

ANCIENT AND MODERN IN "GOLF HOUSE" LIBRARY

by

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THE more than one thousand volumes and bound magazines that comprise the "Golf House" library provoke the interest and imagination of the golf scholar, collector or duffer.

The collection covers golf course architecture, fiction, history, humor, club management, instruction, miscellany, poetry, records and rules.

For scholars and collectors there is the 1774 edition of "The Muses Threnodie" by Henry Adamson. It is believed to be the first book to contain a reference to golf. The original edition appeared in 1638.

Of similar interest is the 1597 edition of the "Lavves and Actes of the Parliament of Scotland" which contains the famous decree of James II's XIII Parliament, issued in March, 1457, in which golf was declared illegal. A 1682 edition also is in the collection.

Of historical interest is "The Rules of the Thistle Club," published in 1824. This book contains the first actual history of the game, written by John Cundell, Secretary of the Thistle Club which played over Leith Links, near Edinburgh.

C. B. Clapcott's "The Rules of Golf of the Ten Oldest Golf Clubs, 1754-1848," published in 1938, traces the development of the Rules of the game from the earliest time down to the middle of the last century.

The beginner would perhaps marvel at the instruction books. More than one hundred volumes are available from "The Golfer's Manual" by H. B. Farnie, published in 1857 and considered to be the first book of instruction, to the current "Tips from the Top," a collection of articles contributed by leading professionals, compiled by Herbert Warren Wind.

Two unique instruction books are "Hints

on the Game of Golf" by Horace Hutchinson, 1886, which is said to have started the popularity of golf instruction literature, and "The Art of Golf" by Sir Walter G. Simpson, 1887, considered a golf instruction classic because it was the first book to use photographs to supplement the text.

The first American document on golf was published here in 1893, and was entitled "Golf." It was a pamphlet belonging to the Spalding Athletic Library. "Golf In America" by James P. Lee, appeared in 1895 and is considered by many to be the first real book on golf published in this country. A very early reference to the game in America, probably the first, appeared in Benjamin Rush's book "Sermons and Exercises for Gentlemen," 1772.

The library also contains two of the outstanding books on golf history in America, H. B. Martin's "Fifty Years of American Golf" and Herbert Warren Wind's "The Story of American Golf."

Such works as "The Bobby Jones Story," by O. B. Keeler and Grantland Rice, "The Walter Hagen Story" by Walter Hagen, "Thirty Years of Championship Golf" by Gene Sarazen and "This Life I've Led" by the late Mrs. Mildred Didrikson Zaharias are a few of the outstanding biographical or autobiographical volumes in the collection.

Current copies of most of the leading golf magazines may be found in the library.

Bound volumes of many of the golf magazines fill the shelves.

Records, annuals and year books form another invaluable part of the golf library for research purposes.

Visitors are cordially invited to use the "Golf House" library whether to study or just to browse. The library is open daily Monday through Friday from 9 A.M. to 5 P. M. Bibliographies are available on golf architecture, history and instruction.