Clubs of Champions

By EDWARD S. KNAPP, JR. USGA EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

One of the first sights that meets the eye of the visitor to "Golf House" is a glass case in the lobby to the right of the front door containing clubs of champions. Each club, of course, could tell a dozen stories. A few of these are:

Jamie Anderson's Spoon: A McEwan spoon used by the British Open Champion of 1877, 1878 and 1879. In the last round of the 1878 Championship at Prestwick, he made a hole-in-one on the 17th hole, possibly using this club, and he won by only one stroke.

Tommy Armour's Mongrel Mashie: In the 1927 USGA Open Championship, Armour played a second shot with this club to the 72nd green and tied Harry Cooper. Armour won the play-off, 76-79.

MRS. EDWIN H. VARE, JR.'S SPOON: A club which played a part in the six USGA Women's Amateur Championships Mrs. Vare won. Mrs. Vare used this club from about the time she started to play golf continually until 1936. She remarked: "I had it re-shafted several times and finally it got really tired."

MISS MARGARET CURTIS' CLEEK: Miss Curtis played it in the first USGA Women's Amateur Championship in which she competed, in 1897, when she was 13 and had only four clubs. She was still using it in 1907 when she won her first Championship.

Walter Hagen's Mashie-Iron: Hagen relates of the 1919 USGA Open Championship: "I played my second shot with this club on the 72nd hole, where it was necessary for me to get a par to tie Mike Brady. I put the ball about 15 feet to the right of the hole, where I had my famous putt for a birdie to win.

"Then, of course, I missed. But before addressing the ball, I looked around the gallery of several thousand and said, 'Where is Mike?' knowing of course he would be there somewhere.

"The psychology I used at this time would aid me greatly in the play-off, I felt, and it did."

MISS BEATRIX HOYT'S LOFTER: Miss Hoyt found the head in some bushes at the Shinnecock Hills Golf Club, Southampton, N. Y., and had it shafted. It aided her in winning three USGA Women's Amateur Championships in 1896, 1897 and 1898.

MRS. DOROTHY CAMPBELL HURD'S CLEEK: This iron was a factor in eleven championship victories in four countries, the USGA Women's Amateur in 1909, 1910 and 1924; the British Women's in 1909 and 1911; the Scottish Women's of 1905, 1906 and 1908, and the Canadian Women's of 1910, 1911 and 1912.

JOCK HUTCHISON'S MASHIE-NIBLICK: Hutchison used this club in making a hole-in-one on the eighth hole while winning the British Open in 1921 at his birthplace, St. Andrews, Scotland. It had become his pet club as a result of a hole-in-one at the eighth hole at St. Andrews Golf Club, Mount Hope, N. Y., in 1906.

HARRISON R. JOHNSTON'S SPADE MASHIE: Johnston used this club to play his famous shot from Carmel Bay onto the 18th green at Pebble Beach against Dr. O. F. Willing in the 1929 USGA Amateur final. He gained a half in par and said that the moral value of that half was inestimable.

Francis Ouimet's Putter: This is the putter used by Ouimet in the 1913 USGA Open Championship when he tied the famous British professionals, Harry Vardon and Ted Ray, and then defeated them in the historic play-off.

GENE SARAZEN'S SAND-IRON: This club, a factor in Gene Sarazen's victories in both the USGA and British Open Championships in 1932, is one of the earliest sand irons. Sarazen, who fre-



On a recent visit to "Golf House," Gene Sarazen inspected fondly the rudimentary sand wedge which he himself fashioned from a niblick and used in winning the USGA and British Open Championships in 1932.

quently experimented with clubs, added an appreciable amount of lead to the sole in 1931, making the back of the sole about a quarter inch lower than the front. His splendid play with the club helped popularize it.

JESS SWEETSER'S "BAKSPIN" MASHIE: Sweetser played with this club in winning the 1922 USGA Amateur and the 1926 British Amateur Championships. In 1922, the club was legal, although the face was slotted to impart back-spin to the ball. When the Rule was changed in 1924, he had the grooves filled in, as can readily be seen, and continued to use it.

ROBERT T. JONES. JR'S CALAMITY JANE II: Of this club, perhaps the most famous in the world. Jones wrote:

"This is the putter which I used regularly from 1924 on through 1930. "The original Calamity Jane was an old Winton iron given to me by Jim Maiden. I got the original club in 1920 and I should judge it was at least 15 or 20 years old at that time. Constant buffing and polishing caused the face to be so irregular, I had a copy made and from then on used the copy. The copy is the one I am sending you."

Calamity Jane II was used by Jones in winning the USGA Amateurs of 1924, 1925, 1927, 1928 and 1930; the USGA Opens of 1926, 1929 and 1930; the British Amateur of 1930, and the British Opens of 1926, 1927, and 1930.

The USGA is constantly on the lookout for similar items. We will be grateful for any assistance in enlarging this collection, thereby making "Golf House" an even more interesting place for golfers to visit.

The USGA is also anxious, of course, to complete the financing of "Golf House," which will require approximately \$110,000. Thus far, 5,133 individuals. clubs and associations have contributed \$92,275,99.

The Members Clubs which have not yet contributed are in sufficient number so that they can, by enrolling as Founders, enable their Association to complete the job. Only 387 clubs are now enrolled, although their contributions total more than \$21,000.

In addition to those listed in previous issues, the following have enrolled as Founders:

Al Mengert

Roy Moe, Jr.

F. A. J. Morrison

Richard C. Palma

Daryl Parshall

Maj. Gen. F. L. Parks

Julius C. Peters Frederick W. Phipps

Mrs. Edwin A. Quier

Bernard H. Ridder, Jr.

Thomas Boardman Smith

Harold W. Pierce

Loyal C. Radtke

J. Russell Shaw

Charles L. Stacy

Otto C. Stuhmer

George M. Thompson

Arthur H. Tiedemann

Daniel Stuckey

George F. Sheehan

Howard A. Spurrier

Robert A. Magowan

Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Murray

Charles Allen, Jr. C. Scott Althouse B. Allan Arcuni H. J. Arnot J. Y. Ballard Joe E. Barnett Frank C. Beacham James Beattie Mrs. Martha No!l Beirne Hal L. Bemis

Neison L. Bond Bruce Brodie Thomas J. Brogan, Jr. Scott McLain Buttfield Ben A. Calhoun Edwin J. Carey

Edgar Bibas

W. D. P. Carey William P. Castleman, Jr. W. Fitzhugh Catlett John S. Chapman G. R. "Dick" Clover John W. Dawson

Hugh Dean John J. Donohue, Jr. John P. Drews J. A. Ducournau

Bernard L. Eberts George Ferrier Mrs. G. W. Foelochow James C. Frink

Joseph M. Gambatese Fred A. Gariepy

Hawaiian Golf Association Northeastern New York Women's Golf Association Oklahoma City Amateur Golf Association Seniors Golf Association of Southern California Trans-Mississippi Golf Association Tulsa District Golf Association

Columbus Country Club, Ohio Cypress Point Club, Cal. Farmington Country Club, Va. Fort Washington Golf Club, Cal. Fox Chapel Golf Club, Pa. Green Hill Yacht and Country Club, Md. Green Spring Valley Hunt Club, Md. Harding Park Golf Club, Cal. Hudson River Country Club, N.Y. Inglewood Country Club, Cal. Kernwood Country Club, Mass. Leewood Golf Club, N. Y.

Addison H. Gery, Jr. Maj. Nevin H. Gibson, USAF John S. Giles Willie Goggin

INDIVIDUALS

Miss Mary E. Gordon William G. Harding Hoyt E. Hayes

Col. and Mrs. Louis L. Lesser Perry Liebman William A. Liddell

Harold Lindquist Edward Loeb Mrs. Henry G. Lubke, Jr. Thomas G. McMahon

Leo E. McNamara F. J. D. Mackay Ed Maden

Mrs. Phyllis Madison

Grant Hellar, III W. J. Hickey Harry H. Hilp, Sr. John S. Holl Mrs. E. A. Hooton Evan Howell Jerry S. James C. O. Johnson Paul E. Johnson Harry F. Jones James R. Kearney, Jr. Raymond L. Klinck Miss Sandra Alison Kohlmann Frederick R. Krohn John N. Ledbetter, Jr.

> Mrs. Hazel A. Tilley Dr. O. C. Tomec Mrs. Benjamin Graser Troxell Frank Urzetta Charles T. Wagner John M. Waters

George Weinhagen, Jr. Donald E. Whitehead John M. Young

Women's

Associations Western Seniors' Golf Association Willamette Valley-Southern Oregon Golf Association

Women's Cross County Golf Association, N.Y. Women's Golf Association of Philadelphia

CLUBS

The Misquamicut Club, R. I. Montclair Golf Club, N. J. Northampton Country Club, Mass. Northwood Club, Tex. Portland Country Club, Maine Ravisloe Country Club, Ill. The Ridgewood Country Club, Conn. Taconic Golf Club, Mass. The Wee Burn Country Club, Conn. Wheeling Country Club, W. Va. Williamsport Country Club, Pa. Theodore Wirth Golf Club, Minn.