

## Amputee Tourney Continues Growth and Service

**F**FIFTH national amputee tournament, sponsored by Possibilities, Unlimited, Inc., will be played in early August at Wanakah CC, Buffalo, N. Y., under direction of Jack Ahern. A field of about 60 is expected, with the entries approximately even between fellows who lost an arm or a leg in military service or industrial accidents.

Dale S. Bourisseau, CSI Sales Co., Solon Center Bldg., Solon, O., is golf chmn. Entry fee is \$3. Bourisseau should be contacted for details. He lost a leg at Anzio, but the way he gets around courses and elsewhere in his job of demonstrating and selling Goodwin grips is great.

He says the steady growth of the Amputee tournament has been a marvelous showing of the value of golf in helping the fellows who've been seriously damaged in war or industry get into fine physical and psychological condition. He's trying to get more amputees to enjoy the benefits of the tournament.


## Official Efforts Can Make Up for "Bandits"

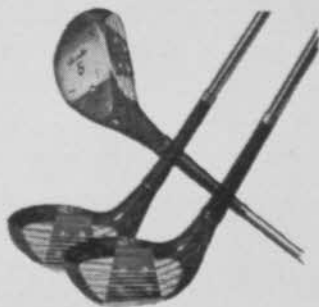
No job in golf is more important or more testing than that of operating the country club in the smaller community. Loss of slot machine revenue has meant a drastic alteration in the revenue picture in many cases. What can be done to adjust to that situation and supply funds necessary to provide attractive facilities at the smaller clubs still is an answer being sought by those who operate the clubs.

Possibly the solution may be more planning, energy and follow-thru by directors and committees. The officials of smaller community golf clubs and the men who must do the managing, professional and course maintenance work invariably have the experience of getting vigorous, helpful cooperation only from a few of the directors and committee members. The others want to enjoy the club without sharing the responsibilities of making the club a success.

As one in the business of trying to make smaller community club operation successful it occurs to me that clubs might go at their problem of selecting or appointing officials by asking themselves "how does the candidate compare with a slot machine in value to the club?"

—Jay Kimbrough,  
Waxahachie (Tex.) CC.

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## THE RUTLEDGE COMPANY

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## College Course for Golf Supts. May Be Dropped

**A** BRAHAM Baldwin college, Tifton, Ga. will discontinue its two year course for golf course superintendents next year if not more than five students register for the program. There are only two students taking the course this year.

Baldwin program is closely tied up with turf work of experimental station at Tifton, Ga. which has been highly valuable to southeastern golf.

Young men are not being attracted by moderate pay, long hours, heavy responsibilities, versatility and hard work associated with course superintendent's job. That explains situation at Abraham Baldwin, limited number of students last spring at Dickinson's short course at Massachusetts State college, and statement by N. C. Morris, sec., Trans-Mississippi Golf Assn.: "Fine greenkeepers are a scarce article in this land of ours at the present time."

## TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

### JULY

- 20-24—CDGA GREAT LAKES AMATEUR, Glen Flora CC, Waukegan
- 23-26—KANSAS CITY OPEN, Milburn G&CC, Kansas City, Mo.
- 27-Aug. 1—WOMEN'S WGA AMATEUR, Camargo CC, Madeira, O.
- 29-Aug. 1—USGA JUNIOR AMATEUR, Southern Hills CC, Tulsa, Okla.
- 29-31—IRISH OPEN, Belvoir Park, Belfast
- 30-Aug. 2—ALL-AMERICAN CH., Tam O'Shanter CC, Chicago

### AUGUST

- 6-9 —WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, Tam O'Shanter CC, Chicago
- 10-14—WOMEN'S WGA JUNIOR INV., Sunset Ridge CC, Winnetka Ill.
- 10-13—CDGA JUNIOR CLOSED, Rolling Green CC, Arlington Hts.
- 13-16—FORT WAYNE OPEN, Elks CC, Fort Wayne, Ind.
- 17-21—USGA GIRLS' JUNIOR CH., The Country Club, Brookline, Mass.
- 17-22—8th USJCC NAT'L JUNIOR CH., Univ. of Michigan Course, Ann Arbor
- 19-22—8th PGA NAT'L CADDIE TOURN., Ohio State Univ. GC, Columbus
- 20-23—LABATTS OPEN, Summerlea G&CC, Montreal, P. Q.
- 24-29—USGA WOMEN'S AMATEUR, Rhode Island CC, W. Barrington
- 24-29—CANADIAN AMATEUR, Kanawaki Club, Montreal
- 26-30—HARTFORD INS. CITY OPEN, Wethersfield (Conn.) CC

### SEPTEMBER

- 3-6 —NATIONAL CELEBRITIES OPEN, Wethersfield CC, Hartford, Conn.
- 4-5 —WALKER CUP MATCH, Kithansett Club, Marion, Mass.
- 10-13—EASTERN OPEN, Mt. Pleasant Mun. GC, Baltimore, Md
- 14-19—USGA AMATEUR, Oklahoma City (Okla.) G&CC
- 22-24—METROPOLITAN GA OPEN, Rockville CC, Rockville Centre, LI, N. Y.

### OCTOBER

- 2-3 —RYDER CUP MATCHES, Wentworth, England

## Snead's "Natural Golf" Is Clear Pictured Teaching

**N**NATURAL Golf, by Sam Snead, published by A. S. Barnes & Co., 232 Madison ave., New York 16. Price \$3.

Sam writes in this book that he's never taken a golf lesson in his life, by which he means never a formal lesson. He's learned plenty from his own experiences and watching others. He certainly has learned a lot about teaching from his hitches at White Sulphur and playing with many amateurs of various degrees of proficiency.

Sam, and Tom Shehan, who wrote the book with him, turned out an excellent, understandable standard work on golf instruction. The photographs of dramatic moments in Snead's career are especially interesting and informative as they describe clearly the details of making the shot that's pictured. "The "Questions and Answers" are another very helpful part of a book that is filled with sound instruction.

Many of the news illustrations show trouble shots. They'll be valuable to the average golfer who is in trouble a lot.

## Thatch in Fairway Turf

By PAUL WEISS

(GCSA Talk)

At the Lehigh CC we have no thatch problem on putting greens cut at  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. or less. Severe raking at least once each spring and removal of clippings prevent any mat formation. The same is true to a lesser extent of our bent grass tees, approaches and collars, cut at  $\frac{3}{8}$  in. Clippings are removed from these areas and they are raked occasionally. Dr. John F. Cornman published a very comprehensive paper on this subject in July-August 1952 Golf Course Reporter. Warren Bidwell in March 1952 GOLFDOM discussed thatch control with aerifying, fertilizing and liming.

Many clubs during the past several years have been renovating fairways and seeding bent grasses. In a few years these clubs will have the same thatch problem that we have at Lehigh. It is the biggest maintenance problem on the course. In 1946 and 1947 we renovated our fairways and seeded with a mixture of Colonial and Highland bent. By 1950 we had fairways which looked like putting greens cut at  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. They were so tight that clippings would remain on the surface, like hay,

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\*Vigoro is the trademark for Swift & Company's complete, balanced plant food.

and therein lies the basis of our thatch problem.

The dried grass clippings work their way down into the turf and form an impenetrable layer which sheds water like roofing paper. We have been aerifying fairways at least twice yearly since 1947 and while aerification has been a great help it is not the complete solution.

With the help of the Mascaro boys we devised rakes to precede each fairway mower, similar to the Flexicomb, but much more severe. These rakes bring an enormous amount of material to the surface but we have not yet found an efficient method of removing this material and eventually it goes back into the turf. We are in need of a vacuum type machine which will pick up grass clippings and deposit them in a cart or truck for removal. There are leaf pulverizers which will do the job but the initial cost of a fairway-size machine is prohibitive.

I will list some of the factors contributing to our thatch problems at Lehigh:

**SEEDING**—In 1946 and 1947 we seeded with the so-called upright bents hoping to avoid the problems of creeping bent. Today our fairways are largely creeping bent. Why this transition has taken place I don't know but I would like to find out. We used nothing but the best certified blue tag seed available. We have several acres of Merion blue which now is over two years old. Last Fall a severe attack of rust almost completely defoliated our Merion blue. We are experimenting with zoysia and Bermuda and combination grasses. Perhaps a selection of these grasses may prove to be the ultimate grass for fairways.

**FERTILIZATION**—We feed our turf sparingly, trying to keep it tough instead of tender. I feel that heavier feeding would add to our problem of removing clippings which remain on the surface.

**WATERING**—Our system is 26 years old and totally inadequate for "quick" watering. We never start to water until the turf needs watering and it takes about two weeks, operating travelling sprinklers 24 hours daily, to water our fairways adequately. More frequent watering would no doubt alleviate our thatch problem by washing the clippings into the soil where they would disintegrate. We then would be watering not to improve the turf but to get rid of the grass clippings.

**SPRAYING**—We used sodium arsenite, at one pound per acre, on our fairways over a period of seven years for crabgrass and poa annua control. We know that chemical sprays are detrimental to the humus-forming bacteria, therefore are a contributing factor in the formation of thatch.

**MOWING**—We cut our fairways three times weekly during the growing season with the mowers set as low as possible.

Prevention and elimination of thatch in turf is possible but not practical with the same treatment we use on our greens. We have developed a method of severe raking and have aerified at every opportunity. These treatments have broken up the thatch to the extent that water and fertilizer can reach the soil but we still have thatch. The newly-developed thatch mower does a wonderful job of breaking up thatch and brings a tremendous amount of undecayed material to the surface. We have tried this machine and it really works but we would look silly trying to de-thatch 30 acres of fairways with a machine that is 18 in. wide and we would still have the problem of getting



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rid of material brought to the surface.

If you don't have thatch I hope you never get it but, like the seven year itch, when you get it, brother, you know it. I have several men who have been with me from 15 to 25 years and who know every blade of grass on our course. They have a slogan, "Our fairways are bent and our backs are bending." But our members love the short-cut turf and I suppose we are stuck with it.

## SWINGING AROUND GOLF

(Continued from page 23)

Vernon, Ia., building clubhouse . . . Glendale CC, Seattle, Wash., to enlarge from 9 to 18 holes . . . Jack Gage succeeds Al Demaret as pro at Ojai (Calif.) Valley CC in summer . . . Al will return from Edgewater CC, Chicago, pro post to Ojai job for winters.

Amarillo (Tex.) sports writers went all out in paying tribute to George Aulbach who switched from Amarillo CC pro job where he's been 12 years to become pro at Golferest CC, Houston, Tex. . . . Writers said George has been tireless and highly productive promoter of golf not only in the Panhandle but all of Texas . . . Writers and club members lauded Aulbach as ideal club pro.

Cute stunt by Eddie Susalla, associate pro at Thunderbird Ranch & CC, Palm Springs, Calif. when his pretty wife Jeanie, presented him with a son . . . Instead of cigars Eddie passed out Dots with "It's A Boy" printed on them . . . Jockeys Eddie Arcaro and Johnny Longden and horse owner W. W. Naylor, to build 18-hole course on Naylor's ranch near Riverside, Calif.

A. Otto Moss and Frank B. Hanover, owners of Circle J Ranch, Newhall, Calif., to have 18-hole course designed by Wm. P. Bell and Son . . . Grangeville (Ida.) GC to enlarge and modernize course . . . Larry Rouse, son of Charley, old-timer in Chicago dist. golf, appointed Navy's pro at Key West (Fla.) GC . . . Larry was an asst. to Jules Platte at Knollwood Club (Chicago dist.) before joining the navy.

Tommy Bolt got fine publicity for pro golf when he disqualified himself for the 19th place tie at Colonial Invitation and returned \$275 prize money . . . Bolt saw in papers he'd been credited with 76 in final round instead of the 77 he shot . . . Scoring error occurred on 17th and nobody noticed it . . . Bolt was the only one to discover it . . . Don't suppose Tommy will get as much publicity for returning the check as he has when he's tossed a

# New SIT-N-REST GOLF BAG



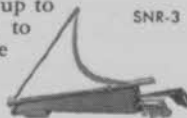
. . . A "sure-fire" seller for PRO SHOPS!



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tended upward, for easy pick-up without stooping . . . quickly re-adjusts to sitting or carrying position! SIT-N-REST is a "natural" for ladies and oldsters . . . holds golfers weighing up to 300 lbs. . . folds to standard bag size for storage.

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club . . . But that's life, and Tommy will live thru it . . . He's one of the most genial, calmest guys in the world after he takes his spikes off.

We're mildly inclined to think the tournament grind gets some of the boys a trifle punchy at moments . . . Statements made after the Open indicated neither the sportsmanship nor business judgment usually heard from fellows who sounded off . . . Public reaction is that with USGA being criticized by tournament pros and tournament pros and PGA tournament bureau making sponsors unhappy, tournament pros must be a difficult band to deal with.

Paradise Valley 18-hole course on Sun-down Ranch near Phoenix, Ariz., now under construction, has very attractive subdivision bordering course and guest houses surrounding swimming pool in middle of course . . . Page illustrated story on Jack Redmond and his world travel as trick shot golfer in New Haven Register, June 7.

Palmer Maples, pro at Benvenue CC, Rocky Mount, N. C., recently named Tar Heel of the Week, an honor awarded by Charlotte (N. C.) News and Observer . . . John Hemmer, Pinehurst, widely known among golfers, awarded plaque in New York City for his outstanding work as a news photographer.

USGA sets 37 qualifying sections for 53d National Amateur to be played at Oklahoma City (Okla.) G&CC Sept. 14-19 . . . Entries close with USGA 5 p.m. Aug. 17 . . . Entry fee, \$10 . . . Young Bill Entwistle, son of Bill, Sr., pro at Tuscarora CC, Marcellus, N. Y., is teaching in his off time at the course at the air base in Anchorage, Alaska . . . Bill, Jr., a pro before he enlisted in the Air Force, has

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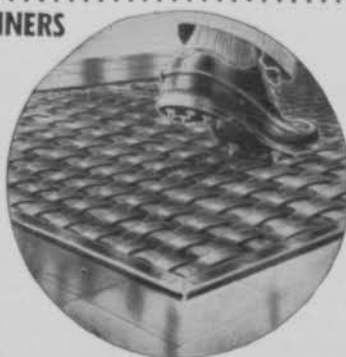
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airmen in Alaska learning sound golf.

Convair San Diego, of which John Jay Hopkins, sponsor of the international matches in Canada and an ace angel for pro golf, is board chairman, will sponsor the 1954 San Diego Open . . . John Montague, who used to play trick golf with a rake, shovel, etc., is director of a series of 13 golf movies being made for TV showing . . . Michael M. Kane and Associates designing new clubhouse for Seneca munny course, Cleveland, O.

**Biggest golf tournament program ever published**—by a long way in size and advertising volume, is handsome 314 pages and cover job Birmingham (Mich.) CC put out for 35th PGA championship . . . Pres. John Calvert, Gen. Chmn. Arthur Zebedee, Program Chmn. Drew Haneline and vice chmn., Harold H. Van Horn; Publishing and Editorial Committeemen Paul Stewart and Duane A. Jones, and their associates produced best job in any sports program . . . A message from Pres. Eisenhower to "Golfers and Fellow Duffers" leads the editorial matter which includes exclusive stuff from many of the widely known golf writers.

Pros did pretty well in Father's Day sales this year . . . A lot of them circularized members with sales letters that contained appreciated suggestions . . . MacGregor Golf's Tourney Club, an annual affair at PGA championships, put on its buffet supper and come-all-ye reunion of pros at Sheraton-Cadillac hotel, Detroit, June 30.

**H. H. (Babe) Moore**, pro at Ellinor Village, Daytona Beach, Fla., course for past 3 years and very successful in that job, continues on it . . . Paul Hahn, trick shot star, is Ellinor Village touring pro . . . Hahn spends much of 4 winter months at Ellinor playing and working on new trick routines . . . Moore is the home club pro the year-around.

Golf swing practice record with instruction in rhythm, produced by Robert Winthrop Adams, being used effectively in class instruction . . . Alfred Tull, New York City, architect for added 9 holes at Pine Tree CC, Bridgeport, Conn. . . . Clinton, Okla., course started with 6 grass greens . . . Will add 3.

**Golf Course Supts. Assn. of America Educational Committee** recommends that mower manufacturers establish "frequency of cut" formula—number of cuts made by a mower traveling at X speed for a given distance . . . Committee also sug-

gests employment of an agronomist by the association be considered.

Pete Perelli, formerly asst. to John Battini at Olympic Club (SF) now pro at Santa Rosa (Calif.) GC . . . Cyclones, flash floods and hail storms damaged golf courses in Ohio, Ontario and New England last month . . . 8 holes ruined by flash flood at Chedoke GC, Hamilton, Ont. . . . Hail stones almost as big as golf balls severely marked greens in Cleveland . . . Hail stone pits had to be repaired by hand . . . Tree damage severe from heavy winds at some New England courses.

**Alex B. Ritchie**, 63, pro at Evansville (Ind.) CC in summer and at Palm Beach CC in winter, died at Evansville June 14 after a long illness . . . He was born in Scotland and came to the U. S. in his youth and 35 years ago became asst. to the late Arthur Fenn at Palm Beach . . . Alex was widely known and admired as a fine gentleman professional and an admirable representative of the game's Scottish-American pioneers.

Golf in Australia says publicity given betting on McWilliam's Wines tournament is giving golfers considerable concern . . . "Deplorable and not in keeping with the real spirit of the game," Australian golfers commented on the development that put pros in the same class with the pugs and the bang-tails . . . Golf Illustrated of London says slow play in tournaments has become infectious and has seriously slowed down play at clubs.

U. S. Senior Golf Assn. will send a team to the R&A's 200th anniversary party at St. Andrews in 1954 . . . Myron Barrett succeeds A. J. Chapman as pro at Wheeling (W. Va.) CC . . . Chappie has been Wheeling pro for 33 years and is retiring . . . Chapman came to the U. S. from England in 1913 as pro at Parkersburg, W. Va. . . . Almost every golfer in West Virginia knows him and loves him.

*(Continued on page 79)*

## **MAJOR FACTORS IN GOLF**

*(Continued from page 40)*

The pro-shop should be self-service with the cash-register at the entrance.

Upon entering the clerk shows the customer the price information, asks what the customer has decided on, collects the money and then lets the customer help himself both to the club and balls which are prominently and neatly shelved for the customer's convenience on his way out to the tees.

Then after you have provided all of these facilities and service plus a little



hospitality some unreasonable customer may give you trouble. Working for the public is tough, but it is only that 1 per cent that makes it so. So, do the best you can bearing in mind that, there is that 1 per cent that you never will be able to please. If you please the rest you are doing a fine job and a fine service for golf and building yourself a profitable business.

## ARCHITECT, GLASSMAN TEAM

(Continued from page 34)

Upon entering or leaving the shop, one has to pass the "Point of Sale" — where buyer, product and seller meet. Here is where I have placed a glass show case with "impulse" items such as balls, gloves, caps, socks and sportswear.

An old closet door in the shop became a most important item for the ladies — when we covered it with a 34 in. x 68 in. full length polished plate glass mirror. They love it and admit it — the men golfers love it too, but won't admit it.

Was such a project expensive?

Within six months, I'll be able to produce figures that will prove by my increased sales in the remodeled pro shop that buying "light" instead of lighting fixtures is sound business and good merchandising.

What is most important is that this "Hole in One" affords my members a friendly, bright and modern pro shop — a most pleasant meeting place for them at all times.

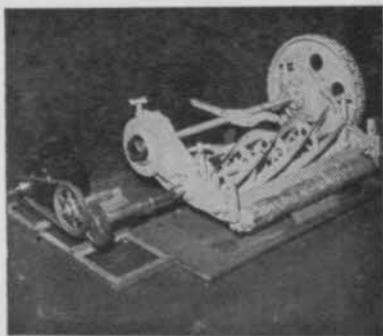
## N. E. SUPTS. TELL OFFICIALS

(Continued from page 27)

labor hours, and dollar distribution. Superintendents have absorbed some of the cost by their own efforts and professional improvement. A 14-hour workday is not uncommon among superintendents.

These costs, unrecognized by the player and not met by club officials, accumulate to the limits of tolerance of the grass

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plant and course monetary budget.

As an example, many clubs are spending large sums of money and exhausting players' patience, rebuilding or renovating fairways because of the player demand for extremely low cut fairways.

Without itemizing the factors of cost as discussed at the meeting the following is a list of high cost player demands given serious consideration. (1) Year round golf. (2) Rivalry between clubs, especially spring opening day. (3) High stake gambling on scores. (4) Demand of fairway watering system. (5) Broader and low cut rough areas. (6) Better trap conditions. (7) Course open for play regardless of weather conditions and injury to greens. (8) Twelve month play on regular greens. (9) Changes in construction and design. (10) Less player inconvenience by workmen.

In the past five years players have so added to their demands for exacting specific turf and playing conditions that superintendents can meet the demands only if given increased budgets, but the clubs cannot afford to continue the loss on investment.

Nine-hole courses are in particular danger if they try to "keep up with the 18-holers" for, on "9-hole courses the greens receive twice as much play as on an 18-hole course if a player plays 18-holes." Golf courses have a limit to their cultural capacity as well as their player capacity.

### Supt's. Business Status

The real problem discussed was the superintendent's position with relation to the golf club and the profession. Superintendents realize that they are employees of the clubs, but feel that the importance of their work and knowledge should be recognized. They take pride in their work and study for professional improvement.

It is unfortunate that some members think that working clothes should not be worn by a professional man or menial work ever be performed by one.

Some club members are narrow-minded and do not recognize the superintendent as an expert in his field. This is indicated by the fact that clubs asking for a superintendent specify "A working green-keeper." All superintendents work hard and long hours, but are usually modest and do not beat their own drums loud enough or often enough.

The course superintendent's position is similar to that of a superintendent in charge of production or plant superinten-