

CLARKE, CARDI IN RACE FOR PGA PRESIDENCY

PALM BEACH GARDENS, FLA.—With the current president of the Professional Golfers' Assn., *Warren Orlick*, bowing out, a race looms for the position between *Frank Cardi*, national vice president and professional at the Rockaway Hunting Club, Cedarhurst, N.Y., and *Bill Clarke*, current secretary of the PGA and professional at the Hillendale CC, Phoenix, Md. The president will be elected by sectional PGA delegates at the annual meeting slated for November 13 to 17 in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Orlick, who has been president for the past two years and has served over 17 years as a PGA official, declined running for a third term citing a heavy business schedule for the upcoming year as the reason.

The delegates will be offered a clear choice in the candidates. Both hold diametrical positions on several key issues, including the controversy over the location of the PGA headquarters.

Clarke is opposed to the PGA building or owning its own golf course. "We were set up to help the golf professional," Clarke says, "not run golf courses." He favors the present lease-franchise agreement the PGA now has with John D. MacArthur, who leases the headquarters to the PGA. Clarke would like to see several lease-franchise operations established throughout the United States to give midwestern and western sections better representation.

Cardi favors moving away from Palm Beach Gardens and the lease arrangement. "We need to have the finest facility, one with two or three golf courses and our own headquarters," Cardi says. "We can either own it or control it, but it must be on a permanent basis."

The key confrontation between Clarke and Cardi is likely to be centered around Robert Creasey, executive director of the PGA.

Clarke supports Creasey saying he has done a fine job for the PGA, whereas Cardi believes the PGA needs a new image and leadership and an executive director with "personality."

Cardi also feels his candidacy



can mend the differences that exist between club professionals in the PGA and the touring professionals in the PGA's Tournament Players Division.

Clarke favors expansion of the home-study educational program to help keep professionals informed of the changing times. He also favors a second tour oriented toward club professionals.

Regardless of the outcome, Clarke and Cardi each believes he can unify the many factions that exist within the PGA into a solid smooth-running organization.

NGF TO AID AILING FEDERAL COURSES; CHLEVIN IN PR POST

CHICAGO—The *National Golf Foundation* has received a one-year, \$126,181, contract from the *Farmers Home Administration* (FHA) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to study and advise some 130 federally-financed golf courses that are currently operating at a loss.

Under a rural development program, which was designed to increase the scope of recreational activities in rural areas, the FHA loaned over \$102 million, a good percentage of which went to over 500 golf courses in 41 states. The loans were made to individual farmers and landowners to convert all or portions of their farms to recreational facilities, such as golf courses. The loan program began in 1962 and was discontinued in 1971.

According to the FHA, some 130 of these federally-financed golf courses are having problems repaying the loans. According to Don Rossi, NGF's executive director, these courses will be examined by NGF field consultants who will

then recommend ways to make the courses profitable, so that they can pay off the loans.

Rossi also announced that *Ben Chlevin*, former executive director of the Golf Course Superintendents Assn. of America, has been appointed public relations director of NGF. His appointment, Rossi continued, will initiate a new program to expand the foundation's current promotion of golf and golf facility development throughout the United States. *Larry Smith*, who formerly handled a wide variety of activities for NGF, including public relations, will become Midwest field consultant for the association.

UNIFORM BALL TESTS CONTINUE

FAR HILLS, N.J.—The *United States Golf Assn.* reports that the decision, expected in September, on the feasibility of the proposed 1.66-inch uniform golf ball is "still a ways away." The USGA gave no indication as to when the decision would be made. The uniform ball, which is a compromise between the 1.68-inch golf ball officially used in the United States and the 1.62-inch British ball, has undergone mechanical testing and now is ready to be tested under actual playing conditions, according to the USGA.

TRUE TEMPER'S LESLIE RETIRES

CLEVELAND—*Gurdon Leslie*, vice president, member of the board of directors and general manager of the Tubular Products Div. of True Temper Corp. has retired. *George Manning*, previously division operations manager, has been named general manager to succeed Leslie.

Leslie, who has been in the golf equipment industry 44 years, started making golf shafts in True Temper's Geneva shop in 1928. He was responsible for the revolutionary design and material changes in golf shafts through the years including the "step-down" shaft, various steel shafts, aluminum and shafts made from space-age metals. He was also responsible for True Temper's sponsorship of the annual Quarter Century Golf Tournament held in Palm

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