

## The Game on the Pacific Coast

By G. O. WEST

Following the decision of the Northern California Golf Association to restrict its sectional championship to "home folks," there have been numerous queries as to whether the annual State event at Del Monte would be changed. This writer thinks there is no likelihood whatever of the State Championship eliminating its invitational character. The California State Championship has grown to be a Coast event. If restricted within the boundaries of California, it would lose half its attraction. Take last year for example: the strong invading force from the Pacific Northwest consisting of Chandler Egan, Bon Stein, Chuck Hunter, and Frank Dolp put the Del Monte meeting on the highest golfing plane of its history. Interest was further sharpened by the arrival of Francis Brown and Charlie Chung from the Hawaiian Islands. Chandler Egan won the qualifying round and Dolp was barely defeated by Von Elm in the finals. There were two Northerners and two Californians in the semi-finals. Visitors always have a fine time at Del Monte and Californians are always delighted to have them play in the championship. This is the occasion when the sectional champions of the Golden State assemble and say to the rest of the world: "Here we are! Come on and see if you can take our title."

The Oregon State championship brought forth some high class golf and spectacular matches. Frank Dolp of the Alderwood Club of Portland won the title after two gruelling matches in the semis and the finals. It was believed that his match in the semi-finals with Don Moe could not be beaten for tenseness and thrills or for almost perfect golf; but when Dolp met Willing in the finals, the contest proved just as spectacular and was just as much in doubt up to the last putt as the Moe match had been. Dr. Willing was the medalist with 144. The Open title was captured by B. Wilde of Bellingham with a card of 285 for the seventy-two holes. John Junor of Portland missed a short putt which, had he holed it, would have given him the same score. Dr. Willing had 288 and Dolp 290.

No major tournament has been played in California among the amateurs in the last few weeks. Club championships are being contested in nearly every section. At this writing Oscar Morgan has just succeeded Frank Kales as club champion of Claremont and George W. Nickel retained his title at the Burlingame Club. The annual professional match play championship of Northern California resulted in a win for Harold Sampson of the Burlingame Club. By steady golf and superior headwork he defeated Abe Espinosa 2 and 1.

Golf circles were interested early in the month by the opening of the new California Golf Club a few miles farther down the Peninsula from its former location at Ingleside. Hundreds took advantage of the two visiting days to inspect the course laid out by Captain A. Vernon Macan and the beautiful new Colonial club house. An inauguration tournament was held in which the first ball was driven by President W. H. Taylor.

The opening of the Monterey Peninsula Country Club occurs on the 4th of July. Its eighteen hole course, the third around Monterey, has nine inland holes and nine holes among the sand dunes bordering the Pacific Ocean. The club house is a triumph of Spanish architecture.

By the end of the month the 1926 champions of the Pacific Northwest will have been acclaimed at Spokane where the Spokane Country Club has been lengthened and improved for the event. Chandler Egan has the amateur title and Jack Heuston the Open.