

HANDS ACROSS THE TEE

by

JOSEPH C. DEY, JR.

USGA

Executive Director

“WHAT HAS IMPRESSED me about these players,” our Canadian friend was saying, “is what fine chaps they are, what real sportsmen and gentlemen.

“We read a great deal about their skill, and we are well aware of them as golf players. But it is refreshing to see them come alive as human beings, and outstandingly fine ones.”

Our Canadian friend was talking about three teams in the recent Americas Cup Match—Mexican, Canadian and United States.

When Jerome P. Bowes, Jr., of Chicago, presented the handsome Americas Cup for competition two years ago, he caused it to be inscribed:

Toward Greater International Understanding Through the Sportsmanship and Good Will of Friendly Competition Among the Amateur Golfers of the Americas

Such a sentiment is a hard challenge. A mere human being can scarcely hope to be a true channel for such a noble objective.

But high standards never harmed anyone. Jerry Bowes's challenge is also an inspiration, as was plainly evident in the recent Match at the London Hunt and Country Club, London, Ontario.

It was great to see the three flags flying together. It was even greater to see fine young men of the three nations competing together, competing for all they were worth, to be sure, but in genuine friendship and true consideration of one another.

Here were bonds being forged, bonds of humanity that can stand the strain of international tension. It is by such simple, natural upspringing of human friendship, from man to man, that the world moves

forward. What happened at London last month will never be exactly measurable in terms of world peace, but it helped the cause just as surely as does formal diplomacy.

Therein is the real meaning and the true value of international golf.

A Near Thing for the U. S. A.

It is impossible to have finer competition than this second Americas Cup Match produced. The United States retained the trophy by a margin of one point over Canada, 14 to 13. Mexico's young team did not win a match, but never stopped trying.

The result is rather remarkable when you consider that Canada has 547 golf courses and the United States 5,056, nearly ten times as many, with Mexico having 20.

It is even more remarkable when you consider the power of the United States Team—Bill Campbell, Don Cherry, Charley Coe, Joe Conrad, Dale Morey, Billy Joe Patton and Harvie Ward, with Jack Westland as non-playing Captain.

If you hold a half dollar close enough to your eye, it will blot out the sun. We in our country are so close to the prowess of our golfers that we tend to regard them as almost invincible.

But we were very fortunate to retain the Americas Cup. Had any one of several putts fared differently, the Cup would have been Canada's.

The Match consists of three 36-hole sixsomes, with each nation's pair playing alternate strokes on one ball as in a true foursome, and six three-ball matches (single players).

Canada and the United States each won all nine of its matches from Mexico. But the United States barely defeated Canada, 5 to 4.



The 1954 United States Team which won the Americas Cup. From left to right (rear) Charles R. Coe, of Oklahoma City, Okla.; Don Cherry, of Wichita Falls, Texas; E. Harvie Ward, of San Francisco, Cal.; William C. Campbell, of Huntington, W. Va.; and (front) Jack Westland, of Everett, Wash., the non-playing Captain; Dale Morey, of Indianapolis, Ind.; Joseph W. Conrad, of San Antonio, Texas; William J. Patton, of Morganton, N. C.

Our margin was gained in the sixsomes, in which we won two games to Canada's one.

The singles matches with Canada were terrific. The shortest match went to the thirty-fifth green, three were decided at the home hole, one went thirty-seven holes and the other thirty-eight.

Don Cherry, United States winner of the 1953 Canadian Amateur Championship, won the No. 1 match from Nick Weslock after two extra holes.

Billy Joe Patton, a star of this year's Open Championship and Masters Tournament, played the last three holes in birdie-par-birdie to defeat Walter McElroy by 2 and 1.

But Donald Doe, of Canada, won on the 36th from Dale Morey, who last year was runner-up for the USGA Amateur Championship.

Then along came Moe Norman, a 24-year-old Ontario player whom his friends call the Huck Finn of Canadian golf. Moe had no regard for the fact that Billy Campbell was runner-up in this year's British

Amateur. Moe holed in one at the thirty-third to go 1 up, Campbell squared at the thirty-fourth, and then Moe defeated Billy on the thirty-seventh.

That made the score for the two days 12 for the United States and 11 for Canada, with two matches to finish.

Charlie Coe, our 1949 Amateur Champion, trailed the veteran Phil Farley almost all day and was 3 down after 29 holes. With seven to go, Charlie won four in a row, and preserved his 1-up advantage through to the finish.

It was well for the United States side that he did so, for Doug Silverberg, a husky young Canadian, defeated Harvie Ward on the home hole. Silverberg is not only a fine golfer but an ice hockey player. He attends college in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

The London Hunt and Country Club was a perfect host for what has now become an important golf event. The President of the Club is C. Ross (Sandy) Somerville, who in 1932 became the only Canadian to win the USGA Amateur Championship.

SECOND INTERNATIONAL MATCH FOR THE AMERICAS CUP

Held at the London Hunt and Country Club, London, Ont., Canada

August 12 and 13, 1954

Canada	FOURSOMES Points	Mexico	Points
Nick Weslock and Walter McElroy (12 and 11)	1	Alejandro Cumming and Fernando Mendez	0
Phillip Farley and Douglas Silverberg (6 and 5)	1	Roberto Morris, Jr. and Juan A. Estrada	0
Donald Doe and Robert Fleming (9 and 8)	1	Carlos Porraz and Antonio Rivas	0
Total	3	Total	0
SINGLES			
Nick Weslock (9 and 8)	1	Antonio Rivas	0
Walter McElroy (7 and 5)	1	Roberto Morris, Jr.	0
Donald Doe (7 and 5)	1	Fernando Mendez	0
Moe Norman (7 and 6)	1	Carlos Belmont	0
Phillip Farley (7 and 5)	1	Alejandro Cumming	0
Douglas Silverberg (7 and 5)	1	Juan A. Estrada	0
Total	6	Total	0
Grand Total—Canada	9	Grand Total—Mexico	0
Captain—John B. Nash		Captain—Mario Rivas	

Canada	FOURSOMES Points	United States	Points
Nick Weslock and Walter McElroy (4 and 3)	1	William C. Campbell and William J. Patton... Don Cherry and Dale Morey (1 up)	0 1
Phillip Farley and Douglas Silverberg	0	E. Harvie Ward, Jr. and Joseph W. Conrad (5 and 4)	0 1
Donald Doe and Robert Fleming	0	Total	2
Total	1	SINGLES	
Nick Weslock	0	Don Cherry (1 up, 38 holes)	1
Walter McElroy	0	William J. Patton (2 and 1)	1
Donald Doe (1 up)	1	Dale Morey	0
Moe Norman (1 up, 37 holes)	1	William C. Campbell	0
Phillip Farley	0	Charles R. Coe (1 up)	1
Douglas Silverberg (1 up)	1	E. Harvie Ward, Jr.	0
Total	3	Total	3
Grand Total—Canada	4	Grand Total—United States	5
Captain—John B. Nash		Captain—Jack Westland	

Mexico	FOURSOMES Points	United States	Points
Alejandro Cumming and Fernando Mendez	0	William C. Campbell and William J. Patton (6 and 5)	1
Roberto Morris, Jr. and Juan A. Estrada.....	0	Don Cherry and Dale Morey (8 and 7).....	1
Carlos Porraz and Antonio Rivas	0	E. Harvie Ward, Jr. and Joseph W. Conrad (11 and 10)	1
Total	0	Total	3
SINGLES			
Antonio Rivas	0	Don Cherry (8 and 7)	1
Roberto Morris, Jr.	0	William J. Patton (7 and 6)	1
Fernando Mendez	0	Dale Morey (7 and 6)	1
Carlos Belmont	0	William C. Campbell (7 and 6)	1
Alejandro Cumming	0	Charles R. Coe (8 and 6)	1
Juan A. Estrada	0	E. Harvie Ward, Jr. (8 and 7)	1
Total	0	Total	6
Grand Total—Mexico	0	Grand Total—United States	9

SUMMARY OF TEAM POINTS

	Canada	Mexico	United States
Foursomes	3	0	
Singles	6	0	
Totals	9	0	
Foursomes	1		2
Singles	3		3
Totals	4		5
Foursomes		0	3
Singles		0	6
Totals		0	9
Foursome Totals	4	0	5
Singles Totals	9	0	9
Grand Totals	13	0	14