JACK NICKLAUS DOMINANT AS AMATEUR FIELD CHANGES

By JOSEPH C. DEY, JR. USGA Executive Director

The cast of characters in the National Amateur Championship changes swiftly these days, and the eminence of Jack Nicklaus is emphasized in the process.

These are dominant impressions of this year's Championship, played over the magnificent Pebble Beach Links in California.

The first point is proved quickly by statistics:

Of the 200 contestants at Pebble Beach—

53 played in the 1960 Championship and only 23 played in the 1959 and 1960 Championships.

The percentage of repeaters seems remarkably low, even though the tournament this year attracted a record entry of 1,995. It is evident that the quality of top-flight amateur golf is at a very high level.

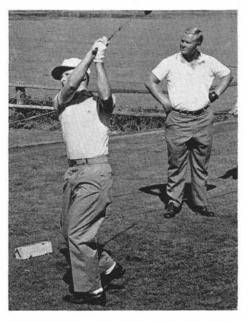
The Amateur Ideal

Further, the rapid turnover is indicative of the amateurism of it all. American amateur golf seems in a most healthy state, as regards quantity, quality and respect for the amateur ideal, especially the rule prohibiting acceptance of expenses generally, which is at the heart of the code.

As for Jack Nicklaus, he could hardly be more impressive. At 21, he has taken rank with the best players of the game, professional and amateur, and it is reasonable to expect that his finest years may be before him. He has tremendous length, but is equally dangerous on the putting green as off the tee.

Consider some high points of his record: National Amateur Champion in 1959 and 1961; runner-up in the National Open in 1960 with a score of 282; fourth in the 1961 Open with 284; low scorer in the 1960 World Amateur Team Championship with a fabulous 269 at the Merion Golf Course.

At Pebble Beach, one of the great



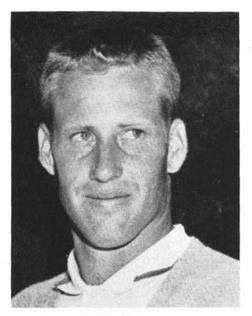
Jack Nicklaus, the 1961 Amateur Champion, observes Deane R. Beman, last year's Champion, on Pebble Beach's seventh tee during a practice round.

courses of the world, Nicklaus played seven matches; he went a total of 138 holes in 20 under par; he had 34 birdies and one eagle; no 6 besmirched his card during the Championship.

The runner-up was Dudley Wysong, of McKinney, Texas, and the score in the final was 8 and 6. Wysong was a semifinalist two years ago. He has lifted his game a notch or two in the interim and now, at age 22, appears to have a promising golfing future.

Wysong Beat Carr

The tournament had a stellar field, including all but one of the members of the British and the American Walker Cup Teams. Joseph B. Carr, that delightful Irishman who has won the British title



Dudley Wysong

three times, reached the semi-finals and lost a thrilling match to Wysong, 2 down. The other semi-finalist was Marion C. Methvin, Jr., a college student from Little Rock, who was Nicklaus' victim by 9 and 8.

Patton Ousts Beman

Deane Beman went down in the second round in defense of his Championship, losing by 2 down to Billy Joe Patton. Two rounds later Patton was ousted by the National Public Links Champion, Richard Sikes, of Springdale, Ark., a college student.

And that was the way the Championship went—one surprise after another. Amid all the carnage, Nicklaus stood supreme.

Nicklaus had the same caddie, Al Gonzales, who served for Harrison (Jimmy) Johnston when he won the Amateur at Pebble Beach in 1929.

This was the fifth USGA event and the third National Amateur at Pebble Beach, thanks largely to the generosity of Samuel F. B. Morse. The magnificent course was a revelation to those who were on their first visit. Charles Evans, Jr., was playing in the Championship for the 49th time, at age 71.

USGA FILM LIBRARY

"Second World Amateur Team Championship for Eisenhower Trophy" is a 17 minute film in full color of the competition at the Merion GC last fall which was won by the United States team. Ex-President Eisenhower is shown receiving the American and the Australian teams at the White House.

"First World Amateur Team Championship for Eisenhower Trophy," is a 14-minute, full color, 16mm film of the first World Amateur Team Championship at St. Andrews. Twenty-nine countries compete for the Eisenhower Trophy.

"Famous Golf Courses: Scotland," is an 18minute film in full color. Famous holes were photographed at Troon, Prestwick, Carnoustie, St. Andrews, North Berwick and Muirfield.

"Walker Cup Highlights," is a 16-minute film tracing the early history and play for the first international golf trophy. Bob Jones, Francis Ouimet and other Walker Cup stars are shown. The latter half of the film is in color.

"St. Andrews, Cradle Of Golf," is a 14minute, full color, 16/mm travelogue of historic St. Andrews, Scotland, its Old Course and the Royal and Ancient Golf Club clubhouse.

"On the Green," a 17-minute, full color, 16mm presentation filmed at the Mid-Ocean Club, Bermuda, illustrates correct procedures under the Rules of Golf governing situations arising on the putting green.

"Golf's Longest Hour," a 16mm full color production of 17½ minutes, depicts the closing stages of the 1956 Open Championship, Filmed at the beautiful Oak Hill Country Club, Rochester, N.Y., it shows the eventual winner, Cary Middlecoff, set a target at which Ben Hogan, Julius Boros and Ted Kroll strive in vain to beat.

"Play Them As They Lie," a 16mm color production of 16½ minutes in which Johnny Farrell, Open Champion of 1928, acts as intermediary between Wilbur Mulligan, a beginner of unimpeachable integrity, and Joshua P. Slye, a past master in the art of breaking the Rules. The film was made at the Baltursol Golf Club, Springfield, N. J., where Farrell is professional.

"Great Moments in Golf," lets the viewer see the many interesting exhibits in "Golf House," USGA headquarters in New York, and re-live golf triumphs of the past with many of the game's immortals. The film is a 16mm black and white production and runs 28 minutes.

"The Rules of Golf—Etiquette" stresses the importance of etiquette by portrayal of various violations of the code in the course of a family four-ball match. Ben Hogan appears in several scenes, and Robert T. Jones, Jr., makes the introductory statement. A 16mm color production of 17½ minutes.

The distribution of prints is handled by National Educational Films, Inc., 723 7th Ave., New York 19, N. Y., which produced the films in cooperation with the USGA. The rental is \$20 per fim; \$35 for two; \$50 for three; \$60 for four and \$70 for five, in combination at the same time, including the cost of shipping prints to the renter.