

Golf and Golf Writing-1897

The Chicago Tribune greeted the third playing of the USGA Amateur Championship in 1897 with this description:

"A little pile of sand, cleverly erected; a little hard rubber ball, corrugated and checkered; stout, gracefully fashioned clubs. All of these and a man of athletic stature and picturesque garb upon a green grass plot, and, behind him, an urchin carrying a canvas bag, full of various fashioned clubs. All of these things are the features which will greet the eye of the observers today at Wheaton where the great national golf tournament gets under way."

The winner was Henry James Whigham after an 8-and-6 victory over W. Rossiter Betts, a young Yale student. Whigham was a son-in-law of Charles B. Macdonald, one of the great figures of early American golf, who also competed.

Whigham was a rarity in golf in that he covered his own victory, thereby becoming a newspaperman-golf writer who won a National Championship.

Whigham was the drama and music critic for the Chicago Tribune. Each day he would play his matches, then go into his office and write two or three very modest paragraphs about himself and the other players.

The 1897 Amateur Championship at the Chicago Golf Club, Wheaton, Ill., was played on September 14, 15, 16 and 18. The Open Championship, then merely a sideline to the Amateur, was fitted in on September 17.

Whigham rounded out his big week by

becoming low amateur in the Open, which was won by Joe Lloyd, an Englishman who worked at the Essex County Club, Manchester, Mass., in the summer and at a course at Pau, France, in the winter.

The Open Championship that year was over 36 holes. It was completed in one day by 35 players.

The Amateur Championship was decided in four rounds after 36 hole qualifying. Sixteen players competed for the Championship.

Scholarships

The number of Evans Caddie Scholarships has now passed the 1,000 mark. Dave Williams, 17-year old caddie from the Butterfield Country Club, Hinsdale, Ill., was the 1,000th. He plans to enter Northwestern University.

In 1959, more than 32,000 contributors, throughout the nation, donated to the Evans Scholarship Fund through the \$5 bag-tag program. The fund is named for Charles (Chick) Evans, Jr., of Chicago.

Club Directory

The Greater Cincinnati Golfers' League has published its 1960 directory of clubs, various officials, tournaments, fees, staff salaries and dues. The booklet would be a fine example for others to follow.

The directory gives, besides pertinent information on each club, a partial breakdown on membership fees, caddie fees, club employee salaries and general information on golf carts.

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Americas Cup Team

The United States won the Americas Cup, for the fifth time, against teams from Mexico and Canada at the Ottawa Hunt and Golf Club, Ottawa, Canada on August 11 and 12.

Six veterans of earlier Americas Cup or Walker Cup matches and one newcomer to international golf comprised the United States Team.

Team members were:

William Hyndman, III, Captain, of Huntingdon Valley, Pa. Member, 1958 Team; member 1957 and 1959 Walker Cup Teams and World Amateur Team in 1958.

Deane R. Beman, Silver Spring, Md. Member, 1959 Walker Cup Team.

Donald R. Cherry, Wichita Falls, Texas. Member, 1954 Team; 1953 and 1955 Walker Cup Teams.

Charles R. Coe., Oklahoma City, Okla. Captain of First Americas Cup Team in 1952 and member of 1954 and 1958 Teams; playing Captain, 1959 Walker Cup Team; non-playing Captain, 1957 and member, 1949, 1951 and 1953 Teams; member, World Amateur Team in 1958.

John Konsek, Buffalo, N. Y. He is the newcomer to International golf. He replaced Richard B. Crawford who underwent an appendectomy two weeks before the Match.

Jack W. Nicklaus, Columbus, Ohio. He is the Amateur Champion; member, 1959 Walker Cup Team.

Dr. Frank M. Taylor, Jr., Pomona, Calif. Member, 1958 Team; 1957 and 1959 Walker Cup Teams; World Amateur Team in 1958.

Anniversary Salute

The USGA and the 150 players in the 60th National Open Championship saluted the 100th Anniversary British Open Championship with a handsome engrossed declaration which was rushed to St. Andrews, Scotland, from Cherry Hills Country Club, Denver, Colo.

The declaration was signed by every player and by members of the Executive Committee of the USGA.

The inscription said: "Golfers gathered for the United States Open Championship are reminded that formal open competition originated with the first holding of the British Open Championship in 1860.

"Now in this year of the 100th Anniversary of the British Open Championship we send warmest greetings to our fellow golfers in Great Britain. The seed which was sowed a century ago has produced rich fruits for man's benefit. The good which sprang from your first Open Championship is beyond measure in health-giving recreation, in sportsmanship and in friendship among men of many nations.

"We salute the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews for its boundless work in the welfare of the game.

"Congratulations to you all!"

The names of three former winners of British Open Championships were on the declaration—Sam Snead, the 1946 British Champion; Ben Hogan, winner in 1953, and Gary Player, the 1959 Champion.



Lorraine Rhoads

A Little Junior Miss

Ten-year old Lorraine Rhoads has won the Los Angeles City Junior Championship's "10 and Under" Division title for three years in a row. Her three most recent nine-hole tournament scores were 48-44-39 at Griffith Park. Lorraine did not compete in the 13 and 14 age group but her score was low enough to have also won in that class. She is a member of Los Angeles Country Club.

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Permanent Trophies



The winner of each USGA Championship, with the exception of the Girls' Junior Championship, will now receive for permanent possession, a silver trophy, as shown. The trophy stands 12 inches high on a black wooden base and engraved across the front will be the name of the Champion, the Championship, and the year. The USGA seal is affixed. Previously, USGA Champions were presented with gold medals. Winners of the Girls' Junior Championship will continue to receive silver replicas of the Glenna Collett Vare Trophy.

Fully Recovered

For some time Eric Webb, a 52-year old English golf devotee, had been paralyzed. He had undergone 29 operations and finally his health had been restored.

To celebrate his recovery, and to prove it complete, Mr. Webb resumed golf. He played for 17 hours in one day, taking off only a few minutes for lunch. His performance included 101 holes and the last one had to be finished with the aid of auto headlights.

All the golf was on the Cirencester Course in the West of England.

Books Reviewed

New Angles on Putting and Chip Shots, by Robert Cromie (Reilly and Lee Co., \$2.50). A 10 inch by 13 inch, paperback book of 48 pages, it is illustrated with close-ups and full length pictures of leading players. Quotes by former Champions which relate to putting are re-printed. Much of the instruction material is based on the principles of the late Mark G. Harris.

How I Play Inside Golf, by Doug Ford (Prentice Hall, Inc., \$3.95). An instructional book by one of the most successful touring professionals.

Pro Pointers and Stroke Savers, edited by Charles Price, editor of Golf Magazine (Harper and Brothers, \$4.95). Instruction is given both in illustration and written form by leading players. Gene Sarazen, Jimmy Demaret and Louise Suggs served as instruction editors.

Necrology

It is with deep regret that we record the deaths of:

Miss Charlotte Dod, Bournemouth, England, famed sports champion of the late 1800's and early 1900's, who won the Wimbledon tennis championship five times, the British Women's Golf Championship in 1904 and was co-medalist in the USGA Women's Amateur Championship the same year. She also was one of England's leading skating, field hockey and archery champions. She was 88 at the time of death.

Eugene G. Grace, Bethlehem, Pa., a fine amateur golfer and a good friend of golf. He was the author of the article "Amateurism is in the Heart." Mr. Grace was former president and honorary chairman of the board of the Bethlehem Steel Corp.

James Jay Secor, Perrysburg Township, Ohio, stockbroker and sportsman. In 1957, Mr. Secor was general chairman of the USGA Open Championship held at the Inverness Club, Toledo. He won the Ohio Senior Golf Tournament in 1950 and the Seminole Pro-Amateur Tournament of Florida in 1953.

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