

the force of the blow with which the ball could be hit and still sink. The blow could be strong enough to go 3 or 4 feet beyond the hole, if off line.

3. With each given slope there was an optimum angle at which there could be wider variations in the forces of the putt and still sink.

4. As the slope was increased, it became more important to gauge exactly the force of the putt. With a slope of  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch to the foot it became necessary to duplicate the required force within 3% or 4% of perfect or the putt would miss.

It soon became evident that with reasonably accurate mechanical equipment it was still difficult to duplicate the proper force of the putt, while the proper line could be easily duplicated hundreds of times. One unexpected variation was causing trouble in duplicating the force of the putt. It was found that if the ball was hit by the club's "sweet spot", one force of putt was delivered, but if the ball was struck a half inch from the "sweet spot," the force of the putt was about 10% less. Curling putts fell far short of the cup. It was also proved that slight imperfections in balls had a decided influence on the accuracy of the line and the force of the putt when the imperfection came in contact with the club.

### Speed, not Line, Vital on Slopes

In general these experiments proved conclusively that great accuracy is necessary in the force of the blow in sinking putts on curved surfaces and that wide variation is possible in the line on any one putt provided the force of the putt is properly correlated to the line chosen. In discussing the practical question of what use could be made of information of this sort by the player on the course, it was apparent that standardized conditions could never be duplicated in play and that the personal factor was always present.

The player has two problems; to decide what to try to do, and the other, to do what he wants to. In putting, the player must know the resiliency of his ball, the slope of the green, the speed of the surface and many other details. And on curling putts his guess must be within a very few per cent of perfect in order to sink.

It occurred to us that there was no way of measuring how fast putting greens are. Every one knows that the greens at Oakmont are fast but no one knows how fast in terms of a unit which can be duplicated.

In playing any course the players who were accustomed to the greens have a competitive advantage. In negotiating tricky putts on fast greens, the player must guess how hard to putt and he must also learn to produce a putt which corresponds to his guess.

In developing a device to measure the speed of putting greens, it was necessary to have something which could be easily carried. It must not take long to make the measurement. Because there are so few level places on a green it had to be usable on a slope. The section of green tested had to be a fair sample, but not so large a section as to be impractical be-



Members of Merlon watch the inventor put the meter through its paces.

cause of variations in the slope. The gadget which I now call a Stimp Meter fulfills these requirements and requires neither time nor skill to learn to measure the speed of a green.

The device consists essentially of a grooved wooden stick down which a ball can be rolled. Near one end, a notch in the groove holds a ball until the chute is tipped to a certain angle. The ball will roll out of the notch at the same angle every time. This provides an inclined plane of the same length and slope every time for the ball to roll down regardless of whether the ground underneath is level or not. The ball always leaves the Stimp Meter at the same speed. The faster the green being tested the farther the ball will roll.

In order to eliminate error due to slope,

# WALTER HAGEN



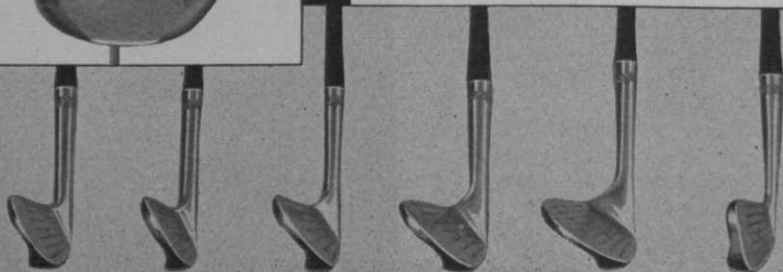
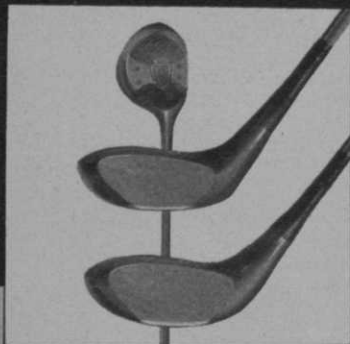
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For here was a set, designed with an eye single to women's use. Lofts, weights, design, finish—were such as to fit exactly the needs of women players, while styling was all that could be desired from the standpoint of feminine appeal.

Two woods—a No. 1½ and a 2½—were designed to do the work of the usual 3 club set. In irons—a 2, 3½, 5, 6½, 8, and 9 gave a layout that very closely approximated, in women's hands, results of the usual 9 club set.

Woods retail for \$7. Irons at \$5. See our catalog just off the press, for complete descriptions of this profit builder in the women's field.



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So great was the success of the American Lady Set last year, that we have now produced and present here-with a further set for the exclusive use of women—the "Miss America."

Miss America Clubs follow exactly the same principles of design that proved so highly acceptable in the American Lady.

Miss America Clubs, however, come in a lower price range, with Woods at \$5 and Irons at \$3.50.

As in the American Lady, two woods and six irons comprise the complete set.

Designed primarily for the use of women new to the game, Miss America Woods enable you to sell a complete set at a really nominal figure. Complete details and descriptions are contained in our 1937 catalog.

### SPECIFICATIONS:

American Lady Woods are available in two register numbers:

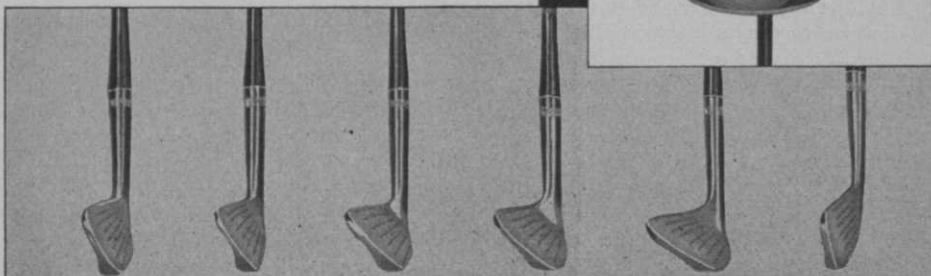
203 B—41" long and 11¼ oz.  
403 B—42" long and 13 oz.

American Lady Irons in two register numbers:

503 B—graduate from 14¼ oz. No. 2 to 15¼ oz. No. 8 lengths are from 37¾" to 35¾".

No. 503 weights graduate from 14 oz. No. 2 to 15 oz. No. 8 lengths are from 37" to 34¾".

Miss America Woods are obtainable only in 203 B weights and lengths; Miss America Irons only in No. 503 specifications.



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it is necessary in most cases to roll the ball over the spot selected in opposite directions to see if it goes the same distance. If the measurement is not more than 4 or 5 inches different, the average of the two directions can be taken as a measure of the speed of the green. For convenience in measuring, the meter has been made longer than necessary to provide a place for the ball to roll and on the reverse side a 30 inch scale is marked. This is a convenient length to fit into a golf bag and to measure the distance that the ball usually rolls, 1 to 4 feet.

#### **Stimp Defined**

In order to describe the speed of greens it was essential to have a unit of measurement; it was decided to call the unit a Stimp. A Stimp is one inch traveled by the ball on the level after it has left the meter. Just to show how the lingo goes, I might mention that the greens at Brae Burn last year measured all the way from 19 to 36 Stimps. During one round on a dry day they varied from 27 Stimps on shaded moist greens to 36 Stimps on the top of a hill where the water had drained off and the sun had dried out the turf. Greens at Brae Burn average faster than greens on any other course I played last spring. Some greens at the Country Club in Brookline during the Cup tournament measured 24 Stimps after and during a heavy mist which lasted a couple of days. At Woollaston GC, during a Boston Four Ball League match, the greens were only 18 Stimps.

Unfortunately, it does not follow that a ball will roll the same distance in opposite directions on a level spot. The grass may be matted so that the ball will roll farther with the grain than against it. This was the case at Oak Hill—maybe 16 Stimps against the grain and 26 with. Cutting and rolling the green sometimes makes it faster in one direction, as at Oyster Harbors where the greens just after being cut measured 27 Stimps with the cutting and only 21 Stimps against the cutting.

From the wide variations which occur at different courses and at different greens on the same course at the same time is it any wonder that a putting touch is hard to maintain and that players have to spend many minutes examining the grass before they putt? There is even justification for walking ahead to see what the grass looks like before an approach is made. That slows up play.

Many things might be said about the skill needed to properly judge how hard to hit a putt and much might be said to justify wide variations in the speed of different greens. It is my feeling, however, that the most enjoyable courses to play are those with greens which have a minimum variation in speed owing to the direction which the grass grows, has been cut, or rolled. The less I need to look at the grass, the better I like it.

It also seems desirable that major tournaments be played under more or less uniform conditions as far as the speed of the greens are concerned. Certainly the unusual conditions which prevailed at Oakmont did not add to the pleasure of the play or to the selection of the most skilled golfer, according to the ordinary standards.

With a unit of measurement and a means of measuring the speed of greens well within the cost of every club there is no reason why the better courses cannot work toward a standard ideal speed for their greens. It is of course true that greens grow slower and dry out faster during the day but with some attention to their care the variations which now exist could be greatly reduced. To the greenkeeper who is harassed by two groups of members, half of whom want the greens faster and half of whom want them slower, it would be some comfort to know that he was maintaining the standard conditions as measured by the Stimp Meter and as determined by the USGA.

#### **Is Meter Illegal for Play**

For the player, there is some doubt about the legality of using the Stimp Meter to determine the speed of a green before putting. Even if legal, this is an undesirable practice to start because it would slow up play. The player can gain much valuable information from the Stimp Meter, however, by making measurements of various kinds of grasses under different conditions. It is not unlikely that many players would improve their games by a few demonstrations of the tremendous influence a relatively small slope will have on how far the ball will roll. On many moderate slopes the ball will roll 4 feet downhill and only 1 foot up with the same start.

I have already been generously rewarded for my time by way of many pleasant talks with pros and greenkeepers and by a better understanding of putting greens.

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# SHOWDOWN LOOMS

**Jacobus-Harlow Battle Due to Be Aired  
At Special Meeting of PGA Soon**

**M**AJORITY of the professionals continue to be the bewildered innocent bystanders in the civil warfare centering around George Jacobus, PGA president and Robert E. Harlow, former tournament bureau manager of the association. And, as is the usual fate of innocent bystanders, there have been casualties among the I.B.s directly the result of the George and Bob version of the battle of the century.

Pros, often and innocently exposed to the peril of politics know what happens when an unfavorable political element gets into power in their clubs. The pros are helpless. Usually the preponderance of complete information and sportsmanship on a board protects the pro in the proper discharge of his duties. When the newspaper stories of Harlow's protest at discharge because of "politics" began to appear in club directors' meetings as evidence in support of a campaign to discharge a pro having a long record of service to the club, the Harlow-Jacobus wrangle began to spread out. Non-tournament pros, who previously had considered the controversy one involving only Jacobus, Harlow and the tournament pros, began to wonder what the score is.

## **Compromise May Be Outcome**

Appraisal of the "politics" charge in Harlow's statement of the case has not been possible so far as the vast majority of PGA members are concerned. Whether there will be a calm, expert and impartial hearing of the case by a qualified pro body, or a compromise satisfactory to both Jacobus and Harlow remains to be seen.

Both boys are popping off in the heat of battle but pros of sound judgment are making due allowances for the fire engendered by the controversy. Jacobus ruled that Harlow was OUT! and that details of the discharge should not arouse any curiosity because the issue was closed. But to keep the matter open and get a showdown Harlow has secured requisitions for a general meeting of PGA delegates beyond the number constitutionally required for calling such a meeting.

Jacobus now says he may take to the road and explain his side of the case. Har-

low has been touring the southwest telling his angles to pro meetings and pleading for a showdown.

Judging from a flood of mail and of vocal comment from pros who are highly esteemed by their fellows for sound judgment, it is plain that pros want to know all the facts in the controversy and be allowed to reach a decision without bias. They figure that there's so much smoke in this affair, they'd better be looking to see where the fire is.

They want to know if Harlow has failed to perform his job and should be canned; or why he was canned if he did handle his job.

## **Here Are Some Embers in the Fire**

They want to know if a dictatorial political machine is being built up in the PGA, regardless of the innocence or intent of such a machine, if it is in the picture.

They know they stand a good chance of making the right decision if both parties involved, Jacobus and Harlow, meet for a showdown before the jury of their pros.

They know the continuance of guerilla warfare by either Jacobus or Harlow is not doing pro golf any good.

But they don't know whether they'll get such a showdown with *all* the evidence enabling any pro of good fair judgment to decide whether Jacobus is right, or Harlow is right, or both boys are wrong and should kiss and make up.

Possibility of such showdown looms, according to Harlow's attorney, a well-known amateur golfer, who refers to the PGA constitution and by-laws as the guide toward settlement of the affair.

In addition to getting a lot of publicity in the United States, the Harlow-Jacobus wrangle is attracting attention from sportswriters in England. Tom Webster, sports authority of great standing and circulation in England, cabled Jacobus regretting that the Harlow tangle should come up with Ryder Cup matches ahead

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EVERY major golf tournament of 1936—Open, Amateur or Pro Event—was won by a player who uses golf clubs shafted with TRUE TEMPER Steel.

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Progress continues for 1937—The New TRUE TEMPER Models have more power, more strength, a finer feel, better balance, and permit more speed to the swing.

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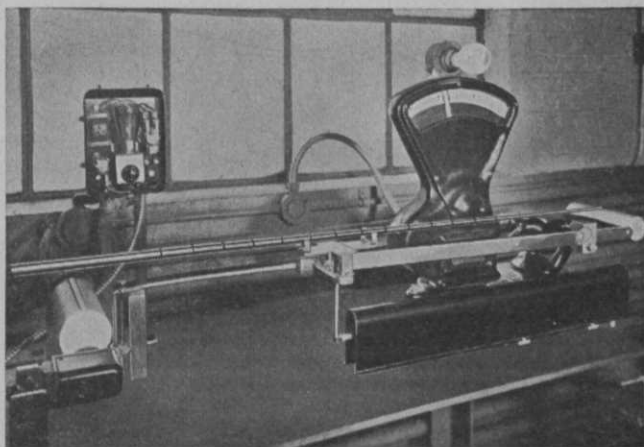
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# TRUE TEMPER

*The Golf Shaft of Champions*

in England this year, and with British pro and amateur golfers and newspaper men having high regard for what Harlow has done for international golf. Trevor Wignall, whose paper has 2,000,000 daily circulation, confesses the inability of British golfers to understand why the star salesmen of tournament golf whose efforts have profited pros in the United States, Great Britain, Australia, France, Germany and Japan, should be summarily discharged shortly prior to the Ryder Cup matches, the major event in international pro golf.

No one yet knows why Harlow was discharged. The issue has been clouded by

many fogs, and pros and public apparently want to see pro golf clear out in the sunlight.

Paul Mickelson, a sportswriting star on the Associated Press staff, referred in a story to Harlow as the Ziegfeld of pro golf, the fellow who glorified the pro and staunchly championed pros as "gentlemen sportsmen", a classification previously regarded as being restricted to the asterisked Mistfers. And very much as gentleman sportsmen all the pros would like to know what this Jacobus-Harlow fight is "all about".

## NO S. S. TAX ON CADDIES

By KARL SUTPHIN

*Bag-toters Employees, But Not Taxable Under Social Security Act, Is Ruling*

**G**OVERNMENT authorities have revised a ruling that originally made caddies subject to taxing provisions of the Social Security Act. Ruling was secured by Harry E. Kreuger, 1936 manager of the Minikahda club, Minneapolis, and details of the case are shown in following excerpts from letters of the office of Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

Under date of July 4, Charles T. Russell, deputy commissioner, wrote Kreuger as follows:

"You desire a ruling as to the liability for the Federal unemployment tax on the compensation of caddies who serve members of the club. You state as follows:

"1. Caddies are not employees of the club, but of the members who compensate them either in cash or through payment by the club for the account of the members.

"2. Caddies are employed only on behalf of the members who use their services.

"3. Caddies receive no compensation unless they actually perform services for some individual member in the capacity indicated. That is, where they report for duty and there is no member requiring their services, they receive no compensation.

"4. Compensation for service is paid by the club cashier for the member and charged directly to the members account."

"The tax imposed by Section 901, Title IX, of the Social Security Act, effective January 1, 1937, is upon every employer of eight or more with respect to having individuals in his employ during the calen-

dar year and the measure of the tax is the total wages payable by the employer with respect to employment. The term 'employer' does not include any person unless on each of some twenty days during the taxable year, each day being in a different calendar week, the total number of individuals who were in his employ for some portion of the day (whether or not the same moment of time) was eight or more. The term 'employment' as used in Title IX means any service of whatever nature performed within the United States by an employee for his employer with certain exceptions not material in your case.

"In this connection your attention is invited to article 205 of Regulations 90 which defines the terms 'employee' and 'employer'. This article reads in part:

"Generally the relationship exists when the person for whom services are performed has the right to control and direct the individual who performs the services, not only as to the result to be accomplished by the work but also as to the details and means by which the result is accomplished. That is, an employee is subject to the will and control of the employer not only as to what shall be done but how it shall be done. In this connection, it is not necessary that the employer actually



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club. More winding provides a harder ball with more distance. Patented vulcanized cover is fused right into the winding for durability... prevents wetting. The new Maxfli is truly "Championship" in name and performance. A great seventy-five cents worth!

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**THE WOODS**... five club carefully selected set... finest Elden True-Temper shaft featuring reverse taper... chrome-finished with beautifully-grained cherry heads... horn slip in face... calf-skin grips.

**THE IRONS**... Ten regular clubs plus three special models... finest Hy-Power shafts of regular flex type in hickory sheath... heads are satin chrome, "double balanced"... faces feature improved deep-scoring.

## MAXFLI CLUBS

**THE WOODS**... Popular five club set carefully selected... best quality True-Temper shafts of regular graduated flex type... shafts are chrome-finished with improved perforated calf-skin grip to prevent slipping... selected heads are compact with leaded backs... heads, including faces, are black-stained with white pigment scoring.

**THE IRONS**... Ten regular clubs plus three special irons... same True-Temper shafts... graduated stiff flex... perforated calf-skin grips... shafts are hickory sheath with distinctive color trim... carefully selected heads are satin chrome with weather protected finish... faces are sand-blasted with improved deep-scoring for better control... each club features "double balance".

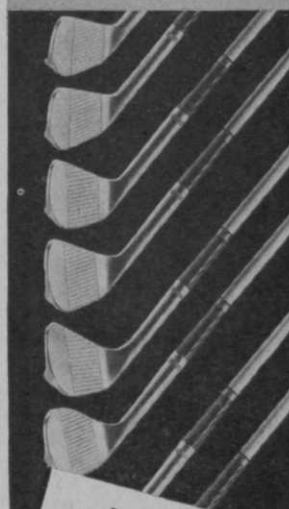
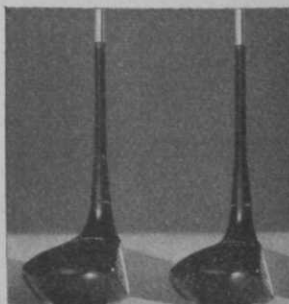
## SPECIAL IRONS



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direct or control the manner in which the services are performed; it is sufficient if he has the right to do so. The right to discharge is also an important factor indicating that the person possessing that right is an employer. Other factors characteristic of an employer are the furnishing of tools and the furnishing of a place to work to the individual who performs the services. In general, if an individual is subject to the control or direction of another merely as to the result to be accomplished by the work and not as to the means and methods for accomplishing the result, he is an independent contractor, not an employee.

"The measurement, method, or designation of compensation is also immaterial, if the relationship of employer and employee in fact exist.

"It is accordingly held that the caddies are employees of the club within the meaning of the Act and you will be required to pay the tax imposed by Section 901 of the Act."

However, a later letter, dated December 2, 1936, revised the earlier ruling and set forth conditions exempting caddies from the tax provisions of section 901 of the Social Security Act. The letter of December 2:

"Reference is made to office letter of July 24, 1936, in reply to your letter of June 12, 1936, holding that caddies are employees of the club within the meaning of the Social Security Act and that you will be required to pay the tax imposed by section 901 of the Social Security Act.

"Section 901 of the Act reads, in part, as follows:

"... every employer . . . shall pay . . . an excise tax, . . . equal to the following percentages of the total wages . . . payable by him . . ."

"Article 207 of Regulations 90, issued pursuant to Title IX of the Social Security Act, reads, in part, as follows:

"... Thus, salaries . . . fees . . . are wages within the meaning of the Act if payable by employer to his employee as compensation for services not excepted by the Act. . . ."

"Your letter states that the caddies receive no compensation unless they perform services for some individual member as a caddie, and that the compensation for caddie service is paid to the caddie either directly by the playing member in cash,

or by the club for the account of the member.

"It appears, therefore, that you do not pay the caddies a salary, that such compensation is received from the member players either directly or indirectly by you acting as the agent of the player in making the payment and charging the amount to the player's account.

"Office letter of July 24, 1936, is amended as follows:

"It is held that, although the caddies are your employees, you will not be required to pay the tax imposed by section 901 of the Social Security Act relative to payments made to caddies for services performed by them for your members when such payments are made directly by the member player or when it clearly appears that you, in making the payment, are acting as the agent of the member and are in no way obligated to make such payment but do so merely as a convenience or service to the member player.

"If the caddie performs any special services for you for which you become obligated to compensate him, the compensation for such service will then be subject to the tax imposed by section 901 of the Act."

**A** SERIES of 10 lessons in the fox trot, tango and rhumba is being given members of Bonnie Briar CC (NY Met. district) by instructors from the Arthur Murray studios. Two classes, each limited to 15 couples, are conducted; one for beginners and one for advanced pupils.

This interesting feature of a country club winter entertainment program is announced in the usually clever manner of Bonnie Briar printed matter. This club's announcements to its members are by a long margin, consistently the best of any country club in the nation.

**TOMMY SHANNON**, brisk young businessman pro at Glen Oaks GC, Farmington, Mich., sold shares on himself for the 1935-36 winter circuit. Members who bought shares to finance Tommy's trouping were to be repaid out of the Shannon prize money. Tommy didn't make enough prize money to pay back his share-holders but he paid them off in cards good for lessons as a special series rate, or in credits on shop merchandise.

The smart Shannon lad also made a good play on lesson series cards as Christmas presents.