

National Aspects of Golf

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At the close of 1906 the United States Golf Association had forty-three associate and 237 allied members, an increase from the seven pioneer clubs of 1894 that sufficiently reveals the permanent place attained by the game. The broad scope is revealed by the selection of the clubs for the 1907 championships, for golf is now established in every State and Territory in the Union. The amateur championship will be held at the Euclid Country Club, Cleveland; the women's at the Midlothian Country Club, near Chicago, and the open at the Philadelphia Cricket Club. In Great Britain the championships are over a sequence of fine links, a circuit that to old hands assumes the monotony of a treadmill, but in this country the aim is to widen the appreciation of golf by giving recognition as soon as practicable to every good course wherever located. This brings forward each season "fresh fields and pastures new" to end the journeys of the championship aspirants.

There were more tournaments held during 1906 than in any preceding season, new competitions in the South and Southwest that have been instituted as annual fixtures being a feature. Many young players entered the list of tournament winners, notably Warren K. Wood of Chicago, Richard Kimball and J. G. Anderson of Boston, and W. E. Clow, Jr., a Western youth at Yale, who won the intercollegiate championship. Two of the best players of the older set, Findlay S. Douglas of New York and W. C. Fownes, Jr., of Pittsburgh, were practically away from the links, and Arthur G. Lockwood of Boston, after winning the Massachusetts championship in the spring, went to England for the remainder of the season. Yet, the old guard of the amateur ranks, who never surrender, carried off the lion's share of the honors.

In the amateur championship, which had an unusually large field and was carried out in brilliant style by the Englewood Golf Club, the three most prominent were Eben M. Byers of Pittsburgh; Walter J. Travis of the Garden City Golf Club, and Jerome D. Travers of the Nassau Country and Montclair Golf Clubs, who although still in his 'teens has for two years been

the most consistently good golfer of the East, and H. Chandler Egan of Chicago, the title holder of 1904 and 1905. It became a finish between Eben M. Byers, who has been in the first flight of American golfers since 1900, when he first played at Yale, and the Canadian, George S. Lyon of Toronto. Before reaching the final Lyon had defeated H. Chandler Egan, on the twentieth hole, a repetition of his success in the Olympic championship at St. Louis. Byers and Lyon had a dogged match, the American winning by 2 up. The international aspect brought out a great gallery to see the final and there was a great reception to both players after the decisive putts on the home green.

H. Chandler Egan did not attain his best game until after the amateur championship, although he had gained a place in the open championship at Onwentsia. The Englewood rounds found Egan the master of the long game with Wood and as firm as usual in putting, but he could not place the full reliance on his iron shots. After the return to the West, Egan reassumed his leading place in the game. He won the Mayflower cup at Onwentsia, the Oconomowoc cup, and his record scores included 69 at Homewood, 150 at Onwentsia, which equaled his former record, and the new thirty-six-hole record of 74, 75—149 at the Glen Echo Country Club, St. Louis. This was in the match for the Olympic cup for teams, which Egan's good work aided the Western Golf Association to regain from the Western Pennsylvania Golf Association. He did not play in the Western Golf Association championship to begin the day after the Olympic cup match, which cleared the way for D. E. Sawyer of Chicago, runner-up to Chandler Egan in the national of 1905 and next to him the best golfer in the West. Sawyer did not qualify at Englewood, where Harold Weber, a very strong player from Toledo, had also hard luck. At St. Louis Sawyer was at all times on his game and his victory was a very popular one. It was a close finish, for he only beat Warren K. Wood of Chicago by 1 up, in thirty-seven holes.

As the year's Metropolitan Golf Association champion, in which he had beaten Byers in the final, Jerome D. Travers was the favorite of the New York entrants in the amateur championship. Travis, after being down until well into the in holes, put Travers out of that race, but there is no doubt that the youngster is of as high class as any golfer ever developed in this country. In the Metropolitan championship at St. Andrews, Travers won the low-score prize in the qualifying round with 72, 72—144, the previous record having been 73, and the eight rounds he negotiated during the tournament were with an average of 74 $\frac{1}{4}$. Travers won first cups at the Shinnecock Hills, Huntingdon Valley

and Ekwanok tournaments, at the latter course making a record of 71. During the season he lowered the record at the Montclair Golf Club, which had stood at 73 for three years, to 69.

With Walter J. Travis to complete the quartet, it would be safe to match Byers, Chandler Egan and Travers against any four amateurs in the world. Win or lose, the four would reveal a sound game and do credit to our country, for all are American golfing products. Better still, a half-dozen other teams of four might be chosen from our homebreds fit to give the first quartet a good match. Travis, while he could not pass Byers in the semi-final of the amateur championship, more than once revealed during the year his clubs have not lost their knack of fine strokes. He won the score medal at the amateur championship, 175 to Travers' 177, and at Myopia, in the last tournament of the season, Travis avenged himself on Byers by beating him at thirty-six holes for the turn-down at Englewood. Travis's records included 72 at St. Andrew's, 70 at Garden City and 65 at the short Palm Beach course.

New England is now as firm in golf as it was united in the tea party days to drive out British oppression. Brice S. Evans is the Massachusetts scholastic champion, a tall, lithe youth, who may be heard from again in the game. The scratch players on the general handicap list, a roster of some 2,500 names that reveals the careful secretarial work of Ralph Cracknell, include A. G. Lockwood, Hugo R. Johnstone and W. C. Chick, Jr. Johnstone, who is also a Washington player in the off season for Massachusetts golf, is a long driver of the Blackwell stamp, except that he has better direction. He was captain of the Massachusetts team in the year's inter-city matches for the Lesley cup—New York, Philadelphia and Boston—and possessed the playing and managerial skill to score a success in the exacting position. Young Chick, after honors at Harvard, made an extended golfing trip abroad. He is a player of the improving sort, despite his present excellence, as he has conquered a habit of dallying on the putting greens. The same fault has marred the game of the two Boston youngsters, Richard Kimball and J. G. Andersen, but otherwise they are sound in all departments.

Among other New England golfers of prominence are H. B. Fenn of Poland Springs, a son of A. H. Fenn; W. C. Eaton and H. B. Turner of Portland Me.; J. A. Willy of Pepperill; Malcolm Stanton of Dartmouth, holder of the New England intercollegiate title; Arthur B. Cooper of Exeter, N. H.; G. A. Pope of Watch Hills, R. I.; C. E. Smith of Fall River; S. Trafford Hicks, Arlington, Mass.; Richard Davie, Barre, Vt.; Arthur J. Chase, Brockton, Mass.; I. P. Sewell, Concord, Mass.; K. R.

Beedle, Keene, N. H.; E. D. Field, Montpelier, Vt.; E. J. Noble, North Adams, Mass.; A. G. Sprague, St. Johnsbury, Vt.; Elmer S. Hosmar, Pawtucket, R. I.; A. B. Suesman, Springfield, Mass.; F. W. Broadhead, Salem, Mass.; H. L. Burdick, Providence, R. I.; J. E. McLaughlin, Wollaston, Mass.; J. Elliott, Burlington, Vt.; H. T. Bond, Winchester, Mass.; W. G. Pfeil, Auburn-dale Mass.; J. G. Thorp, Boston; A. L. White, Wollaston, Mass.; P. W. Whittemore, Country Club, Brookline; W. W. Stanley, Great Barrington, Mass.; J. T. McMillan, Essex County, Mass., and G. P. Baldwin, Pittsfield, Mass., and the Bostonians G. H. Crocker, H. H. Wilder, P. Gilbert, Templeton Briggs, G. F. Willett and T. G. Stevenson.

Connecticut may claim a glorious galaxy of golfers, aside from those mentioned in the New England group. C. H. Seely, three times Connecticut champion, is the best player in the section. He did not play much in tournaments during the season, but he cut the Wee Burn record from 70 to 68. R. D. Sanford, of the same club, won the title this year, with Dr. Carl Martin of Fairfield, an earlier holder of the championship, as runner-up. W. K. Shepard of New Haven, while unable to defend the State title he won in 1905, succeeded in winning the first cut at the Apawamis open tournament. Spotswood D. Bowers of Bridgeport won many good matches, and A. C. and W. B. Wheeler of the same city are also prominent. S. J. Graham of Fairfield is also in the first flight. Others who rank high in Connecticut and open golf are Stephen H. Patterson, Bridgeport; R. H. White, 2d, and W. B. Ely, New Haven; H. L. Davis, E. H. Tredennick and F. E. Sands, Meriden; W. W. Pratt, Robert Moore and R. H. Hovey, Hartford; F. W. Doty, Jr., Wee Burn; R. W. and R. D. Cutler, Hartford; C. H. Zimmerman, New Haven; R. C. Carroll, Fairfield, and R. S. Sprott, Bridgeport.

There is an increase of tournament golf to be noted at Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington, where the winter players always include many celebrities of political life and of the diplomatic service. The leading players of the three cities form a staunch division and include F. Oden Horstman, H. W. Perrin, A. W. Tillinghast, H. B. Macfarland, W. P. Smith, R. E. Griscom, W. T. West, Dr. L. L. Harban, S. W. Sargent, a promising junior; E. A. Service, J. D. Reynolds, Jr., W. Holland, D. F. Mallory, E. H. Bankard, Jr., who made a good impression in the national amateur; G. A. Crump and Dr. Simon Carr.

To return to the West, Walter E. Egan retained his place in the game by several fine performances, while new and old names often at the head of the tournament records were of Ardo

Mitchell of Rock Island; Sprague Abbott, Omaha; D. P. Fredricks, Oil City; George A. Ormiston, Pittsburgh; A. B. Lambert, W. A. and S. G. Stickney, St. Louis; Walter Fairbanks, Denver; G. F. Clingman, Jr., R. E. Hunter and O. W. Potter, Jr., Chicago, and R. McKittrick, St. Louis.

A group of players from points far apart to gain distinction is made up of Leigh Carroll and Nelson Whitney of New Orleans; C. T. Jaffrey, Minneapolis; F. W. McCartney, Denver; George McMein, Quincy, Ill.; Gurney T. Curtiss, Rochester; R. J. Baldwin, Wilmington, and Robert Wier of the same city, who won the open tournament at the Country Club of Lakewood in the fall from some of the best of the New York set.

The fame of the Metropolitan players has been blazoned on so many trophies, at home and faraway links, that the successes of A. L. White of Boston at the Lakewood spring tournament and of Wier in the fall may only be regarded as of casual note. The New Yorkers have won enough abroad in the season to wipe out these two defeats on home links, and also to banish the memory of W. K. Shepherd's win at the Apawamis open tournament. Mention may be made for their good performances of Archibald Graham, the New Jersey champion; John M. Ward, H. J. Gee, Dwight Partridge, James G. Batterson, C. J. Sullivan, Archibald Reid, James M. Rhett, James D. Foot, T. M. Sherman, Robert Abbott, D. H. Barrows, C. W. O'Connor, F. D. Reynolds, Arthur McAleenan, F. W. Kendall, Gilman P. Tiffany, who won the Hudson River Golf Association championship for the third year; C. A. Dunning, H. H. Swords, Harold Sands, C. B. Macdonald, H. B. Hollins, Jr., and George T. Brokaw.

There was a revival in golfing by women at Newport, where the game had languished for some seasons, with an increase of players and a better organization among the women players who had remained constant to the game. A result was the first of an annual series of matches between the women's golf associations of the West and East, which the latter team won, and a successful tour in Canada by the Western women. The Women's Eastern Golf Association held its first tournament at the Nassau Country Club, the innovation being tried of a championship entirely at medal play, Miss F. C. Osgood of Boston being the winner. Mrs. C. L. Dering of Midlothian won the Women's Western Golf Association championship for the second year. The women's national title passed to Miss Harriot Curtis of Boston, who won by well-balanced golf. Philadelphia's team, for the first time in the years of the contest, defeated the Metropolitan and Boston teams for the intercity cup.

In professional golf it was Aleck Smith's harvest year. He had to overcome the strongest rivalry ever arrayed against a winner, yet Smith captured the national open, Western open, in which John Hobens was runner-up, and the Eastern Professional Golfers' Association championship, a new fixture. Besides, Smith won several open tournaments, although at match play he lost to Will Anderson and Bernard Nicholls on occasions. The one championship Aleck Smith missed was the Metropolitan open, in which he was runner-up to George Low.

A matter of importance decided at the annual meeting of the United States Golf Association was that notices of the clubs to apply for the championships of 1908 shall be sent out in December with the call for the annual meeting.

Regarding team matches, the Western Golf Association won the Olympic cup, beating at medal play the picked fours from the Western Pennsylvania, St. Louis, Missouri, Trans-Mississippi, Nebraska, Ohio and Southern Golf Associations. In the intercity play for the Lesley cup, the Metropolitan team won for the second year from the Philadelphia and Boston teams.