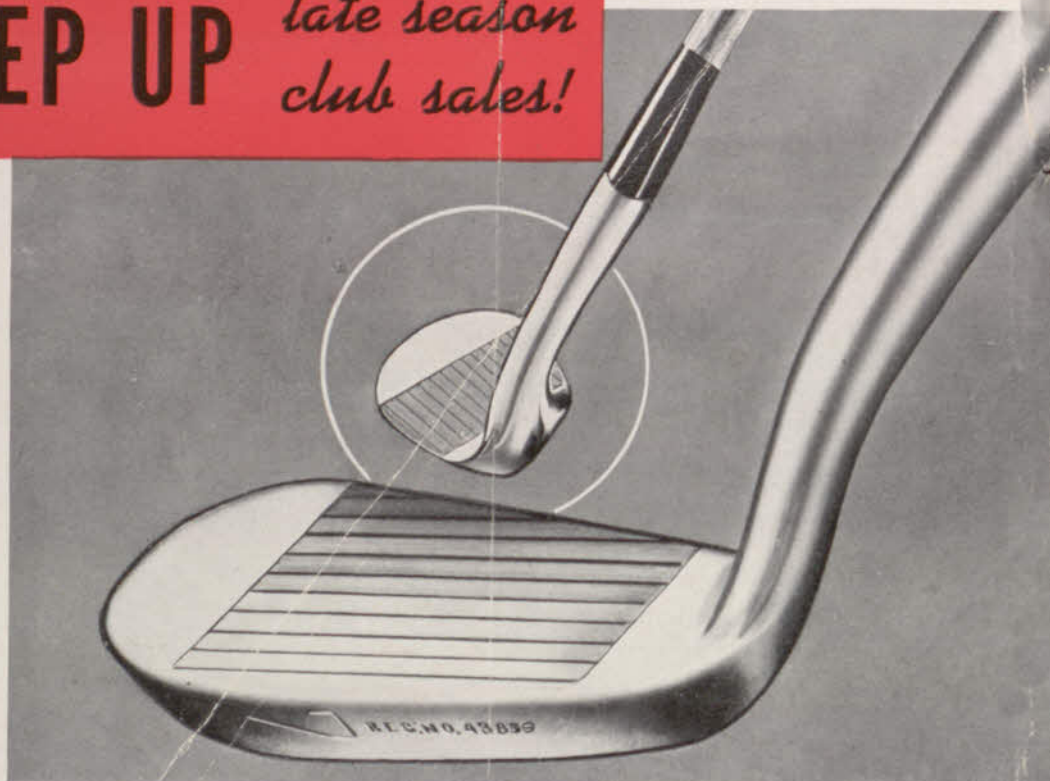


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# MAKING *the* SWING

By  
HERB GRAFFIS



## THE GOLF NEWS IN BRIEF

PGA certainly had no alternative to its action in barring Bobby Locke from tournaments in which the pro association accepts responsibility as co-sponsors. . . Locke's failure to keep exhibition and tournament commitments in the U. S. made prior to his winning of the British Open was in flagrant violation of a policy the PGA must enforce or sacrifice status with sponsors which has accounted for considerable money in the pockets of Locke and other pros.

The PGA has been blasted by sponsors for inability to produce a complete array of gallery magnets. . . Inasmuch as it doesn't pay any salaries to guarantee appearances of stars, other than some guarantees for pre-tournament clinic performances, PGA has a delicate problem in assuring presence of all of the all-stars.

Locke didn't help his public relations any by passing up Inverness and the Western Open while announcing his intention to compete in George S. May's \$65,000 Gold Rush. . . "How hungry can he get?" was American golfing public reaction. . . May, bound by contract with PGA Tournament bureau, couldn't admit Locke to Tam O'Shanter competition.

Locke's failure to make good his commitment to appear in Western Open at St. Paul, celebrating WGA's 50th anniversary, was particularly puzzling. . . Locke had expressed to M. G. (Scotty) Fessenden most cordial endorsement of Western's operation of its Open for benefit of Evans caddy scholarship foundation. . . Fessenden, Western president and chmn., PGA Advisory board, had frequently and effectively championed Locke when the South African had been criticized as being the world's fastest man after a buck and had been the repeated, generous and warmly considerate host during Bobby's American visits.

It looks like Locke has performed an unsuccessful Caesarian on the goose that laid the golden egg. . . He always impressed us as being too canny a gentleman to make the blunders that has got him blacklisted by the PGA of America. . . He probably has a story to tell in his own behalf but it had better be good.

After preceding was written I telephoned Bobby at Dublin during the Irish Open and got for Chicago Sun-Times detailed statement from him. . . He doubts American PGA right to bar him, pointing out he is not a member and subject to their ruling. . . That, he stated, was settled by PGA refusing to allow him in 1949 PGA championship. . . Further, he questioned calling tournaments on the PGA circuit "open" tournaments unless they actually were open. . . He said Inverness and Western GA had been advised of alteration of his plans dictated by his business connections in England.

Locke further stated Associated Press in London promised to advise "Dutch" Harrison of alteration of Locke's plans for exhibitions with Harrison. . . Stars at St. Paul Western Open recited instances of Locke taking run-outs on exhibition dates they had arranged after verbal but definite agreements with him. . . They claimed he passed up exhibition dates after OKing them, when he later made connections with tournament appearance guarantees.

Exhibition dates, rather than tournament absences, seemed to be hottest spot of the Locke argument. . . Snead substituted for Locke as Metz' partner at Inverness. . . Snead-Metz finished third. . . Gallery revenue sure didn't slump with Snead pinch-hitting for Locke. . . Western Open gate at St. Paul seems likely to have by far biggest gate in the event's history. . . Apparently the customers weren't being driven away by Locke's non-appearance.

The Locke-out definitely indicates need of revision in PGA tournament player contract. . . Now, when a star doesn't appear at a tournament, contract calls for suspending him from following tournament or tournaments. . . That, in effect, may punish at the gate, promoters of the following tournaments for a case in which they were not involved. . . There could be stiffening of the exhibition deals which now are too casually regarded by some of the boys. . . Exhibition sponsors in Indiana and Ohio are burning at Locke after they advertised him, made arrangements and sold tickets.

Some pros are wondering what the Locke case may do to relations between PGA of America and British PGA. . . Locke suspension by PGA of America probably won't be of long duration. . . PGA hasn't announced term of suspension or how the PGA and Locke can get together and sing

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"I GAVE our greens a liberal feeding of AGRICO COUNTRY CLUB Fertilizer in the fall to insure good winter carry-over," writes Robert W. Smith, assistant greenkeeper, Country Club of Maryland, Towson, Md. "In the spring I found that Agrico gave me the deep, well-placed root system I have been trying to secure for the last few years. This shows the carry-over effect of Agrico in producing dense, healthy turf and in providing resistance to fungi attack. Agrico gives my greens the sturdy growth to stand up under hard play and hot weather."

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"Let Me Call You Sweetheart." . . . Locke said in Dublin-St. Paul conversation that all he knew about his suspension was what he read in the papers. . . He claimed to have received no official word from PGA of America. . . He said he had asked Cmdr. Roe, British PGA sec., to "make inquiry" regarding the basis of his suspension by the PGA of America.

Eastern golf writers, with Lawrence Robinson, N.Y. World-Telegram as sec., arranging a big testimonial dinner for Kerr Petrie who retires after 37 years as golf editor of N.Y. Herald-Tribune. . . Petrie, Scotch-born, is one of the very best in writing golf. He's a great gentleman, beloved by those who have worked with him and whose activities he has covered. . . Tickets for the dinner to be held at Park Sheraton hotel, N.Y. Aug. 17, are \$6. . . "Sponsor's tickets" for this who won't be able to attend but who want to be in on the gift (probably an automobile) are \$6. . . Checks should be mailed to Petrie Dinner committee, Park Sheraton hotel, New York 19.

Ineligibility of Dr. Cary Middlecoff for Ryder Cup team has PGA national and sectional officials thinking of careful reconsideration of pro association's membership basis. . . The National Open champion was 7th in prize money last year with \$16,821.25 and through July 19, 1949, was second with \$20,024.57.

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**EMERALD CORD**—built with rayon—is the super-quality hose for lowest-cost country-club and estate service. Here's why:

**Finer Quality**—resulting from years of Goodyear experience in building all kinds of hose for every type of service.

**Protects Greens Better**—the rounded-rib cover of EMERALD CORD hose is especially designed to prevent scuffing or tearing up of greens.

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ness—greater strength—resistance to pulling and dragging strains.

In the long run, EMERALD CORD will outlast any other hose. Its many extra years of service make this your thriftiest buy.

This famous hose, with its attractive green, sun-and-abrasion-resistant cover and extra-strong rayon-reinforced body, comes in 25-, 50- and 100-foot lengths, coupled with special heavy-duty nickel-plated fittings, in sizes  $\frac{5}{8}$ " ,  $\frac{3}{4}$ " and 1". Order EMERALD CORD from your dealer now.

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THE GREATEST NAME IN RUBBER

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Keep him  
*"On his toes"*  
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Naturally, you want to be sure you're doing ALL you can to stop the spread of Athlete's Foot. Simplify this important job by insisting on the regular use of your shower and locker room foot tubs containing ALTA-CO POWDER. In economical solution — one pound per gallon of water—ALTA-CO kills all the different species of fungi commonly found in athlete's foot in less than one minute! ALTA-CO does not irritate the skin, nor does it damage towels.

Stable in solution, ALTA-CO can be tested quickly and accurately for proper strength with the inexpensive ALTA-CO TESTER. Dolge can also supply you with sturdy, flexible rubber foot tubs, with non-slip, non-skid safety features, on ALTA-CO POWDER service terms.

Write for our 36-page illustrated booklet, "Athlete's Foot — A Public Health Problem."

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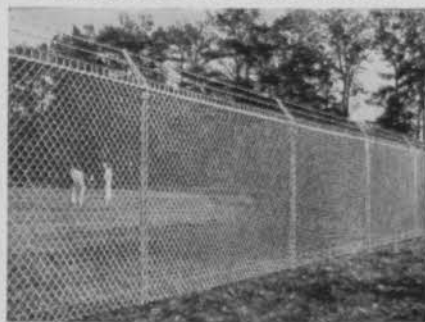
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Middlecoff's honorable action in passing up Walker Cup team trip in 1947 by advising USGA of his intention to turn pro, together with his performance as a pro, in golfing public opinion in U. S. and England, places Doc high among pros, regardless of PGA membership technicalities. . . Pros themselves have high regard for Middlecoff as a gentleman sportsman and player.

However, with established rules of eligibility PGA officials can't make hasty revisions and disbar the last man to qualify for Ryder Cup team by the prevailing point system. . . It's another case somewhat similar to PGA inability by its regulations to accept Lawson Little for membership after he'd won U. S. and British national amateur championships two consecutive years and the golfing public regarded him as a qualified candidate to compete in PGA's match play championship.

It's not fair to criticize PGA officials as freezing out quick rising stars such as Middlecoff and Little. . . The officials have to abide by eligibility rules that are based on the old apprentice conditions of bench clubmaking days. . . To adjust to different conditions and public opinion it looks like PGA eligibility, especially on tournament performances of American

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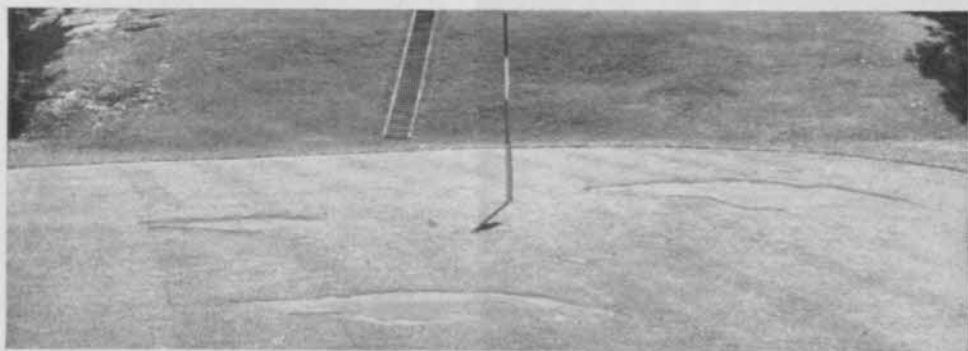
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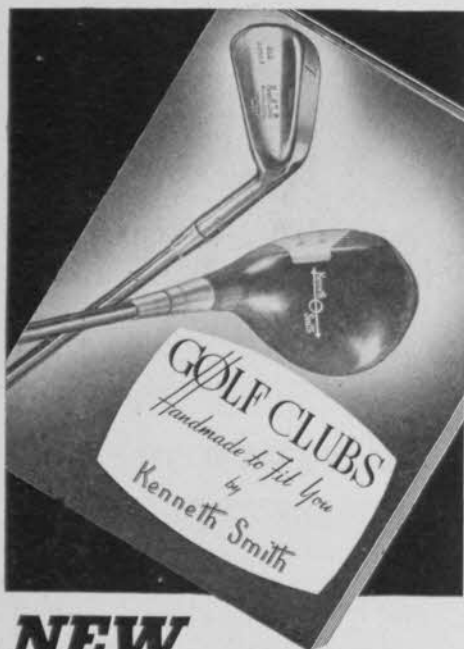
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young professionals, could be wisely modernized.

"Hamlet without the Prince of Denmark! It would be unthinkable. A Ryder Cup team without the champion golfer. Again it sounds impossible unless illness intervened," says Golf Illustrated of London about Middlecoff missing from the U. S. team.

Larry Montes, Filipino pro star who's played in U. S., Britain, France and Australia, says Japanese courses are tops for all-around excellence in upkeep. . . And Larry has no reason for unduly praising the Japs. . . Nor has Tino Tugot, who beat Von Nida and Montes in winning this year's Far East Open. . . Japs blew Tugot into the sea, then when he made shore batted him around for not "talking."

A big difference between R&A and USGA amateur-pro classifications now is that the R&A doesn't rate as a golf pro one whose duties include instruction in games in a recognized educational establishment while USGA definition says pro "includes faculty members or other employees of institutions of learning, regardless of how incidental the giving of golf instruction may be."

PGA annual meeting to be held at Mid Pines, Southern Pines, N.C., Nov. 28 thru Dec. 1.

# PHILLIPS



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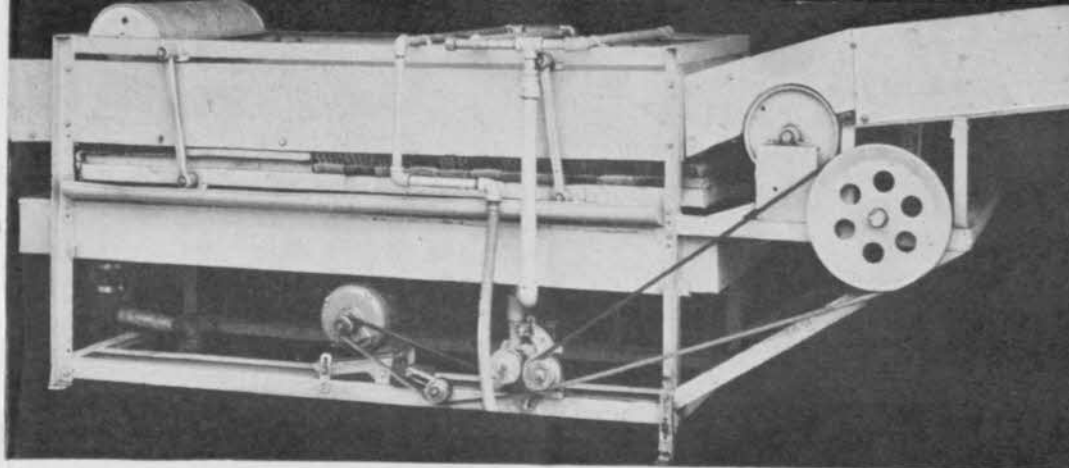
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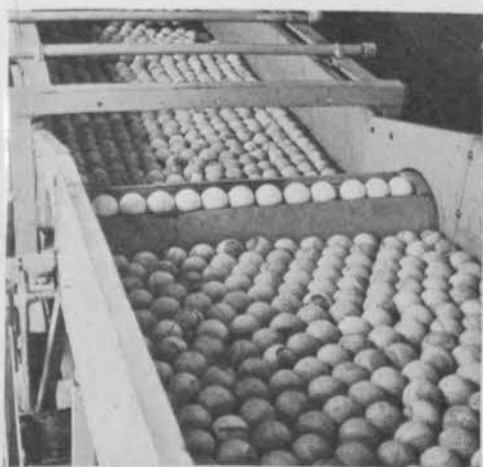
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*Here's the answer to a far-too-costly problem  
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The "Rapid" will earn its cost in one season's operation—relieve you of labor worries—win the praise of your players. See how quickly you can cull for rejects and repainters as the balls turn over-and-over in plain sight.

Send for illustrated folder describing features of the "Rapid" and its operation.

**SAVES TIME:** Dump soiled balls into hopper, press starter switch and from then on the "Rapid" turns them out sparkling clean and dry—12,000 an hour.

**SAVES LABOR:** No nursing or manual help required. The "Rapid" is completely automatic and thorough even to delivering clean, dry balls into bin or trays.

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# USE THE AERIFIER\*

\*Registered U. S. Patent Office

The Aerifier will be used for fall renovation of turf at many golf courses. Cultivation of soil under turf with the Aerifier is rapid. It is thorough—soil can be loosened to a maximum depth of five inches. The tubular spoons of the Aerifier really remove cores of soil, providing channels so water and plant foods can get down to the root zone. Cultivating action beneath the surface loosens soil to permit movement of air and water.

The Aerifier brings soil to the surface—as much as 32 tons to the acre. There is enough soil to cover seed when the Aerifier is used to prepare a seedbed in existing turf. Grass becomes established in the depressions left by the Aerifier spoons.

If you plan to introduce new grasses by vegeta-

tive planting, use the Aerifier to perforate the areas to be planted.

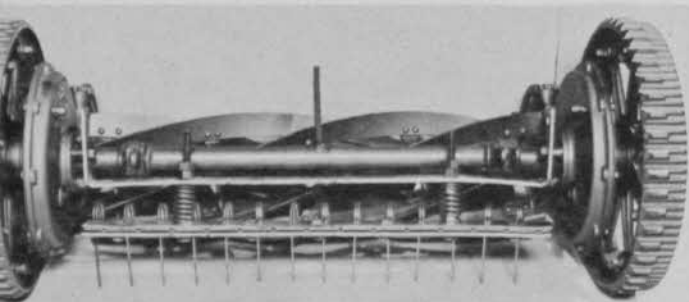
Chemicals applied to control grubs have been found to be effective much more rapidly when used after turf is aerified.

The Aerifier breaks through thatch layers on fairways, permitting water to get down into the soil. Use it to break up and redistribute layers of top-dressing materials which have been built up in greens.

Plan to aerify the entire course this fall. For aerification of greens, use a single unit Aerifier, equipped with hydraulic lift. Three Aerifier units used as a gang provide rapid aerification for fairways. The Aerifier is the only implement designed to serve so many purposes on the golf course.

Patent Pending

## FLEXI-COMB — Attaches to Fairway Mowers.



The Flexi-comb is a steel comb which can be mounted on popular makes of fairway mowers. The comb lifts grass runners so they can be cut off by the reel. Use it to overcome thatch on fairways. The use of the Flexi-comb on mowers also helps to confine crabgrass to smaller areas.

The steel teeth of the Flexi-comb are double-looped for greater flexibility to prevent breakage. Teeth are spaced two inches apart to reduce accumulation of material in front of the comb.

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