

A CURTIS CUP TIE IN THE FINEST SENSE

Golf Does its Bit
in International Friendships

The Curtis Cup Match this year richly rewarded those who have sought to have golf do its bit toward international friendships. What counted was not that it ended in a tie but, rather, its tone.

No match could be more in keeping with the ideals for which this series was created. There was a warm and great amity among the rival lady golfers; they all lived under the hospitable roof of the Brae Burn Country Club, near Boston. In practice days they ate at the same table.

Most of the Americans wore shorts, whereas the British had uniform skirts and blouses. But there was a day when the visitors borrowed the Americans' shorts for private picture-taking.

Such charming ambassadresses were the British that they won the unbounded admiration of their caddies (and how many golfers are heroes to their caddies!). Three of the Brae Burn lads who caddied for the British made a later trip to Darien, Conn., just to see them play in the USGA Women's Amateur Championship.

These are small things. But the larger fabric of international relations is woven of many strands. Some strong ones were added at Brae Burn.

The case was well put by Miss Daisy Ferguson, the British Captain, in writing the Misses Margaret and Harriot Curtis about miniature silver replicas of the Curtis Cup which they presented to all the players. "I just want to thank you both," wrote Miss Ferguson, "for the dear wee silver cup which you gave to each of us. I shall treasure it and it will always remind me of a match in the Curtis Cup series which was played in a wonderful spirit of complete friendliness by all members of both Teams, at a Club which did all in its power to foster that spirit of friendly rivalry among women golfers which had been your aim when you presented the Cup."

Best British Showing in U.S.

In gaining a tie at Brae Burn, the

visitors made the best showing of any British team in the United States since the Walker Cup Match was started in 1922 and the Curtis Cup in 1932. All told, there have been 26 contests in those series, but the Americans have never yielded at home.

British women's golf is particularly strong now. Since 1952 British Isles teams have won two Curtis Cup Matches, lost one and tied one. In the whole series the United States has won six times, the British have won twice, and there have been two halves.

The Brae Burn contest was so close that the Captains—Miss Ferguson and Mrs. Charles Dennehy for the United States—both used the same six players in singles and foursomes. The British had a team which included five who had played before; of the Americans, all but two were newcomers to the international series.

Miss Ferguson's side took a 2-1 lead in the foursomes. They started with a victory when Mrs. Michael Bonallack and Miss Elizabeth Price won three of the last five holes in one under par for a 2-and-1 verdict over Misses Barbara Romack and Polly Riley. Then Miss Janette Robertson and Mrs. Frances Smith led all the way against the youthful Americans, Misses JoAnne Gunderson, our 1957 National Champion, and Anne Quast.

America's foursomes point was won by Miss Barbara McIntire and Mrs. Les Johnstone, 6 and 5, over Miss Bridget Jackson and Mrs. George Valentine, the British Champion. After two poor first holes, the Americans were one under par the rest of the way in a brilliant display over Brae Burn's very exacting course. In the morning they were around the back nine in 35, two under.

The American effort to make up the deficit was started by Miss Gunderson's 2-up win over Mrs. Valentine in a clash of the Champions. Miss Quast built up a morning lead, then closed the last seven



The British Team, left to right: Miss Daisy Ferguson, non-playing captain; Mrs. Michael Bonallack, Miss Bridget Jackson, Miss Elizabeth Price, Miss Janette Robertson, Mrs. Frances Smith, Miss Dorothea Sommerville, Mrs. George Valentine.

holes in two under par to defeat Miss Price. Miss Romack was the third American singles winner, with Miss Jackson her victim.

Meanwhile, Miss Robertson had staved off a brilliant rally by Mrs. Johnstone to win a point for the British; Miss Robertson led 5 up after 18 and Mrs. Johnstone very nearly caught her with a marvelous third nine of 35.

Down to the Last Hole

America now led 4 to 3 as two matches came to the home hole. One was the No. 2 encounter between Mrs. Bonallack and Miss McIntire. Miss McIntire seemingly had it in hand when she was 4 up after 28 holes, after brilliant golf by both on the third nine (36 for Miss McIntire and 37 for the British player). But then, in a twinkling, it was all even—Mrs. Bonallack won four of the next five. There ensued two halves, then Miss McIntire came from nowhere for a halving par on the home hole, and they split the match point.

This left the issue up to the last match,

Mrs. Frances Smith for the British versus Miss Polly Riley. This was a repetition of history, for in 1956 they had met in what turned out to be a decisive match in a British victory. This time Mrs. Smith reached the home hole 1 up, and won that one also. The former British Champion is a most dependable player, now having won $4\frac{1}{2}$ of five possible points in Curtis Cup singles.

And so the Curtis Cup Match ended in a tie, $4\frac{1}{2}$ to $4\frac{1}{2}$. Under the terms of the series, the previous winner retains the Cup in case of a tie, so the trophy is now back in Britain.

The chronicle is incomplete without mention of Brae Burn's entertainment. This fine old Boston club provided exactly the right atmosphere and facilities for an event of this sort. Anthony Jaureguy, the President, and Joseph A. Galvin, Jr., General Chairman of the Curtis Cup Committees, will find many friends if they should choose to visit among the upper echelons of women golfers here and in Britain. They have certainly helped keep the two flags flying together.



The United States Team, left to right: Mrs. Charles Dennehy, non-playing captain; Miss Meriam Bailey, Miss JoAnne Gunderson, Mrs. Les Johnstone, Miss Barbara McIntire, Miss Anne Quast, Miss Anne Richardson, Miss Polly Riley, Miss Barbara Romack.

1958 INTERNATIONAL MATCH FOR THE CURTIS CUP

Held at Brae Burn Country Club, West Newton, Mass.

August 8 and 9, 1958

FOURSOMES

BRITISH ISLES		UNITED STATES	
	Points		Points
Mrs. Michael Bonallack and Miss Elizabeth Price (2 and 1)	1	Miss Barbara Romack and Miss Polly Riley	0
Miss Janette Robertson and Mrs. Frances Smith (3 and 2)	1	Miss JoAnne Gunderson and Miss Anne Quast	0
Miss Bridget Jackson and Mrs. George Valentine	0	Miss Barbara McIntire and Mrs. Les Johnstone (6 and 5)	1
Total	2	Total	1

SINGLES

Mrs. George Valentine	0	Miss JoAnne Gunderson (2 up)	1
Mrs. Michael Bonallack (halved)	½	Miss Barbara McIntire (halved)	½
Miss Elizabeth Price	0	Miss Anne Quast (4 and 2)	1
Miss Janette Robertson (3 and 2)	1	Mrs. Les Johnstone	0
Miss Bridget Jackson	0	Miss Barbara Romack (4 and 2)	1
Mrs. Frances Smith (2 up)	1	Miss Polly Riley	0
Total	2½	Total	3½
Grand Total—British Isles	4½	Grand Total—United States	4½

Non-playing Captain—Miss Daisy Ferguson
Reserve—Miss Dorothea T. Sommerville

Non-playing Captain—Mrs. Charles Dennehy
Reserves—Miss Meriam Bailey, Miss Anne Richardson