

MARSTON LIKELY TO PLAY FOR NEW YORK

Merion and Baltusrol Star Is Eligible to Represent Philadelphia District in Lesley Cup Matches

BY PERRY LEWIS

The programme for the Lesley Cup matches is about complete. The dates have been selected and the course; all of which is very important and necessary. What the golfers in the Massachusetts, Metropolitan and Philadelphia districts are particularly interested in, however, is whether Max Marston will tee off as a member of the Merion Cricket Club and swing his clubs for the Quaker City, or whether he will throw his strength to Gotham as a member of Baltusrol.

Marston is a member of both Baltusrol and Merion, which places him in rather a peculiar situation. He is a strong player, so potent that his presence on either of the two teams might swing the victory to his colleagues. Both clubs claim Marston and expect to get him, and, as the player has made no definite announcement as to his intentions, no one knows who will bear the inevitable disappointment.

During the recent tournament at Lakewood, Marston was questioned as to his programme in regard to the Lesley Cup matches. Although his answer was not definite, his reply indicated that he will probably represent the Metropolitan district in the 1919 classic.

For the second time since the first of the year, a report has been circulated to the effect that Charles "Chick" Evans will not defend his title in the Open Championship at Brae Burn in June. No official announcement has been made by the titleholder, in both cases the story being started by friends of Evans, but where there is smoke there is fire, and there appears to be slight chance of Evans being among those present at Brae Burn.

Evans' course in passing up the open event is not popular among the professionals, who are of the opinion that the champion should defend his title as a sporting proposition. At a fanning bee which took place at the recent Lakewood tourney, one of the most prominent "pros" in the country had this to say:

"If Evans does not give us a chance to wrest the title from him this year he should be severely criticized. As amateur golfer, he captured the National Open from a field which included some of the best professional players in the land. They want an opportunity of bringing the title back into the professional fold, but they want to win it on the links and not by default."

Evans, it is said, is anxious to play in the Western Amateur over the Sunset Hill course, and as he could not take part in this event and the Open Championship as well, he preferred the former.

The Canadian courses have a peculiar charm for "Chick," who plans to make another tour for the Dominion Red Cross, starting in Montreal about June 17 and playing at Montreal, Quebec, St. Andrews-by-the-Sea and Toronto. Should he take part in the international match between teams representing the United States and Canada over the Hamilton course on July 25 he will not be a stranger to the

links. In 1918 he played there for the Red Cross, and in a recent issue of the Golfers' Magazine, paid the following tribute to the course:

"The Hamilton Golf and Country Club in my opinion is one of the finest links in America. The course is 6350 yards and "swings well." It is what might be called a natural born layout. Very few artificial hazards have been constructed, but the links call upon a golfer for his very best skill. Hamilton was not new to me, as I had played it in 1917 and got around in 72, one under par, with a dropped ball at the eighteenth, due to the fact that a 300-yard drive carried me into the brook guarding the green.

"Last year George Lyon and I played two clever golfers at Hamilton—Fritz Martin, ex-amateur champion of Canada, and A. A. Adams, the best at the home club. They teamed very well, Martin going great on the outward half and Adams bearing the brunt of the battle coming home, with the result that the match hung on the last putt.

"If Lyon had not run down a long putt for a four the match would have been all square. As it was, we defeated them one up. The best I could do was 76, Lyon registering 75. More than \$1400 was raised for the Red Cross. Then to cap the climax of courtesy and hospitality, the directors conferred life club membership upon Lyon and me."