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## Swinging around golf

by Herb Graffis

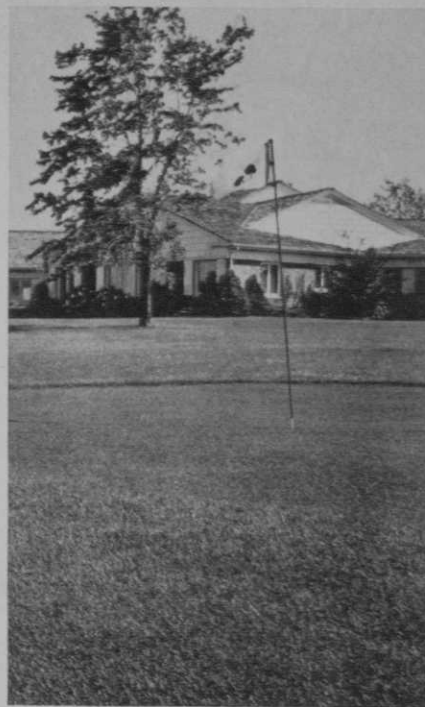
### PGA-APG war ends

**"P**Peace, Aint It Wonderful!" The pro civil war is ended, apparently, with malice toward none; with charity for all. Now the service pros and the show-window pros can get back to working for golf and golfers. The brawl began when the Professional Golfers' Assn. refused to approve a tournament. The controversy ended when there was some sort of agreement to have a "czar" bossing the players.

In some ways the PGA-APG mess was the funniest thing in pro sports next to the medicine-man mask worn by Broadway Joe Namath. The public relations was badly handled and over-lawyered and the argument got so ridiculous some believed it was becoming a popularity contest between Bob Creasey of the PGA and Gardner Dickinson of the American Professional Golfers.

The APG drop-outs may find that coming back with Leo Fraser, Warren Orlick, Bill Clarke and other PGA officials and members will be the smartest move they ever made. The split cost APG

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name pros heavily in golf equipment royalties and in the quality rating of their names as testimonials, TV prices and desirability at prestige private clubs and resorts.

Bob Jones was right about golf being primarily an amateur and participants' game. The amateurs make the market, not the name pros. Bill Holmes, Wilson president, also was right in his concern about how the split might affect golf business. Amateur golfers, to whom service pros are closer than tournament pros, got the idea the playing pros are in golf only for money and they will endorse anything, no matter how cheap.

Increase in tournament money this year is only normal. Calendar problems were added, however. The APG did well for tournament promoters who are in golf to use clubs and club members for promoters' profits and not for the good of golf.

The moral, if any, seems to be what Babe Ruth said: "One day you're a hero; the next day a bum." Incidentally, the royalty paid Walter Hagen last year probably was the biggest ever paid on world-wide golf club sales. And this is 39 years after Walter won his last national title.

Now who's going to be the "czar"? First invitation went to Bill Fownes of Pittsburgh. He refused saying that any man the PGA needed wouldn't take the job. Then Albert Gates, Chicago lawyer and former Western Golf Assn. president, became PGA "czar" and after arranging a PGA manufacturers deal that would have been the basis for the most wonderfully sound retirement plan any pro sport could wish for, got in a cross-fire between pros and quit. He said that trying to create peace between pros was a hopeless job which would drive an intelligent gentleman to strong drink.

John Spodnik, slated to succeed James W. Brandt as president of the Golf Course Superintendents Assn. of America graduated from Fenn College with a B.S. in industrial engineering and worked with General Motors for five years

before entering turf work. Norman W. Kramer, a candidate for vice president, in addition to his service as president of the Midwest Turf Foundation, Purdue University, and director of the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation, Michigan State University, has been board chairman of St. Matthews Luthern school board. Keith Nisbet has served as school trustee and as mayor of Aurora, Kans.; Nisbet also is a vice presidential candidate. Warren Bidwell is a former Golf Course Superintendents Assn. president and a candidate for one of the three directorate vacancies. Lynn T. Kellog, another directorate candidate, is a graduate of New York State College of Agriculture with a major in agronomy, plant pathology and entomology. Richard W. Milpass, also a candidate, is serving his fourth term as president of Oregon Turf Management Assn. and has had management experience working with the Department of Agriculture and as a director of a large lending agency. Robert V. Mitchell, another candidate, has a B.S. in business administration. Candidate John J. Perry is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts' turfgrass school. Clifford A. Waggoner, in addition to his having been an official of several golf course management organizations, is a member of the United States Golf Assn. Green Section.

The Charles Bartlett memorial scholarship fund, honoring the late golf editor of the Chicago Tribune and the secretary of the Golf Writers' Assn. has gone over \$9,000. The scholarships will be handled by the Evans Caddie Scholarship Foundation of the Western Golf Assn. Most golf organizations in and around Chicago have pledged annual contributions, according to those who conduct the fund drive.

Mrs. Mary Swanson Sutcliffe, artist, bought old Thermopolis (Wyo.) CC and will restore it to its original condition as a private course for herself and her friends. The clubhouse will be her studio . . . Bob Robbins, formerly director Olympia (Wash.) Parks and Recreation Department

## Graffis

and in similar capacity at Puyallup, has built The Duffer, a golf practice range and putting course at Olympia. Ronn Grove is pro. Robbins plans to build a nine-hole course on the rest of his property.

Frank Dinelli, Sr., 44 years at Northmoor CC, Glencoe, Ill., has retired as superintendent. Frank, Jr., 11 years at the club, succeeds him. Another son, Joe Dinelli, is superintendent at North Shore CC (Chicago district).

Port Charlotte (Fla.) CC course is being remodeled and a new 18-hole course is being built at General Development Corp., North Port, Charlotte. M.R. (Chick) Herbert is the corporation's vice president for public relations. The company's five courses are among his responsibilities . . . MacLenny

G & CC, near Jacksonville, Fla., opens with 18 holes; Jack Adams is pro and was formerly at Atlanta Army Depot course . . . Diamond Ridge, an 18-hole course, is the second public course for Baltimore County, Md. Edward Ault designed it . . . Open: Oakcreek CC first nine, designed by Robert Trent Jones, at Sedonia, Ariz. It's a beautiful mountain resort course . . . Lake Bluff (Ill.) park board (Nathaniel H. Aker, president) opens Rockland Park, an 18-hole course . . . Westport GC, an 18-hole course, near Denver, S.C., features a housing development. Porter Gibson, Charlotte, is the architect and Bob Galloway is pro.

Another trouble in the superintendents' catalog of headaches: wild pigs rooting up the greens and fairways of Catalina Island (Calif.) course. Apparently, the pigs go for the irrigated areas in

the dry California summer.

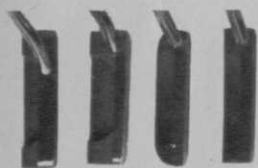
Waco, Tex., Parks and Recreation Department acquires James Connally Air Force Base, an 18-hole course. C.W. (Shorty) Jones, eight years at the course as pro for Air Force, remains. Alva Stem is the Parks and Recreation director.

X.G. Hassenplug, Pittsburgh, Pa., is keeping himself and his staff busy on five jobs under construction: Silver Springs Mountain Resort, Champion, Pa., 7,040 yards; Mayview G & CC, Clarion, Pa., 6,900 yards; second nine of Dubois, Pa., CC; remodeling plus automatic irrigation system at Chartiers CC, Pittsburgh; Ashland, Ohio, municipal nine. Hassenplug is also completing plans for three 18-hole courses to be built in 1969.

Feature story on course maintenance career of Orville Belknap, superintendent, Hillcrest CC, Lincoln Neb., in Lincoln Journal. Belknap started in 1923 at the Lincoln CC and moved to Hillcrest in 1956 . . . Terry Noah opens his nine-hole, par-three Woodlawn course at Fort Smith, Ark., with a program of industrial leagues as a solid factor in his budget. Larry Campbell, pro at Hardscrabble CC, designed Woodlawn and conducts beginners' classes as part of Woodlawn's promotion.

George Stetter opens his Southridge nine-hole public course at DeLand, Fla. Jack Welling is pro-superintendent and has supervised construction of the course, which is an unusually complete high-grade job for a nine.

William McKelvie, 48-year-old head greenkeeper of Dumfries and Count GC, became first winner of Scotland's Greenkeeper of the Year award, presented by Scottish Agricultural Industries, Ltd., in association with Scottish Golf Union. There were 84 other candidates. McKelvie won equivalent of \$240 and his club gets possession of the Perpetual Challenge Trophy for a year. What a great name for a trophy in course maintenance: "perpetual challenge"!



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