

---

# THROUGH THE GREEN

---

## Are We Too Cluttered Up?

J. H. Taylor, venerable British professional, is concerned over the mounting expense of playing the game. His answer to the problem is to reduce the number of clubs in the bag to seven. In a letter to *GOLF ILLUSTRATED*, British publication, he wrote:

"Will you allow me to put forward a suggestion which would point the way towards reducing the heavy expense of playing golf which at present is injurious to its tradition and arresting its further progress? It is this:

"Will someone take the necessary means to organize a stroke competition among professionals in which seven clubs only are allowed to be used?

"I make the confident prediction, nourished by a long experience, that the scores returned would be, on the average, as low as those made since the use of 14 clubs was legalized, thereby proving beyond reasonable doubt that half that number are redundant, an unnecessary burden and a torturous infliction to push or drag around.

"Such a contest would, I'm sure, give illuminating and comforting hope to many who now view with dread the continuous and rising costs."

This came to our notice just after we had a graphic illustration of Mr. Taylor's point. We had just had a game in which one of our companions, Charles Thom, veteran Scotch professional, played with only one club, a No. 2 iron. He used it off the tee, through the green, in the sand and on the putting surface. The results were a great deal better than most of us can obtain even with a highly specialized club for each particular shot.



## Richard S. Tufts Honored



Richard S. Tufts

A well-deserved honor was bestowed upon Richard S. Tufts, USGA Secretary, when the Golf Writers' Association chose him as winner of the William D. Richardson Memorial Trophy for the outstanding contribution to golf in 1950.

Besides serving on the Executive Committee, Dick Tufts is Chairman of the Green Section Committee and of the Junior Championship Committee, and is a member of several other committees. At one time or another he has been chairman of almost every key committee in the Association. No enthusiast works more tirelessly for the game.

Second in the poll was Mayor James B. Rhodes, of Columbus, Ohio, originator of a national caddie tournament, and next was comedian Bob Hope. Dr. Fred V. Grau, Director of the USGA Green Section, placed fourth. Mr. Tufts and Dr. Grau work shoulder to shoulder for better turf.

### Unfrozen Asset

During some basketball tournament games, teams tried to protect narrow leads in the closing minutes by "freezing" the ball. Without getting into any discussion of the game, while "freezing" is perfectly permissible under basketball rules, it is unpopular with the fans, who like to see the underdog get a chance and regard "freezing" as less bold than the tactics Americans approve.

There is, of course, no method by which a golfer or golf team can freeze a lead, under the Rules or otherwise. On the contrary, golfers who have tried to protect leads by using cautious tactics have generally come to grief as a result. The greatest players of the last generation, Jones, Hagen, Sarazen, Armour, Ouimet, Evans and such, never let up trying to win the next hole, no matter how far ahead they might be.

The only way a player who is up can maintain that advantage is by continuing to stroke the ball to the best of his ability, exactly as he must do if he is down. Maybe it's not important, but from the sporting point of view we find it another attractive feature of golf.

### Cups on Voyage

The Walker Cup is not the only international trophy taking an ocean voyage this spring. Although the Curtis Cup is not in competition this year, it has gone overseas. This women's amateur team trophy has been loaned for display in the National Sporting Trophies Exhibition in London during the Festival of Britain, late April to October. The object is to raise funds for the National Sports Organizations of Britain.

The Curtis Cup was competed for at Buffalo last year. Part of the British Team's expenses were raised by interested Americans who formed a Pam Barton Day Committee. In the forefront of the group was Miss Margaret Curtis, one of the donors of the Cup, who now writes as follows:

"From the point of view of friendly rivalry, the match could hardly have been finer. We wish every donor to the Fund could have seen the play. A nicer

bunch of girls on both teams would be hard to find. The many associations and friends who contributed to the Fund added substantially to the success of the competition.

"Besides the expenses at Buffalo, the Fund made it possible to give a bon voyage dinner-and-theatre party in New York and to add a souvenir present to each member of the British Team. There is a modest balance in our good-will bank account. The Committee hopes the donors will feel with them that its best use will be to accent hospitality again when the next team visits us."

### Junior Association

Before long we can look to southern California not only for an increasing number of leading players among the younger set but for some promising administrative material, too. The Southern California Junior Golf Association has been organized as a result of a meeting among the Southern California Golf Association, the Southern California Section of the PGA, and the Southern California Public Links Golf Association.

The purposes, according to Harold A. Dawson, SCGA Executive Secretary, are: to promote junior golf activity in that area, to teach the Rules and etiquette of golf, to provide the opportunity for free golf instruction to juniors, to secure reduced rates for playing privileges and at driving ranges, and to establish handicap ratings on one basis for all juniors.

A significant feature is that the association is to be governed by the juniors themselves, with members of the cooperating associations acting only in an advisory capacity.

### GOLFERS' EPITAPHS

Here lie the remains of Joseph Smutts,  
Who conceded himself all four-foot putts.  
But this one time, without a doubt,  
Old Joseph has at last holed out.  
Improving his lie was a trick of Joe Stout,  
But Joe's lying now where he can't lift out.  
At the 19th hole Johnny Wiggs  
Took far too many practice swigs.

—BARRIE PAYNE

## A U. S. Contribution

The United States appears to be responsible for a new type of golf course, according to **GOLF COURSES — DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND UPKEEP**, the second edition of which has been published by Sutton and Sons, Ltd., of Reading, England. And Bob Jones, of the unmatched Championship record, apparently is chiefly responsible for the innovation.

This is revealed in a chapter on Golf Course Architecture in the United States, contributed by Robert Trent Jones, well-known golf architect. Mr. Jones, the architect, sketches in the history of golf courses in the United States as roughly falling into the period of copying famous British holes, then that of the penal type of course innovated by Pine Valley, and now the type exemplifying Bob Jones's ideas: to make the course as pleasant as possible for the average golfer, at the same time making it difficult for the expert to score in par. The two Joneses collaborated on the new Peachtree course in Atlanta and the architect considers it a very fine example of the modern type.

All of the experts who contributed to the book agree that the old courses in Scotland are still the best models and that their interest never wanes. From their natural contours and hazards have stemmed all that is greatest in golf course architecture.

**GOLF COURSES** is illustrated with numerous beautiful photographs, designs and drawings of famous holes. Although authoritative, it is written in a non-technical style that is charming to the reader.

## Dept. of Mathematics

Figures from the Annual Census Report for 1949, published by the Athletic Goods Manufacturers Association, show that golf equipment turned out ran to a value of more than \$10,000,000 greater than equipment for the next sport, which was baseball. Manufacturers produced 3,001,169 golf clubs in 1949 at \$14,744,650; 2,249,745 dozen golf balls at \$12,695,061, and other equipment raising the total to \$30,751,418. These figures represent

## SPORTSMAN'S CORNER



**Bob Jones**  
In his Championship Days

By GENE SARAZEN

The greatest gesture of sportsmanship I witnessed in my golf career was made in the 1925 Open Championship.

Bob Jones was playing the 16th hole in the last round at the Worcester Country Club. He drove into the rough. When he took his stance for his second shot, he was just about to hit his ball, then suddenly backed away from it. No one knew just what had happened.

Then Bob played his approach shot. When he had holed out, the scorer asked:

"Four, Mr. Jones?"

"No," said Bob. "While addressing my ball, it turned over. Put me down for a 5."

The stroke that Bob imposed upon himself proved to be an extremely costly penalty. At the end of the 72-hole tournament, he was tied with Willie Macfarlane at 291. They tied again at 75 in the first 18-hole play-off, but Macfarlane won the second, 72 to 73, and the Championship.

Except for the penalty he called on himself, which no other human being knew about, Bob Jones would have had still another major title. But he'd never have any part of one like that.

factory value; the retail price was much higher.

Complete figures for 1950 have not been assembled but this much we have from George J. Herrmann, assistant treasurer of the association:

From November 1, 1949, to October 31, 1950, a total of 3,585,091 golf clubs was sold, and for the calendar year of

1950 sales of golf balls totaled 2,886,796 dozen. According to men in the sports equipment manufacturing business, the increase does not represent a good comparison. Most of it was due to scare buying, starting soon after the opening of hostilities in Korea last June.

### Strokes for Age

W. F. Staley, attorney of Portland, Ore., has sent us some of his scores made at the age of 75 and older.

On a par 72 course, Mr. Staley scored 85-81-166 in one day and at 80 he made 85-88-173. At 82, he scored an 84, and at 83 he had another 84 as well as an 86.

Mr. Staley is curious as to whether any of his scores may be records for his age among amateurs. Who has an answer?

### They Played the Game

Golf has lately lost a number of well-known figures.

In Connecticut, Jerome D. Travers and Robert D. Pryde passed away on the same day.

Mr. Travers was one of the game's greats. He won the USGA Amateur Championship four times, 1907-08-12-13, and then capped his career by winning the Open in 1915. His four Amateur titles constituted a record until Bob Jones won five between 1924 and 1930.

Mr. Travers began to play golf at the age of 9, under the instruction of Alex Smith, and became noted for his keen putting and excellent iron play. In the latter part of his career, he turned from woods to using a driving iron off the tee for the sake of accuracy. He had many famous matches with Walter J. Travis. At one time he was President of the New Jersey State Golf Association. He died at the age of 64.

Mr. Pryde, professional of the Race Brook Country Club in Orange, Conn., for 34 years, passed away at the age of 80. A native of Scotland, he came here as a building contractor and designed New Haven's first golf course. He was formerly Secretary-Treasurer of the Con-



Jerry Travers

necticut State Golf Association. Mr. Pryde was a member of the USGA Museum Committee and his interest in it was unflagging.

Others whose losses were deeply felt were Mrs. Miriam Burns Horn Tyson, Henry F. (Hank) Russell, Mrs. Sidney B. Kent, John Duncan Dunn and George McLean.

Mrs. Tyson, as Mrs. Miriam Horn, won the USGA Women's Championship in 1927, at the age of 24. She attained a high degree of golf skill early in life and won the Missouri Championship at 17. She won the Women's Western in 1930.

Mr. Russell was Utah's outstanding Rules authority and formerly a member of the USGA Sectional Affairs Committee.

Mr. McLean, professional at the Seneca Falls Country Club near Waterloo, N. Y., was prominent in PGA affairs and tournaments in the 20s.

Mrs. Kent's influence in Ohio golf is dealt with in a letter on page 33 in this issue.

John Duncan Dunn came to this country from Scotland in the nineties and was a leading teacher, writer and designer of golf courses for more than half a century. Among his courses was Ekwanok (1898). Mr. Dunn was from a family of celebrated golfers. His grandfather was Willie Dunn and his great uncle Jamie Dunn, twins from Musselburgh, Scotland. They were contemporaries of the famed Allan Robertson and Tom Morris of St. Andrews.