobby Locke) slowest of all golfers in the modern era was slipping until the USGA told him to speed it up, which he did and won . . . Hogan also was dragging along until officially accelerated after which he almost won, finishing in a tie with Julius Boros, the fine player who wastes the least time . . . Boros and Hogan had 282 and Middlecoff, 281 . . . Some wise veterans have voiced the opinion that if Nicklaus gave himself less time to miss putts he would be indisputably the greatest of all today's male golfers . . . Almost as dominant among the gentlemen as Mickey Wright among the girls . . . Nicklaus seemed to be putting a bit faster in winning the British Open.

Gabriel Mitterbach goes from Kenwood Club, Cincinnati, to become manager at Columbia Hills CC (Cleveland dist.) . . . Mal Johnson now at Shady Hollow CC, Massillon, O. . . . Seth Eames now pro-manager, Chestnut Ridge GC, Blairsville, O. . . . Harold Firstman from Carlton Oaks CC, San Diego, Calif. to pro-manager post at Alexandria (Minn.) GC . . . Jack Shelton who went from pro job at Goose Creek CC, Baytown, Tex., to become pro at Houston (Tex.) CC this spring did a face-lifting job on the shop.

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Clayton Bauman after ten years as superintendent at Glendale CC, Bellevue, Wash., now in charge of construction at Meridian Valley CC, Kent, Wash., and will stay as super of the 18 hole course . . . Joe Bowen is manager . . . Tom J. Shepherd now manager Tanglewood Hills CC on Lake Texoma near Denison, Tex. . . . Henry Becker is new manager Monongahela (Pa.) CC . . . Owners of Southview CC in suburban St. Paul, Minn., to remodel course and build a large apartment complex adjacent to the course.

Donald J. Mathes is new owner of the Knoll GC, nine-hole course at Battle Creek, Mich. . . . George K. MacConnell now manager Cosden (Tex.) CC . . . Harry Edmonds is new pro at McCormick (S. C.) CC . . . Chicopee (Mass.) alderman, on recommendation of Chicopee Golf Course Commission give Supt. Richard Laussier about a ten percent raise for "the outstanding job he has done." . . . Mr. and Mrs. Ted Otis now own Wildwood GC (nine) near Linnton, Ore. . . . Lee Albright is pro.

Framingham (Mass.) CC installing an automatic irrigation system on its 27 holes . . . John T. Singleton, Manchester-by-the-Sea, Mass., is the engineer and contractor doing the job . . . Jim Ganter and Frank Ball, are building first nine of their 18 at Sugar Loaf Mountain Resort, Cedar, Mich. . . . C. D. Wagstaff is architect . . . Course adjoins Sugar Loaf Ski Lodge, in scenic lake-shore area of Michigan's lower peninsula . . . Wagstaff recently completed nine for Leland (Mich.) CC. •

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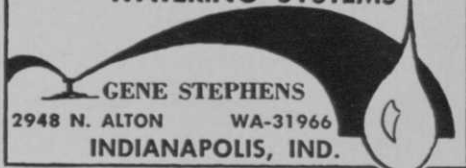
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