



### Widow's Tale

William N. Beveridge, of Milwaukee, says that on opening day a customer came into his golf shop for a Band-Aid to cover a blister raised by his wedding ring. The customer was not wearing the ring and related that his wife had concurred in this procedure with the remark that he could keep it off all summer as she didn't consider herself married to him during the golf season.

### Charley Yates

There figures to be a good deal of singing along with the golf when the Walker Cup Teams meet at the Kittansett Club, in Marion, Mass., next September. Charley Yates, who will Captain the United States side, is as famed for his propensity to break into song as he is for his general good-fellowship.

When he was called up to receive the trophy after his victory in the British Amateur at Troon, Scotland, in 1938, he told the assembled Scots a little old white lie to the effect that he wasn't much of a speech-maker and, on the basis of that plea, instead sang "A Wee Doch an' Doris" for which he will be forever loved in Scotland.

In the course of the 1936 Walker Cup Match at the Pine Valley Golf Club, in Clementon, N. J., he composed and ren-

dered many times the following famous parody on "Trees:"

"I think that I shall never see  
 "A golf course tough as Pine Vall-ee,  
 "With trees and sand traps everywhere  
 "And divots flying through the air—  
 "A course laid out for fools like me,  
 "Where only God can make a three."

### The Open Play-Off

The regulations governing the USGA Open Championship have been changed to eliminate the possibility of an extended play-off in the event that the Championship results in a tie.

As in the recent past, any tie will be played off at 18 holes, stroke play. However, under the new regulation, if such a play-off results in another tie, the tied players will immediately continue to play hole by hole until the winner is determined.

In the past, ties in the Open Championship have been played off at either 18 or 36 holes, regardless of how many such play-offs might have been required.

### Amateurs and Home Pros

It is now twenty years since an amateur has won the USGA Open Championship—and twenty-three years since an amateur has won the British Open.

The last Amateur winner of our Open Championship was Johnny Goodman. He won by a stroke over Ralph Guldahl at the

North Shore Golf Club, in Glen View, Ill., in 1933. The last amateur winner of the British Open was Bob Jones, who made it a part of his "grand slam" in 1930.

Marvin "Bud" Ward, now a professional himself, came closer than any other amateur to winning our Open in the last two decades. He finished fourth, but only one stroke out of the triple tie, in 1939. He was also fifth, five strokes behind Lew Worsham and Sam Snead, in 1947.

The possibility that Lew Worsham, professional at the Oakmont Country Club, might win the Open there this month has raised in a good many locker rooms the question of whether a home-club player ever has won the Open. The answer is "yes"—but only one. Horace Rawlins was the assistant professional at the Newport (R.I.) Golf Club when he won the first Open there in 1895.

### Herbert Jaques

The death of Herbert Jaques, of Boston, last month deprived the game of one of its most distinguished statesmen and gentlemen.

Mr. Jaques' father was President of the USGA in 1909 and 1910. The son followed the same path and became President of the USGA in 1933 and 1934. As Chairman of the Implements and Ball Committee, he played a key role in the development of the specifications for the present ball, which became standard on January 1, 1932. He was also a student of the Rules of Golf, and even after his retirement as President he continued to attend Rules of Golf Committee meetings and to offer the soundest advice on the subject.

He was a sportsman and a gentleman in the highest sense of those terms.

### Greenwich's Old Trophy

We turned up last summer the story of the Hunter Medal, which was placed in competition at the Richmond County

Country Club, on Staten Island, N. Y., in 1895 and may be the oldest trophy in continuous competition in this country.

More recently we turned up the story of the Victoria Diamond Jubilee Challenge Cup, which has been in competition at the Greenwich (Conn.) Country Club since 1897 and is certainly another of the oldest golf trophies.

The Victoria Diamond Jubilee Challenge Cup is, in point of fact, a silver mug with four bone handles, and is almost completely covered with inscriptions of the names of winners. The first winner was Frank W. Sanger, in 1897, and in the next two years the winners were George A. Phelps and Findlay S. Douglas, the USGA Amateur Champion at the time and later President of the USGA. There were no competitions during the war years. John G. Powers won last year.

The Greenwich Country Club is, of course, the lineal descendant of the old Fairfield County Golf Club, one of the oldest clubs in the country. The Victoria Diamond Jubilee Challenge Cup was presented to the Fairfield County Golf Club in June, 1897, the occasion being obvious from the name, by an Englishman named F. E. Vivian Bond, who was only a member while temporarily in this country. Yet his unostentatious gift has become over the years one of the Club's most treasured possessions, and considerable ceremony now surrounds the competition for it each year.

### One Amateur Championship

Recently, twenty prominent amateurs petitioned for an Amateur Championship at stroke play, in addition to the traditional Amateur Championship at match play. The Executive Committee was unable to grant the petition, and its reasons may be of interest to many in golf. It pointed out that:

One Amateur Championship and one Amateur Champion each year seem adequate. There were two "national amateur championships" in 1894, and the result-

ing confusion led to the formation of the USGA.

Match play is generally regarded as the most appropriate form for amateur golfers. An amateur is presumed to be one who plays as an avocation, and match play gives such golfers a wider margin for error—a bad hole in match play costs nothing more than the hole; a bad hole in stroke play may cost the championship.

The Open Championship provides ample opportunity for amateurs to test their stroke-play ability, not only against professionals but against other amateurs. Last year, nearly half the entrants in the Open were amateurs and 36 of the 162 players in the Championship proper were amateurs.

#### **Bernard Darwin Retires**

On May 1, Bernard Darwin retired as golf correspondent for THE TIMES of London and left an immense void in golf literature. Mr. Darwin has written golf for THE TIMES for 45 years, and always with insight, love and a flavor that was all his own. In a country which boasts many superior golf writers, he became preeminent in the art. Fortunately, the world of golf letters is not losing Mr. Darwin's writing entirely. He plans to continue his contributions to the magazine COUNTRY LIFE.

One reason for the excellence of Mr. Darwin's writings undoubtedly is the contribution he has made to the game. He was an outstanding amateur player and served as playing Captain of the first British Walker Cup Team. He became an authority on the Rules and as Chairman of the Rules of Golf Committee of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. An-

#### **Architects Suggest**



The 1953 officers of the American Society of Golf Course Architects, elected during the annual meeting at Ojai, Cal., are, from the left: William H. Diddel, of Ormond Beach, Fla., vice-president; William F. Gordon, of Doylestown, Pa., president; and James H. Harrison, of Turtle Creek, Pa., secretary-treasurer

draws, Scotland, redrafted the British code which became effective in 1950.

During its annual meeting at Ojai, Cal., the American Society of Golf Course Architects agreed on the following statement of policy, which we certainly endorse to chairmen of golf and green committees:

1. We favor the development and maintenance of the rough to make it an effective factor in the strategy of play.

2. We favor the contouring of greens to promote interest in the department of the game where half of the strokes are played and to exert proper influence in the play of the hole.

3. We favor the placement of hazards guarding greens in positions which reward accurate play and do not sacrifice the demands of good golf to the mechanics of greenkeeping.

4. We favor the construction of a lim-

ited number of strategic hazards, as opposed to the building of many penal traps.

5. We favor a system of bunkering which is based on the play of experts and with the object of developing the skill of those less adept and providing a minimum of interference with the play of high-handicap groups.

6. We are opposed to the use of grasses which have not been thoroughly proven.

### If You Want to Help

Sgt. Marion M. Thomas, Jr., USAF, who is stationed at the Stead Air Force Base, near Reno, Nev., has put two and two together and developed an idea which may be interesting to Clubs which might want to accomplish a worth-while objective through tournament play.

Sgt. Thomas has noted the number of tournaments and exhibitions which are conducted for charity and also the appeals for blood for our fighting men in Korea. Combining these two observations, he suggests that the entry fee for one tournament or the admission fee for one exhibition might well be a pint of blood.

### Low Scores By Women

There have been so many low scores by women in recent years that the record is being obscured and a particularly fine round by Mrs. Opal S. Hill, back in 1937, is in danger of oblivion.

On September 1, 1937, Mrs. Hill scored a 66 at the 6,199-yard course of the Indian Hills Country Club, Kansas City, Mo., in the first match-play round of the Missouri women's championship, in which she won both the medal and the title. Mrs. Hill holed out for wins on the first two holes and then made an ace on the 157-yard third hole. This prompted her to hole all putts to the finish in an effort to better her previous record of 73. Her card read:

	Out									
Par	5	6	3	5	4	4	3	4	4	—38
Mrs. Hill	5	5	1	3	3	4	3	4	4	—32

	In									
Par	4	4	5	3	5	5	5	4	5	—40—78
Mrs. Hill	4	4	3	3	4	4	5	3	4	—34—66

To the best of our knowledge, this is the first 66 scored by a woman in competition, but we would appreciate further information on this subject if any is available.

There have been, of course, other 66s by women in competition. Grace Lenczyk scored a 66 in the qualifying round of the Women's Western Open at the Oklahoma City Golf and Country Club in 1949; and Mrs. George Zaharias scored another in a Weathervane tournament at the Lakewood Country Club, in Dallas, in 1951.

Patty Berg holds the record for low scoring by women over 18 holes in competition, to the best of our knowledge. She scored a 64 in the first round of the Richmond (Cal.) Open in April, 1952, and won the 54-hole tournament with a 210, six under men's par.

### Secretaries Retire

Cleveland and Providence, two real strongholds of golf, have suffered twin losses in the resignations of the secretaries of their local golf associations.

Dick Whitmore resigned as of May 1 from the Cleveland District Golf Association after serving the game for twenty-seven years. Charley Hartley resigned on April 27 from the Rhode Island Golf Association after nineteen years of service to the game. We shall miss their good offices, but we hope not their presence when golf is being played.

The new secretary of the Cleveland District Golf Association is Harry C. Pollock. The new secretary of the Rhode Island Golf Association is Eddie Perry. We wish them happiness in serving the welfare of the game.