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# Swinging around Golf



## NEWS OF THE GOLF WORLD IN BRIEF

By **HERB GRAFFIS**

Smiley Quick, one of the young men who break faithless putters says Carnoustie is the toughest course he played abroad. . . Windom, Minn., establishing a golf club. . . E. W. Harbert, Chick's dad and pro at Hamilton (O.) Elks club, says Chick was so pleased at getting back on his game he wasn't badly disappointed in losing the PGA title to Jim Ferrier.

If financial arrangements can be made there'll be several British pros playing the American winter tournament circuit regardless of what happens to the plan to have Ryder Cup matches in the U. S. this fall or early winter. . . Flory van Donck, 35-year-old Belgian pro who's been doing well in British tournaments, also is a possible visitor. . . Bobby Locke will be back for the winter circuit. . . His American and Canadian debut should gross him about \$26,000. . . It will put him well ahead of the rest of the field for the period during which Locke was competing.

Frank Strafaci, NY Met district amateur star, has been partially crippled by recurrence of a jungle infection he contracted when he was a GI in the Pacific. . . Clubhouses made of used army and navy buildings are being erected at a number of small town and munny courses. . . Long Beach, Calif., Meadowlark fee course is in a new men's clubhouse, lockerroom and shower-room converted from former Army barracks.

Golf practice range business generally keeping up at record figure. . . Golf range pros are selling pretty fair amount of high-priced equipment. . . Columbus (Ga.) CC

lets contract for \$200,000 clubhouse improvements. . . American Legion opens new 9-hole sandgreen course at McPherson, Ks. . . Buddy Troyer in San Jose (Calif.) News junior tournament had 30 one putt greens in 54 holes.

Stockton, Calif., considering new 18 hole munny course. . . Dayton, O., golfers planning to buy Northmoor course for \$125,000 and spending \$50,000 in improvements. . . Jack G. Dew is pres., new Sacramento (Calif.) River CC on which construction will begin soon. . . Riverside Town & CC, Winnebago, Minn., completing new clubhouse. . . Ten per cent of Calcutta pool in swanky Piping Rock's member-guest tournament went to Glen Cove hospital. . . The winning team paid off \$6,869.40.

—O. B. Keeler figured out that Nelson's average for 28 rounds in the U.S. Open was 73 15-28 and Jones' average for 44 rounds in the Open was 73 43-44. . . O. B. reminds his public that Jones won 4 U.S. Opens playing without the wedge and Nelson won one. . . So who d'ye think O. B. believes is the greater golfer? . . . We suggest you

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quit worrying about it. . . Nelson with his exhibitions and syndicate ghost writing and club royalties is doing quite O.K. and Jones with his law practice, Coca Cola plant, club royalties and other investments is in the higher brackets. . . Looks like Bob and Byron survived that oft-mentioned terrifying strain of tournament competition with less damage to the nerves than suffered by a lot of guys who have to compete against the grocery-man and landlord.

Russ Fankhauser, pro, Marietta (O.) CC has been writing a fine series on "How to Play Golf" in Marietta News. . . Abilene (Ks.) CC in \$15,000 clubhouse improvement. . . Tracy (Minn.) GC completing new course. . . U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce who were brought into sponsoring of pro tournaments, by Bob Harlow are having good success with their national junior championship. . . In several states entries of qualifying rounds for event scheduled for Peoria, Ill., starting July 29, exceeded 100.

Jaycee sponsorship was what put the pro circuit into steady big business. . . Before the Jaycees came in Pinehurst and Miami were about the only 2 places the pros always could depend upon to put up winter circuit prize money without vigorous solici-

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tation. . . The pros owe the Jaycee junior tournament a lot of cooperation in return for what the Jaycees did to establish the PGA tournament circuit.

Rome, Ga., Junior Chamber of Commerce sponsoring a \$10,000 open at Coosa CC Oct. 2-5. . . Tommy Armour says that Ben Hogan's record is unique in that experts declare Ben the most expert of today's competitors although he's won only one "major" championship, the 1946 PGA. . . The Silver Scot told Ed Bang of the Cleveland News that being able to stay in and fight after taking a beating is one of the signs of a real champion. . . On that basis we'll cheer for Porky Oliver who has been nosed out in many close finishes and has shown no indications of unbearable pain. . . The Great Armour lauded Jimmy Demaret as comparable in public opinion with Hagen. . . Tommy hailed Lawson Little as a great champion with 2 U.S. Amateur, 2 British Amateur, a U.S. and a Canadian national open titles.

American Legion at Goshen, Ind., promoting \$70,000 campaign for course and clubhouse. . . W. H. Diddel to design course. . . Bill Picard, 15-year-old son of Henry,

former PGA champion and pro at Canterbury CC, Cleveland, now is Cleveland district junior champion. . . In the final match which went 19 holes young Bill gave a demonstration of putting that would have deeply impressed a lot of his pappy's pals.

Wick Dickerson, pro at Columbus (O.) Indian Springs course is hailed as a candidate for honors as "The Man Who Has Done Most for Columbus Golf in 1947" by Paul Hornung in Columbus Dispatch. . . Wick's 82 students in his free kid classes were described by Paul in his lively sports column. . . When Johnny Revolva was 20 years old he held 17 course records in Wisconsin and Minnesota. . . Goldsboro, N.C., organizing golf club.

Newspaper sports writers have been making a lot of comment on the USGA making championship conditions much more stringent than PGA. . . Consensus is that by allowing laxity of tournament circuit playing conditions and rules observance to creep into the pros' major championship its reputation as the toughest and most testing of title events is a long way from being what it used to be.

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July 23, 1947

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Bowbells (ND) GC being reopened. . . Mrs. Edith Frye, grandmother of the five fine Frye brothers in Pacific Coast golf, follows in golf galleries as a matter of family loyalty but as a sports expert rates highest on her homeland's top event, the Kentucky Derby, says Beth Hightower of Sacramento (Calif.) Union. . . By the way Beth's "Short Putts" column is one of the most interesting chatty golf jobs among many in the nation's newspapers. . . Jim Ferrier, PGA champion, has made 7 aces.

Wilfred Crossley who won the National Public Links title brought Atlanta its first national golf championship since Charley Yates won the British Amateur in 1938. . . George Lake, Long Beach, Calif., Recreation Park pro and his asst., Frank Grant, have had 3-year-old kids brought for the far-famed junior instruction classes George inaugurated. . . George and Frank tell the tots' parents to bring the kids back later.

Howard V. Millard, sports columnist of Decatur (Ill.) Review, closes the books as far as we're concerned on the debate about pros wearing numbers in the All A-May-rican tournament. . . Millard says maybe wearing numbers isn't dignified but as far as he has been able to learn the pros are playing to be paid off in money and not

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dignity. . . The numbering wrangle got George many, many lines of free publicity so he was bound to win on that count.

Frankie Elston, deputy sheriff of Yolo county, Calif., is the longest hitter in amateur golf according to Nelson Cullenward of San Francisco Call-Bulletin. . . Lenox (Ia.) GC erecting former Army building as clubhouse. . . Former Women's National Golf & Tennis club purchased by syndicate of Sound View GC, Great Neck, LI, N.Y., members headed by Fred Grieve, former pro. . . Sound View, formerly known as Great Neck GC, was bought for real estate development. . . Its remaining 9 holes may be abandoned. . . Ernest Jones was pro at Women's National, which was established in 1924 and shutdown during first war year. . . Ernest still holds course record of 66 made in 1928. . . Jones in his indoor school at Spalding's New York store, is reported to have his lesson time engaged until far into next year.

Lyons (Neb.) GC to build clubhouse. . . Greymere G&CC, Columbia, Tenn., to build clubhouse replacing one burned 4 years ago. . . Cleveland Springs CC, Shelby, N.C., to enlarge clubhouse and add another 9 holes. . . Charlotte, N.C. to build clubhouse at Bonnie Brae many course replacing one



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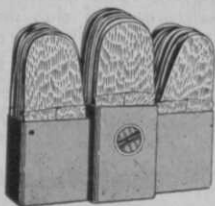
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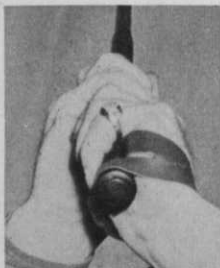
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burned. . . Durham, N.C. golfers raising fund to send their Jimmy Dezern to National Lefthanders' tournament at Coghill CC (Chicago dist.) Aug. 19-21.

Byron Nelson is figuring on exhibition matches with Bobby Locke in the east before Locke returns to South Africa in Sept. . . . Frankie Stranahan is cheered by O. B. Keeler's reminder that Bobby Jones went 7 years before winning a national title then won 13 in the next 8 years. . . O. B. also calls attention to Fred Daly's winning score in the British Open at Hoylake this year being 2 strokes higher than Jones' winning score 17 years ago on the same course.

Leo Fischer, Chicago Herald-American sports writer, quotes an unnamed tournament pro suggesting that the point rating system be restored on tournament golfers to determine "a clear-cut, undisputed professional golf champion each year." . . . Oak Hills CC, Ada, Okla., to remodel clubhouse and build swimming pool.

Babe Didrikson Zaharias likes the British small ball for driving and putting but says it lies so close it gave her trouble on iron shots. . . Yet the British consider The Babe the finest woman iron player they ever saw. . . The worst round she had in the British Women's was her 75 in the morning round of the finals. . . Twice she made the out 9 in 33, which is 4 under men's par. . . At Gullane admission wasn't charged and the British Ladies' Golf union lost a great opportunity to cash in on The Babe's drawing power.

Until the final day the British amateur didn't draw more than 800 galleryites a day, says Golf Monthly. . . Field of 115 competed in Scottish Golf Greenkeepers' Assn. championship at Gleneagles. . . Sir Alexander King, Scottish film magnate, who recently became pres., Scottish PGA, plans to encourage Scotch clubs to engage pros and provide them with business and

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playing opportunities. . . He is raising the equivalent of \$40,000 to promote tournaments for Scotch pros. . . Now there are very few first class playing pros attached to Scotch clubs.

Miss Florence Troeger, pro at South Bend, Ind., Studebaker course, is developing some promising boys and girls in her free junior classes. . . She's been on the job since 1943. . . Glen Arven CC, Thomasville, Ga., is said by Ed Miles in the Atlanta Journal, to be "the oldest golf course in the nation as far as consecutive play is concerned." . . . Doug Deringer in Richmond (Va.) News-Leader says city needs a more convenient mny course and much more encouragement of junior play by adult golfers. . . Guymon, Okla., building 9-holes.

Russ Leonard, pro at Marquette (Mich.) G&CC has installed a 9-hole pitch and putt course for members' kids. . . Kinston (N.C.) Free Press in editorial campaign for a golf club similar to those of neighboring cities. . . Duncan Barr signed as pro by Schroon Manor course at Schroon Lake, N.Y.

Tom Mahan, Jr., 17-year-old son of widely known pro at United Shoe course and New England PGA official, is one of the stars of New England junior golf. . . Young Tom aspires to be a concert singer. . . Edward E. (Tex) Butler, former California caddie and now a skipper in the Merchant Marine, sampled Bobby Locke's talent long before Locke arrived in this country. . . Butler, visiting Johannesburg, played against Locke.

Willowick at Santa Ana, Calif., recently completed 6 holes to bring course up to 18. . . Art Roux is Willowick pro-mgr. . . He was at Hacienda CC, LaHabra, Calif., for 19 years. . . Art Stewart, pro at Green Acres range in LA, recently set record of 30-32-62 on San Fernando Valley CC. . . Some years ago before the course was remodeled Fred Morrison, then the club's pro, shot a 60 on the layout.

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Golf in Australia brings up an interesting debate: which is the better of two great Australian golfers, Ferrier or Von Nida? . . . The answer may be given on the U.S. winter circuit as there's a good chance that Von Nida who has been winning in Britain will play in our tournaments. . . Some veteran observers are saying that Bobby Locke is giving U.S. tournament golf a gate lift that more than justifies the prize money he's been winning.

We think the USGA and PGA are overlooking etiquette by not presenting to clubs that are hosts to their championships handsome gifts as tokens of appreciation which could be placed in the clubhouses. . . In going around the country we note inside some clubhouses framed gracefully written letters of appreciation for receiving USGA championships of bygone years but that amenity seems to have fallen into the mere formality of business correspondence. . . Both organizations might be reminded that if members of the host clubs were paid for the free work they do in putting on a championship there would be very few championships that would show in black figures. . . A tournament is often some honor to a club but always one hell of a lot of nuisance, work and risk. . . George Schneider, PGA tournament committee

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