

with him. He is either able to have turkey for Thanksgiving, or only what the sparse dole of the WPA worker will allow. He is either worrying about his investments or worrying without investments. If he is still a member of a greenkeeper organization in good standing, he does not have to worry at all. If he is still a member he is an outstanding example of what organized cooperation has done and can do.

But it is deplorable to note that only a small portion of greenkeepers belong to our organizations. Only 20% of the greenkeepers of this country are actively engaged in seeking a position of prominence for the profession of greenkeeping. There are over 4,000 greenkeepers in America, who can put their shoulder to the wheel and help batter down all obstacles in the pathway to the successful fulfillment of our ambitions, and those who have organized for that purpose are in the minority.

Our great need is to increase the number of members in all our organizations. We must go after the fellows who have been standing aloof. We must ask them why they are not among us, and their reasons for holding back. We must tell them what we are striving for—what our aims and objects are. We must show them that our organizations are represented by the cream of the greenkeeper crop and make them feel that they are the losers if they cannot see fit to be among us.

We must get them to join with their brothers of the greenkeeping profession, for its elevation, for fraternalism, for education, for success. We must impress upon them that 4,000 voices will be heard more easily than one. If we can accomplish this, we can safely say that recognition will be ours.

ALTHOUGH they say the Scots are the thrifty race, tops in a bargain-hunting story is an actual case at a midwestern golf club where an American member came into the pro-shop with a sadly hacked and well-worn golf ball.

Holding it up for the pro's inspection, the member asked:

"How much will you allow me on this if I buy a new ball from you?"

BOB RULE, golf editor of the Nashville (Tenn.) Banner, has worked out a golf box score that brings to golf reports the clear and thorough summary of



This poster, measuring 15" x 21", and printed in two colors, was mailed the latter part of May to 3,200 pros in as many golf clubs throughout the country. Designed to promote more play of golf by enabling youngsters to use old clubs passed on to the pros, the poster is the latest in a series of golf promotion activities sponsored by Pro-Promotion. Posters are intended to be displayed in pro-shops, on bulletin boards, and about the first tees. Manufacturers see in this promotion a direct means to enable many thousands of young golfers to take up the game for the first time.

play that is provided by the box score in baseball.

Rule's copyrighted system has hole-by-hole spaces for par, winner's and loser's card, birdies, eagles, putts, stymies, penalties, in sand, in rough from tee.

Population Increase—A young lady now is No. 1 in the household of Mr. and Mrs. Ross Sawtelle of Stroudsburg, Pa. The pappy is president of Worthington Mower Co. Miss Clounett Sawtelle arrived May 10 to contribute additional joy and excitement to the establishment where the first-born, a boy, had been in command.

In at Last!—"Greenkeeper," a word now missing from dictionaries, is to appear in the next edition of Funk & Wagnall's New Standard dictionary, according to assurance Harold Stodola, president of the Minnesota Greenkeepers association has received from Frank H. Vizetelly, editor of the book.

WHY NOT ANNUAL GREENS AWARDS?

By R. T. ZINK

Greenkeeper, Shaker Heights CC, Cleveland

MANY hours of earnest discussion have been spent by greenkeepers in efforts to discover some way in which their labors for golf would be recognized as notable achievements, deserving of lively commendation and financial returns more nearly in line with the responsibility the greenkeeper must assume at his course. Frequently heard is the complaint that the greenkeeper spends freely from his own rather small income in acquiring a technical education in turf culture and maintenance methods, applies his knowledge effectively in economical and first class conditioning of his course, but remains unknown to the majority of his club's members. In these discussions among greenkeepers you often hear reference to the far-reaching reputations of professionals and how such fame has an actual cash value to the professionals.

When one analyzes the statements comparing the fame of the pros and the almost anonymous status of greenkeepers, there is one factor usually overlooked. Not all pros are famous. Greenkeepers are apt to forget that there are many hundreds of non-tournament pros who are handling their jobs well, but who are practically unknown away from their own clubs. From time to time you may hear these men complain about the jobs, the money and the glory going to the tournament pro while the pro who stays at home teaching and handling other club duties diligently often fails to receive his due share of esteem and income.

Value in Competition

Considering these phases of the golf business we come to the inevitable conclusion that competition not only is the life of trade, but the life of progress in every department of club operations.

The famous pro stars who have won major championships get their names headlined in the newspapers and in locker-room conversation because they won in competition. The National Open champion isn't necessarily the country's best golfer, but he happened to be fa-

vored by fortune and by having his game better than those of the rest of the field just at the right time, even though the right time might last only four rounds.

However, the winner of the National Open was compared with other foremost golfers of the country for those four rounds and he came out first. That makes him famous. Other fellows may beat him by many strokes in another tournament a few weeks after the National Open; still the Open winner retains his reputation and his name in the record books.

We can apply the competitive line of reasoning to greenkeeping and I believe that we may find a valuable lead toward solution of the greenkeepers' problem of making themselves prominently and favorably known to the public.

Many Awards Are Possible

There are many of greenkeeping's myriad aspects that could be put on a competitive basis so that outstanding achievements of greenkeepers could be determined by expert juries of other greenkeepers, and awards of medals, plaques or even dignified printed awards could be made for display at the winners' clubs.

News of such awards would make newspaper publicity and although the publicity would not be of spectacular character like that of sporting events, it would be sound and valuable publicity along the lines of the various awards given annually to scientists.

This would be the sort of publicity on which our reputations as masters of greenkeeping would have to be based and which would establish plainly our qualifications for reasonable earnings from our profession.

It is perfectly true that greenkeepers at some older, properly constructed, adequately financed courses would have the

advantage in winning some of the rewards, but there should be wide enough scope of awards to give each able and ingenious man an opportunity to receive from his fellows recognition of his superior performance. If we do not, or can not, grant to those among us in greenkeeping a generous and well merited evidence of signally successful work that has been done, then we have no license to complain about our failure to receive warmer recognition from the golfers and our clubs.

Idea Is Practical

I have no doubt that this suggestion of competitive judgments of greenkeeping work and results, or of ideas contributed to the general or specific advance of golf course maintenance, will be pronounced by some of my comrades in the profession as an impractical and dangerous idea. They will cite the practical impossibility of making course maintenance cost comparisons as evidence of the impossibility of comparing any phase of golf course work. To that criticism I can only plead for a breadth of vision and a determined scientific ambition to arrive at fair methods of comparisons, when comparisons must be made. And certainly in any competitive affair, comparisons are inevitable. However, awards might be made annually for such performances as the most practical and valuable contribution to maintenance machinery upkeep, which would not necessarily involve comparison of the working conditions or machinery at different courses.

Judges each year would be disqualified from entering the competition. The selection of judges annually would be an important part of the competition, for men of unquestioned ability, free from bias and willingness to make the sacrifice of time required for their task, would have to be chosen. Any man named as a judge would be receiving from his associates the most sincere endorsement of his standing as a greenkeeper.

Such competitive affairs as I suggest could be conducted sectionally, with the results directing club officials' and members' attention to the character of the greenkeepers' work. By giving clubs something to brag about when an award was made, the clubs would inevitably boast of the achievements of their greenkeepers.

It is to be expected that there would be jealousies, disappointments and criticisms in greenkeeping competitions, just as there are in golf tournaments. But it must be admitted that the rest of the field doesn't suffer any reduction in income because one man wins, and that man's increased earning power tends to improve the chances for other contenders.

With the many sectional meetings that are held each year it should not be difficult for some experimental work to be done along this competitive award line. The various sectional greenkeeper association officials could exchange information on the competitions with an idea to the eventual standardization of greenkeeping competitions on a sectional judging basis.

One must admit that the great increase in the number of sectional Open golf tournaments made by the Professional Golfers' Association's former tournament bureau manager, Bob Harlow, had a definite result in increasing pro salaries. Men had more opportunities for publicity and establishment of reputations based on competitive performances.

We must remember that competition made professional golf. The earlier professionals in this country were engaged for their greenkeeping work. When the competition in playing gave professionals chances for getting into the public eye, the professionals profited greatly by this development. Those players left the greenkeeping part of their work for the more prominent and more profitable work of playing in competitions. We have seen, too, that renown won in competitive golf did much to break down the caste system that formerly had the British pros in a sorry social-economic state.

Study and constructive discussion devoted to formulating standards of competition allowing us to demonstrate our comparative ratings in various phases of greenkeeping will do a whole lot more good for us than our present rather aimless laments about the discouraging conditions in the greenkeeping profession.

No Definite Rule—GOLFDOM receives numerous requests for information regarding conditions under which the stroke of "stroke and distance" penalty is remitted for out of bounds in a national championship. There is no definite rule about the number of "out of bounds" holes a course must have to waive the stroke penalty. The USGA makes the ruling covering special cases, which are rare.

HERE'S SOME MORE ABOUT EZRA

**TEACHERS' COLLEGE
OF GOLF BADLY
NEEDED BY PROS**

By W. C. JACKSON

I READ in GOLFDOM not very long ago an article by Johnny Takach, entitled, "Ezra Applesauce," and a reply by C. V. Anderson, which I think has started something. However, I don't agree with either article in entirety. In the first place, we will admit the premise that golf instruction is a science. In order to teach a science—or anything—for that matter, you have to know how to teach as well as to know your subject.

I agree heartily with Myles Coen who wrote that one has to know human nature; that a large part of teaching is psychological. But when one condemns an amateur who reaches the finals in a state championship and accepts a position as a professional immediately afterwards, as a bad teacher, you may be wrong. He might have been a teacher—of anything—before that time. And if he reaches the finals of a state championship, he may have practiced or played the game sufficiently to be a good teacher of golf.

There are plenty of people, professionals and otherwise, who know enough about the game to teach it but lack the ability to teach. Let us take for example, Eugene Grace, president of the Bethlehem Steel Co. He applies the principles of economics in the manufacture of steel and he knows a lot about economics. Is he necessarily qualified to be the Professor of Economics at Yale university? Not unless he has been taught to be a teacher.

There is a professional who is one of the oldest in the country. He has served

The case of Ezra Applesauce, farm hand who turned part of his pappy's roadside acreage into a driving range, hung up a sign "Ezra Applesauce, Pro," and thus became a pro, obviously stirred pro thought on both sides of the Atlantic.

Ezra's brief history first was printed in January GOLFDOM. Since then there have been several comments on Pro Applesauce received and printed by GOLFDOM.

Now comes W. C. Jackson, pro-supt. at Camargo club, the swanky establishment in the Cincinnati district, with a suggestion springing from Johnny Takach's tale of Ezra, the overnight pro.

And from "Golfing" of London, an authority in British golf, comes an article by N. B. Laikeley, headed "Doctors and Quacks—A Test for Golf Instructors." Looks like Ezra started something.

all the apprenticeships there are to serve, plays a magnificent game of golf, has a fine job and runs his golf shop in the most efficient manner. Yet he can't teach for sour apples—and never will!

Coen brings up the point that professionals are made overnight from farm boys, caddies and what not. What qualifies them to be golf teachers? Nothing. Their minds have not been developed analytically. They have never been taught the fluency of language needed for a simplified expression of their thoughts. But neither have the apprentices or assistants, who have put in a number of years in a golf shop.

What is the solution? Frankly, you have me stumped there.

**Says PGA Is
Trade Association**

Assuming again that golf is a science, the PGA in its present structure, is not an organization for the furtherance of a science. It functions more as a trade organization, stressing the sale of goods. And with the help of GOLFDOM, I must admit that it is bearing fruit along that line.

On the other hand, doctors of medicine—who are students of science—have an organization, hold conventions and clinics, and devote the entire time to the study of the practice of medicine—not to the sale of it.

Our solution would be a Teacher's College of Golf. If the PGA would start a fund for such an institution, however

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small, it would be a step in the right direction. While at first such a school might be able to graduate only a few, gradually the golf clubs of the country would have enough confidence in the work, that men sent them from this college would be preferred as competent teachers. The prestige of the PGA would rise beyond all present hope, and take its rightful place in the golf development in this country. Clubs would be protected against unqualified pro performance.

Only until then can the PGA do much to better itself. At present, if you serve an apprenticeship for so many years in a golf shop under a recognized professional, you can become a member of the PGA, and qualified as an instructor. Not enough. You might spend forty years in a golf shop and never be a competent instructor.

I hope this starts a constructive argument, and I am willing to help any movement in the right direction. I am a member of the PGA; I am a college graduate; I was also an "Ezra Applesauce." But I am also egotistical enough to believe that I am a good teacher and duly qualified to enter this argument.

DOCTORS and QUACKS

A Test for Golf Instructors

By N. B. LAIKELEY

(In "Golfing", London)

THERE are too many quack doctors about,' said J. H. Taylor a year or two ago, in discussing the defects of present-day golf teaching, and he put forward a proposal that a board of examiners should be set up, preferably under the auspices of the PGA, to issue diplomas only to those who could satisfy the examiners that they knew the job thoroughly. It still seems to me an excellent suggestion, because at the present time professional golf teaching is nothing like as good as it ought to be.

The problem is stated from the American viewpoint in a recent issue of *GOLFDOM* by Johnny Takach, the professional at the Blackheath Country Club. 'Ezra Applesauce's paw's farm is on the main highway at the edge of town. Ezra's done a little caddying. Farming doesn't make enough money for Ezra. So he mows a spot in the front 40, sets up distance markers, builds some tees, and has himself a practice range.

'Ezra puts up a sign: "Ezra Apple-

sauce, Golf Pro.'" Why shouldn't the suckers believe it? Ezra does. Golfers and fishermen are much alike. They'll try any kind of bait and if it catches a fish now and then they don't stop to think that they might be doing a lot better.

'Most golfers will accept playing advice from practically anyone, and if he's lucky enough to hit one straight long ball right after getting the advice he stays "sold"—for a time. That's what sets Ezra Applesauce up in business as a pro. Ezra may meet a golf club member or official who's strong in a club political situation and before long Ez is a pro at a golf club with widened opportunity for fooling ignorantly with the games of hopeful golfers.'

Few Pros Will Guarantee Results

Hundreds of golfers would be willing to pay handsomely for instruction in the game if they could find a teacher who would guarantee results. But how many golf professionals would care to allow their remuneration for lessons to be based on the extent to which they brought their pupils' handicaps down? In China, I am told, physicians are paid on the logical plan of receiving a stipend from each patient so long as he remains in good health, but as soon as he falls ill they are docked of their fees until they make him well again. The golf doctor, however, would fare rather badly under a similar arrangement, for most of his patients would be in the chronic condition of being 'off' what they are pleased to call their game!

There is no doubt that golf professionals both in America and the Continent make far more money from teaching than they do here, and I am afraid the reason is simply that in America and the Continent the pros make a more careful study of teaching. On this side of the Atlantic a tremendous amount of harm has been done by the universal acceptance of the idea that if a professional was a good player he must as a matter of course also be a good teacher. Such a claim contains an obvious fallacy, since it is clear that a man may know everything about the golf swing and yet know nothing about teaching, even as some caddies, of whom we have all had experience, seem to know everything about golf and nothing whatever about caddying. If the Professional Golfers' Association would embark upon some

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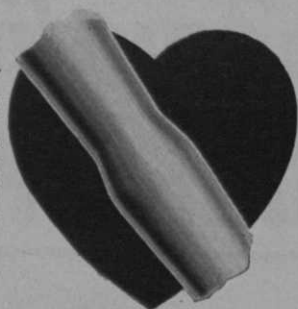
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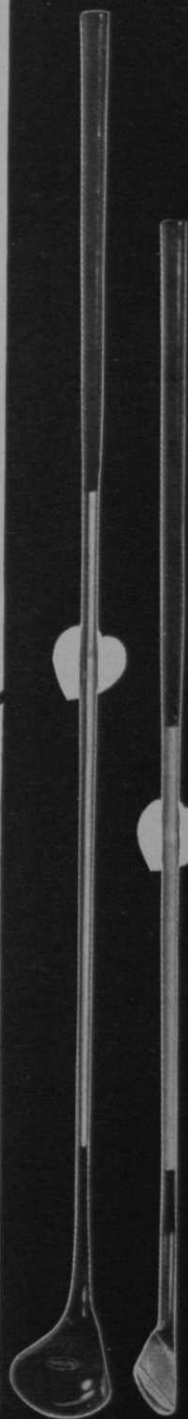
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scheme for training young pros in the art of imparting their skill to others, they would benefit both the professionals and their pupils. The idea that the man who could turn in the lowest score in big tournaments was the best teacher had perhaps a certain substratum of truth in the old days, when most people were content to learn by imitation, for the best golfer was fairly likely to be the best model to copy. But in these scientific days, when we are all trying to be golfing machines, we want an instructor who can explain to us, at least in a rough and ready sort of way, how the machine works.

In the States where before the depression hundreds of pros were so successful as teachers that they were kept busy throughout the summer giving lessons from morn to night and did not get a chance to play in a tournament from one year's end to another, the tournament player and the teacher are entirely separate. You used to hear it put forward as an excuse for the failure of the British pros against the Americans that they were competing against men who were playing big golf from January to December, while the British players are too busy giving lessons to be able to get as much practice as they need. It is at least possible that the converse is equally true, and that the British pro often fails as an instructor because he has been so busy chasing the will-o-the-wisp of tournament success that he has never had sufficient time to study the art of teaching. Yet a young pro who could train himself to be a really first-class teacher would probably make more money in the long run than all but the most successful of the gladiators.

Are Pros Doctors or Instructors?

The chief defect of golf teaching at the present time, as it seems to me, is that it is critical rather than constructive. Even the pros who really do know their job, are golf doctors rather than golf instructors, better at spotting faults in a swing that is already formed, and helping us to 'iron out the kinks' than at telling an absolute beginner how he is to start. Indeed, you will find that the pro who has to teach a would-be golfer who has never had a driver in his hand before, is often completely at sea until he has actually got the pupil swinging the club. Then he can begin to point out where the pupil is going wrong. But as a rule he lacks any sort of language in which to explain

to the pupil how he is to swing the club correctly. I should be very glad indeed to see the Professional Golfer's Association issuing an official 'manual of instruction for golf instructors' that would help the average professional over this and other hurdles.

Tips Enough for English Golfer

The average Englishman, and still more the average English golfer, has no patience for the scientific analysis which is such a passion with his opposite number in the States. The Englishman is content to receive his golf instruction in the form of 'tips,' unsupported by any reasoning, and even with regard to these he displays an amazing faculty for seizing upon some picturesque detail to the complete neglect of the essential idea. If you want an example of this, you have only to ask any golfer on this side of the Atlantic to describe to you the overlapping, or, as it is commonly called, the Vardon, grip. It is a hundred to one that he will tell you that the chief point about it is that the little finger of the right hand is allowed to overlap the forefinger of the left. And he will usually be quite content to leave it at that.

The picturesque detail about the right little finger riding in the hollow between the fore and middle fingers of the left, is the point that has taken his fancy. It simply does not occur to him that it can matter very little what you do with the right little finger once you have decided to loosen the grip of the right hand by taking that particular finger off the club. Still less does he stop to consider that the position of the fingers that are to be employed in gripping the club is likely to be of more vital importance than the position of the one finger that is not to be used. And the basic idea behind it all, the idea of adopting a grip that will ensure the left hand being in control for the first three-fourths of the swing, means absolutely nothing to him.

It may not be literally true that the American cracks all swing alike, while the British champions swing in all sorts of different ways, but it is the case that British golfers are more interested in studying the differences between individual players, while Americans are concentrating on the factors that are common to the majority. And I feel sure that the latter is the plan that will produce the sounder theory of play and in the long run the better golfers.