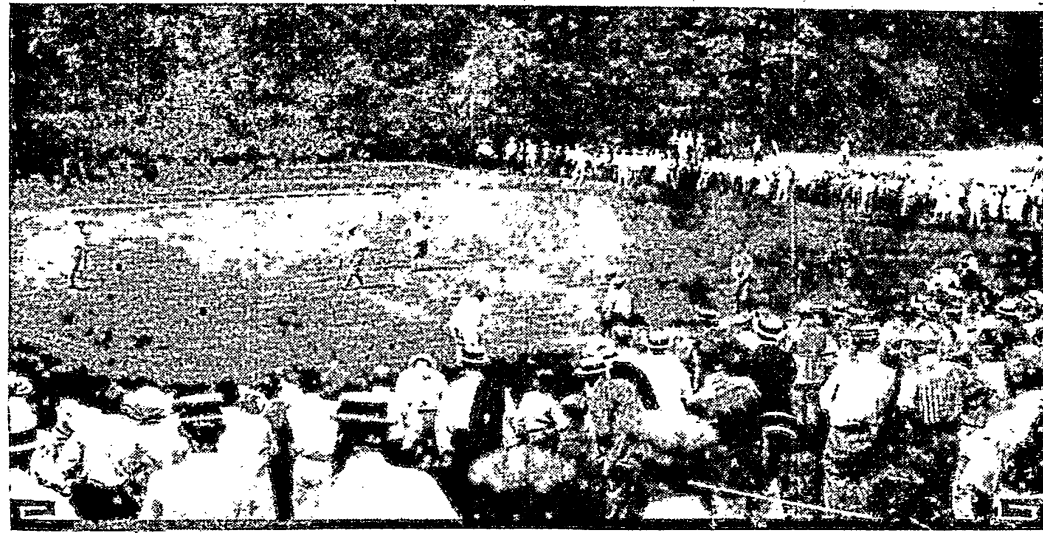


4000 GOLDFRANCS SEESTARS AT PHILMONT



UPPER left—Joe Kirkwood, Australian star, on left, and Charlie Hoffner watching Gene Sarazen, the 21-year-old champion of the United States, about to putt. Right—Joseph Kirkwood, Charles Hoffner, Jules Mastbaum, who was host for the occasion, Walter Hagen and Gene Sarazen. Lower—Walter Hagen, winner of the British cup, putting with great crowd looking on.

WALT HAGEN'S PLAY IS BIG FEATURE OF GOLF-FEST GALORE

By PERRY LEWIS

FOUR golf champions, three of them national titleholders, and the other nabob of Philadelphia linksmen, appeared in an exhibition match at the Philmont Country Club yesterday before the largest crowd which has followed a links contest in this city since the amateur championship was played at Merion before the war.

Walter Hagen, open champion of Great Britain, paired with Joe Kirkwood, open champion of Australia, in competition with Gene Sarazen, United States open champion, whose partner was Charlie Hoffner, holder of the Philadelphia title, and the entertaining club's professional. This was the golf fest which led between three and four thousand golf devotees to forget the torrid sun and toil around the Philmont course behind four golfers who have achieved the heights.

They saw Hagen and Kirkwood win out by a margin of 2 up and 1 to play, but they also learned that to err is human and also decided a lot of encouragement as to their own golf.

For of the four, only Hagen played up to the form of a champion. The British champion spun a score of 72, and it was by virtue of this performance that his team won. Hoffner played well, particularly when pressed, and his was a 75. Kirkwood needed one more than Hoffner and Sarazen had no complete medal score as he picked up on the eighth hole.

Applaud Wonder Workers

But what of the scoring? The enthusiasts were there to see a Hagen, a Sarazen, a Kirkwood and a Hoffner in action. Never before in the history of golf in this city, and seldom in the annals of American golf, have four such masters been brought together in competition. So everyone forgot the heat to wonder at the perfect form, to applaud the wonder-workings of the big four, to smile with the genial Hagen and the youthful Sarazen, to frown with the somewhat grim Kirkwood when he booted one—and to "pull" for the homebred Hoffner.

"The big match is over, and I feel that Philadelphia golfers and everyone in the district interested in the game have had a rare opportunity to see four of the world's greatest golfers perform on a home course," said Jules Mastbaum, who conceived the idea of holding a gigantic reception to Hagen while the British champion was still aboard ship enroute for home after lifting the British cup.

"As for the golfers of Philadelphia, showed how well they know a real thing when they see it," he continued. "Look at them (and he waved his arm at the some of the more devoted spectators

ing down the fairway)—they don't want to miss a shot. Without the sort of co-operation which the Philadelphia enthusiasts have given us it would have been impossible for Philmont to have presented such a golf spectacle.

"Another thing. I want to express my appreciation for the manner in which the crowd behaved. I do not believe it would be possible to find a crowd of like size anywhere in America which would gallery a match with more intelligence and thoughtfulness for both players and officials."

Fourteen Holes Halved

Fourteen of the eighteen holes were halved, and four won and lost. Kirkwood and Hagen won the first hole, both of them snaring fours to fives for Sarazen and Hoffner. Hoffner won the ninth and squared the match when he carded a four to a six for Hagen and fives for the other two.

Thus the four masters played along all square until the fourteenth hole was reached. At this point Hagen developed a streak of the sort of golf which leads many to call him the world's greatest golfer. First came a bird four on the 557-yard fourteenth. He followed this up by gathering a bird three on the fifteenth.

The others could not hold this pace, and so both holes went to the Hagen-Kirkwood combination. Then they proceeded to halve the remaining holes, and so emerged triumphant by a margin of two up.

Many scorers credited Hagen with a 71, and others were even generous enough to make it a 70. As a matter of fact, the British champion might well have had an even par 70 had it not been for two bad breaks.

The first came on the 416-yard ninth, where he used a six. His fifth shot on this hole was within a foot of the cup, and he hit the ball carelessly, with the result that it started out. Then, on the eighteenth, Lady Luck frowned on him when his dazzling drive found lodgment on the edge of the road crossing the fairway and he was forced to drop out, which cost him an extra stroke.

Walter's only spotty work came on the ninth, where he sliced badly from the tee and then perpetrated a rather indifferent second, all of which, combined with that careless putt already mentioned, resulted in a six on a par four hole.

On six of the eighteen holes Hagen was putting for birds, and he got half of them. On the sixth he missed a five-footer and on the eighth one of eight feet. On the short eleventh he

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drove the green and then sunk his ten-footer for a bird.

He had one of six feet on the fourth and made it, a feat which he followed up by dropping an eighteen-footer on the fifteenth.

Could the British champion have sunk one of seven feet on the sixteenth, he would have made it three birds in a row and won the match then and there. He failed by a few inches, however, and then laughed. That's the way Hagen takes his bumps—with a laugh.

Curiously enough there were only four birds, an unusual development when the class of the contestants is considered. Three of these better than perfect performances were furnished by Hagen. Sarazen contributed the other, when he snared a two on the 140-yard eleventh.

As Hagen got one of his on the same hole, the thing was halved in birds, another unusual development.

Sarazen's most serious trouble came on the eighth, where he finally picked up. Both Sarazen and Kirkwood found pits with their seconds at this point, and to make matters worse there was casual water in both of them.

The new United States champion took one look at the situation, and then gave up the ship. Kirkwood, who was in a pit just short of the green, waded into two inches of water and played out. With a tremendous splash he swished his club head against the ball, and was accorded a round of applause as the white sphere emerged from the shower to roll serenely to the upper rim of the green.

The trick-shot master needed his two putts, however, and his five was altogether useless, as both Hagen and Hoffner snatched par fours, the latter saving his side a total loss by gamely sinking a fifteen-foot put.

Scenes to Be Remembered

No local athletic event ever offered a more colorful picture than did this battle of the links-elect. Philmont's palatial home crowning a gentle hill of emerald was a riot of color. Varied pennants fluttered from the flagpole and broad porches, while the necessary touch of life was furnished by the thousands of enthusiasts in gay summer attire.

When the masters stepped on the first tee to start Philadelphia's most noteworthy golf match a great mass of humanity was banked behind the players, trailing away five deep on both sides of the fairway. Far down the landscape was the velvet green, framed in another rainbow of humanity. A fair picture it was.

Came the click of driver against ball, and a murmur of appreciation for a perfect shot. The great match was on.

The youthful Sarazen was suffering a touch of nerves in his first exhibition as a national champion, and was a trifle unsteady. Hoffner, too, appearing with the three who have attained the heights and before a home crowd, also appeared to be laboring under a strain. As a result the hole cost them a pair of fives.

Not so those keen and campaign-hardened champion, Hagen and his pal. As steady as though playing before a gallery of a few hundred, they both reeled off perfect fours, and were one

up, and in a position to play defensive golf to the end.

Hoffner was quick to get his bearings, however, and his perfect golf on the second and third, held the opposition even. This was fortunate, for Sarazen was still floundering and was one over par on both holes.

Now it was Sarazen's turn to pull himself together and save the day. At once matters were reversed, for it was the American champion's perfect play on the fourth and fifth which got halves as Hoffner wavered.

Hoffner Shows His Class

All had perfect fours on the sixth, and three of them were putting for birds but missed. Now came the Philmont youth's greatest moment. His pars netted halves on the seventh and eighth, and his four won the ninth, squaring the match as they went around the turn.

Kirkwood skidded on the tenth, but Hagen came through with the par four which got the half. On the next, the short tenth, Hagen spun a bird two, but Sarazen came right back with a like performance as Kirkwood and Hoffner took par threes.

These two, Hoffner and Sarazen, teamed well together throughout the match, for when one weakened the other came through. This came to pass on the twelfth and thirteenth, the Philadelphian saving the day on the first and Sarazen getting the half on the thirteenth.

How Hagen scored birds on the fourteenth and fifteenth, practically breaking up the match, has already been told. All got fancy fours on the sixteenth and then it was Hoffner's turn to get another half as Sarazen blundered. Once more it was tit for tat, for when Hoffner needed a five on the eighteenth his partner stepped in with the four, which held the enemy to two up at the finish. Following are the cards:

	OUT
Hagen	4 3 4 3 4 4 5 4 6—37
Kirkwood	4 3 5 3 5 4 6 5 5—40
Hoffner	5 3 4 4 5 4 5 4 4—38
Sarazen	5 4 5 3 4 4 6 x 5—xx
Par	4 3 4 3 4 4 5 4 4—35
	IN
Hagen	4 2 6 4 4 3 4 3 5—35-72
Kirkwood	5 3 5 3 5 4 4 3 4—36-76
Hoffner	4 3 5 4 5 4 4 3 5—37-75
Sarazen	4 2 6 3 5 4 4 4 4—36-xx
Par	4 3 5 3 5 4 4 3 4—35-70

xPicked up.
The best ball of all four was 67, while the winners had a best ball of 68 to an even 70 for their opponents. The best ball cards follow:

	BEST BALL
Out	4 3 4 3 4 5 4 4—35
In	4 2 5 3 4 3 4 3 4—32-67
	HAGEN AND KIRKWOOD
Out	4 3 4 3 4 4 5 4 5—36
In	4 2 5 3 4 3 4 3 4—32-68
	HOFFNER AND SARAZEN
Out	5 3 4 3 4 4 5 4 4—36
In	4 2 5 3 5 4 4 3 4—34-70

Following the match came the monster dinner and reception to Hagen in honor of his great triumph in the British open. Hundreds of Philadelphia's leading men of affairs sat down at the board in honor of a clean-cut champion as American athletics ever knew.

His praises were sung by such speakers as Jules Mastbaum, Ellis Gimbel, Robert W. Lesley and many others.