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DL66PD NEW BEDFORD, MASS. MAY 15, 1948
TO THE GOLF PROFESSIONAL

IN THE BIG MONEY WINTER CIRCUIT TOURNAMENTS SPONSORED
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MAKING *the* SWING

By
HERB GRAFFIS



THE GOLF NEWS IN BRIEF

L. B. Icely, pres., Wilson Sporting Goods Co., marked his 30th year with the company Feb. 28. . . Melvin B. Lucas, formerly at Manchester (Conn.) CC, is new supt., Homestead G&CC, Spring Lake Heights, N.J. . . . Walter Hagen's plugs for the home club pros in Hagen company national advertising are the Haig's own idea. . . French Lick Springs, Ind., Midwest Amateur tournament April 2-4, announces a field that puts it in major amateur event class.

As one indication of how greenkeepers have stirred up interest in good lawns; O. M. Scott & Sons Co. started its Lawn Care bulletin in 1928 with 5,000 copies. . . Current issue, the 99th, has 950,000 circulation. . . British pros will compete in 20 tournaments from mid-April to early October. . . North British Rubber Co.-Harrogate tournament for 2,000 guineas which was inaugurated last year this year again will be a feature of the British tournament circuit.

Stanley Davies, pro, Omaha (Neb.) Field club, has been at PGA National course this winter recovering marvelously from a prolonged illness. . . Mrs. Ed Furgol's birthday was celebrated at Venetian hotel, Miami, March 10, by the Furgols, the Ellsworth Vines' and others. . . Ed and Ellie had just finished second in the Miami 4-ball. . . Pars by the Ferrier-Middlecoff team won the title on the 36th hole. . . The Middlecoffs celebrated their first wedding anniversary during the Miami affair.

The 4-ball event took a beating at the gate. . . So did the New Orleans open. . . Miami experimented by concluding the event Tuesday, hoping presence of many stars over the week-end would draw big galleries as was experience of the PGA at Plum Hollow, Detroit. . . Monthly meet-

ings of tournament circuit players gradually are solving some of their problems. . . The rules were a cause of controversy at the 4-ball. . . Dispute involved Argentine and U.S. players on handling the flag. . . Answer is clear in the rule book. . . If you don't know it, look it up. . . Ignorance of rules isn't good showmanship in tournament golf.

Jeeps getting strong OKs at greenkeeper conferences this spring, based on 1947 course service. . . Greenkeepers say jeep holds speed uniform for seed and fertilizer distribution and chemical weed control. . . Some of them say the 4-wheel drive helps in spring mowing. . . They think the jeep could be better fitted to golf course use if the spindle were lengthened to get shorter turning radius and the front and back wheels didn't track together.

Tightening the greens and stymies helped make the PGA 30th championship played May 19-25 at Norwood Hills CC, St. Louis, most exciting show the pros have played for the public in years. . . Return of the stymie wasn't wildly cheered by the playing pros but the stymie's effect on results of matches was about 50-50 for the contestants. . . M. G. (Scotty) Fessenden, Western GA pres., after watching pros negotiate and fail on stymies said he still thinks the Western's refusal to accept the stymie in its Amateur and Junior championship will save damage to greens. . . No damage to Norwood Hills greens from stymie play by the pros.

Norwood Hills greens the pros declared were finest putting surfaces anyone could want. . . Greenkeepers Joe and Ted Lammert of the club did a great job in bringing those greens into condition. . . Pro Ray Schwartz, lauding the work of his team-mates, the Lammerts, said if the PGA could arrange its championships two years in advance as the USGA does the greenkeepers would have time they need for a fairway conditioning program. . . Norwood Hills' hilly terrain makes fertilizing and seeding a job that requires time and favorable weather conditions.

Despite the ups-and-downs of the Norwood Hills West course, for spectators it is one of the best courses on which a major American championship has been held. . . Within a radius of 300 yards one gets a good view of the 4th, 8th, 11th, 13th, 15th, 17th and 18th tees and 3d, 7th, 10th, 12th, 14th and 17th greens.

Fine weather and well-planned advance ticket sale, plus a swell job in putting the bite on for program ads got the club "off the nut" early. . . Plenty of parking space

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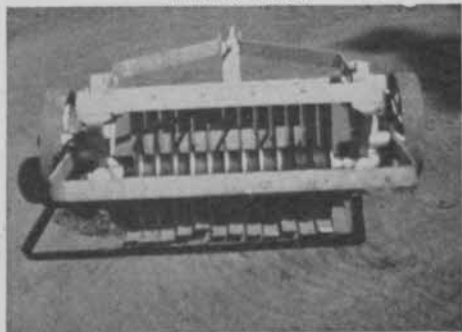
in the club grounds, practice area on the East course not 100 yds. from pros' locker-room, meal service in a large dining room and outdoors by the dance floor and two food-and-drink stands on the course, a private locker-room section for contestants with food service in a private room adjoining, a large, well-lighted, conveniently located press room, all made the Norwood Hills set-up ideal for a tournament.

Pres. and Gen. Chmn. J. F. Tegeler, the club's board members and committee members, Pro Ray Schwartz, the Lamert brothers and Mgr. Ray Laidet, deserve a hand for management of a tournament about as nearly perfect as could be devised. . . Gotta hand it to the marshals too. . . They kept the galleries in line without acting big and loud and without delay. . . Women score markers accompanying the contestants also were 100% in performance.

PGA deserves a lot of credit for again getting around to making its championship a top test of golf instead of an endurance contest on a course softened up because of fear of star's complaints. . . That fringe around the greens which has been virtually eliminated from PGA tour-

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Patent No. 2267943



ALL-PURPOSE CULTIVATOR for Fairways and Greens

Aerates packed soil and permits deeper penetration of fertilizer, top-dressing and water—removes grain from greens turf—easily operated without interruption to play. Weights on tray over axle regulate cutting depth. Circular knives of high grade knife steel.

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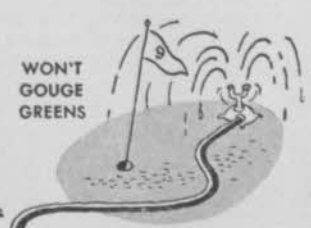
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Emerald Cord is the longest-wearing country-club hose by far. In the long run, its many extra years of service make Emerald Cord your thriftiest buy.

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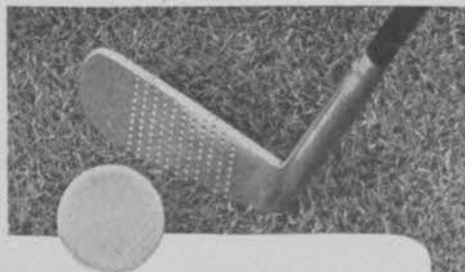
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naments for years because of pros' howls, was back again and again showed that it's just as much a test of skill as any other shot in the bag. . . Without that tightening of the greens the Norwood Hills West course which is only 6467 yds. long would have been strokes easier in the average scoring of qualifying rounds and the approximate scores of the medal play rounds.

There's only one par 4 hole of more than 400 yds. on the first 9 at Norwood Hills West. . . It's the 405 yd. 6th. . . The hills and elevations make it a tricky course. . . The 403 yd.—209 yd.—450 yd. (par 4) final three holes give the course a great finish.

Look for a change in the schedule of conducting the PGA 1949 tournament. . . Lot of agitation for eliminating the qualifying rounds at the tournament after contestants already have played 36 holes qualifying sectionally. . . Some talk about having the tournament all match play at 18 holes up to the quarter finals when play would begin at 36 holes. . . Those in favor of the 18 hole route all the way through say 18 holes is a regulation round. . . If a champion needs more than that to be a champion he isn't a champion, the 18 hole advocates maintain. . . Upsets will occur

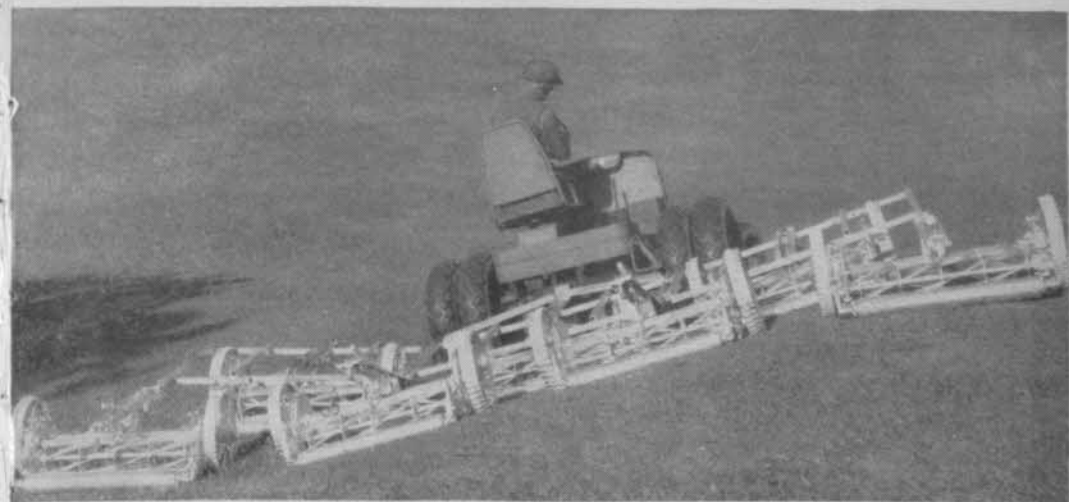


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— and do a finer maintenance job, too!

Whether it's fairways or rough . . . tees, greens or approaches . . . lawns . . . or weeds under fences and in hard-to-get-at places, there's a Toro mower designed to handle the job *quickly, efficiently*, and at a *definite saving in time and money!*

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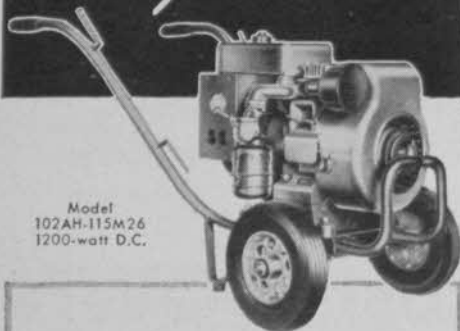
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in these 18 hole affairs but the public will come to see who killed the giant.

Apparently nobody in the PGA field was bothered by the 14 club limit. . . The honor system governed on clubhouse markings. . . Some gallery comment on curious bites and twists of balls after hitting greens but contestants weren't inclined to do any chiseling after all the talk there's been about the markings.

Some years ago GOLFDOM suggested to the USGA that the pros at clubs where USGA championships were held deserved some cash compensation for the business they lost because of having the championships at their clubs. . . The USGA took prompt action. . . We've made the same suggestion to the PGA but it still lags in adequately recompensing the pro at the club where it holds its annual championship. . . Ray Schwartz, Norwood Hills' pro, had to cancel a lot of lesson time early in the season because of pressure of duties connected with PGA championship arrangements. . . Pro purchases at a PGA championship are almost nil. . . Member sales are cut off. . . Few apparel items are sold to gallery visitors. . . The pros at the PGA championship clubs and at all clubs on the tournament circuit

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deserve a whole lot more attention from the PGA when there's all the talk about the tournament big money.

Johnny Manion repeated at the PGA championship the excellent job he did at the 1947 National Open of seeing that the contestants got all the service and convenience the host clubs possibly could provide. . . Television from the KSDTV tower high above the center of the course gave the PGA championship grand coverage. . . One thing Norwood Hills' publicity committee learned too late (as others also have) that publicity pictures to show the course to advantage should be made in the summer preceding a late spring tournament that's to be held the following year.

James Wilfong, former supt. at Congressional CC (Washington, D.C. dist.) now is with the USGA Green section in charge of maintenance of turf plots. . . No successor to Donald Ross is contemplated at Pinehurst. . . John Inglis re-elected for 20th year as Metropolitan PGA pres. . . . Met PGA also elected Jack Mackie, Al Brosch, R. C. MacDonald and Fred F. Moore as 1st vp, 2d vp, sec. and treas., respectively.

"Sugar" Robinson, the welterweight

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