

# DELEGATES TO GOLF MEETING SAW DUTY AND DID IT—QUICK

## Governing Body Gave Fine Exhibition of Efficient Sport Management

## New President of U. S. G. A. Firm Believer in Municipal Courses

BY PERRY LEWIS

THE annual meeting of the United States Golf Association is now a thing of the past, but the force of what was accomplished in the brief time the delegates were in session will ever be felt in the links world. It was a love feast in every sense of the word; there was absolutely no friction and that the representatives were able to transact the annual business of such an important and powerful body as the U. S. G. A. in something less than an hour and a half is a fine commentary on the efficiency of the golf-governing organization.

The delegates were there to accomplish certain things and they went right to it without the loss of a second. Many matters were referred to the Executive Committee for attention, the most important of which was the project of getting together with the British and French on the matter of rules. It was suggested that a committee of four be selected by the Executive Committee to cross the water and confer with committees of like size from England, Scotland, Ireland and France. This would create a deliberative body of twenty, with St. Andrew's holding the balance of power. The committee from the United States would be made up of one representative of the West, one of the East, one of the North and the fourth from the South.

Whether the Executive Committee adopts this method or some other is a matter of conjecture, but it is certain that a committee will be sent abroad and it was the sense of the meeting that members of that committee strive to interpret and execute the wishes of the great body of American golfers in the matter of rule changes. Meanwhile the delegates were invited to submit to the Executive Committee, in writing, all suggestions as to alterations in the code.

Although the U. S. G. A. is a super-conservative body, and is only exceeded in that characteristic by St. Andrew's, it is patent that the abhorred stymie, the lost ball rule with several others, will be under severe, if not concentrated fire in the near future—a barrage which is likely to cut off at least the stymie for all time.

It will be comforting and significant to all real lovers of golf to learn that George H. Walker, of St. Louis, the newly elected president of the U. S. G. A., is enthusiastically in favor of public courses, more public courses, and still more public courses. He has for years been a tireless worker for the game in his own city, and with the broader field now open to him he will doubtless accomplish much in a national way. The new executive is full of that inspiring Western aggressiveness better described as "pep"—the square-jawed type of successful young American who "does things." Questioned as to his attitude toward municipal courses, he vehemently replied:

"I helped lay out the first public links in St. Louis, the home of the public course. We sent to the National Amateur last summer the first municipal course player who ever qualified in that event, and he tied for the medal, but afterward defaulted to your own Paul Tewkesbury."

A terse but very complete answer from a man peculiarly fitted to be at the head of the sport of millions, as that sport heads into what promises to be its greatest and most prosperous year.

Although the Lesley Cup matches were not mentioned at the meeting, important action was taken in regard to them earlier in the day. Executives of the Massachusetts, Metropolitan and Pennsylvania bodies, those concerned in the competition, met with Robert W. Lesley, of Merion, donor of the trophy, and it was decided that at least six months in a State to play for that State.

The provision is a wise one in that it precludes a repetition of the uncertainty which existed last season in regard to Max Marston, a member at that time of both Baltusrol and Merion. This great player was claimed by both the Metropolitan and Philadelphia districts, but he elected to play with the Pennsylvania team. Had there been a residence rule, then there could have been no uncertainty, as Marston was a resident of Overbrook.

Which brings us to the fact Marston has definitely announced that he casts his golf fortunes with Philadelphia, and will henceforth play from either Merion or Pine Valley. This is the biggest piece of good fortune that has come to the local district for a long period. The addition of such a distinguished golfer as Maxwell R. Marston to Philadelphia's group of brilliant players will cause every Quaker City sportsman to take

Now of Philadelphia



MAXWELL R. MARSTON

Golfer of national reputation who has announced that henceforth he will play from Philadelphia clubs only, having severed his connection with Baltusrol, of New Jersey.

another look at the scintillating amateur crown with added anticipation.

What is Philadelphia's gain is New York's loss. If Marston achieves one-half as many triumphs as a Merion or Pine Valley player as he did as a Baltusrol golfer he will have accomplished much for the sport in the city of his adoption.

Walter Hagen, open champion, is more than pleased with the selection of Inverness as the club to entertain the National, and is looking forward to defending his title over the Toledo course. In fact, it was the unqualified approval of Hagen, Barnes and several other prominent "pros" which resulted in the Inverness bid being successful. Said Hagen:

"Inverness is a fine test of golf and Toledo is in an ideal position to entertain a national event in that it is a centre of population and can be easily reached. The Engineers' is also a wise selection for the amateur, as is Mayfield for the women. They are all fine courses and worthy of national events."

Hagen verified the fact that he would cross the water this summer for a campaign on the other side, although the delegates made no official mention of the contemplated invasion of Britain by a large group of prominent American players. The only suggestion of international matches was the announcement made by the committee that dates would be arranged for the three national championships not conflicting with the big fixtures abroad.

Absolutely no mention was made in the meeting of moving for the incorporation of golf in the Olympic programme. Should any action be taken it will be distinctly up to the Executive Committee.

The only discordant note struck at the meeting was a prodding of the Oakmont Country Club, the organization which entertained the 1919 amateurs, by Frank H. Hoyt, of the Engineers', successful bidders for the 1920 championship. In making his speech urging that the classics be brought to his organization, Mr. Hoyt remarked that there would be no megaphone abuses by stewards of the course during play—a feature which aroused considerable adverse comment during the tournament at Oakmont.

Contrary to expectations, the three national events were awarded quickly and with no friction whatsoever. In so far as the Amateurs was concerned, two of the three bidders combined—the Engineers' and North Shore—and then Baltusrol gracefully withdrew Fox Hills, Staten Island, resigned from the bidding for the Open after the Amateur had been fixed in the East, leaving the issue between Inverness and Flossmoor, of Illinois. This went to a vote, with Inverness the overwhelming winner.

When bids were asked for the Women's, the Mayfield Country Club delegate arose and said: "Sure, we would like to have the women," and promptly sat down. The speech made the hit of the evening, and Mayfield got the event.

The Lesley Cup matches of 1920 will undoubtedly be played at Merion. It was at first intended to play them at Pine Valley, but as there was some doubt as to whether the wonderful

## Stymie Sure to Be Under Fire When International Committee Meets

## Lesley Cup Competition Players Must Reside in State Six Months

Jersey course would be in perfect condition, the sentiment of the powers that be shifted to Merion, home club of Robert W. Lesley, the donor.

## McCOURT HOLDS CANNEFAX TO EVEN BREAK AT 3-CUSHION GAME

BOSTON, Mass., Jan. 10 (Special).—Robert L. Cannefax, National three-cushion billiard champion, was forced to take an even break with Charles G. McCourt, runner-up to the titleholder, in the first matches of their two-day exhibition, which opened yesterday at the Faneuil Hall rooms, 55 Wash-

ington street.

McCourt defeated the champion during a 15-minute match the champion defeated McCourt at three-cushion billiards 66 to 63 in 91 innings, while McCourt reversed the decision at night, winning 60 to 66 in 90 innings.

Both matches were long and drawn-out, but interesting, as the scores did not vary more than three or four points difference in either until after the eightieth inning. The high run of the day was registered in the afternoon, when McCourt rolled up five in his sixty-fourth inning. Each had several four runs in the two matches.

Easy for Belmont

AIRDMORE, Pa., Jan. 10 (Special).—The Honour Field Club of Philadelphia had little trouble in troubling Airdmore at the latter's rounds this afternoon, the final count standing 3 goals to 0.

Belmar Field Club, Pos.	Airdmore.
Haley	Goal
Callahan	Right full-back
J. Mumcham	Left full-back
Young	Right half-back
Adolph	Centre half-back
Raild	Left half-back
Bury	Outside right
H. Mumcham	Inside right
Woods	Centre forward
McAllister	Outside left
Kurran	

Score by periods: 2 1-3  
Airdmore 0 0-0  
Scored goals—McAllister, H. Mumcham, Adolph. Referee—McMonagle. Linesmen—Lougherty and Carroll. Time of periods—40 minutes.