

# Amid the Antiquity of Rome

By RAMSEY HEBERHART

**W**HEN, wellnigh nineteen centuries ago, Claudius completed the Aqua Claudia which Caligula had begun he no more dreamed that men and women would one day be driving a little white ball over the ground within sight of this great aqueduct of Rome than did the volcanic hills whereon the sacred city stood. Games there were, but they were on a grandly spectacular scale the like of which will never be the lot of golf. Yet to-day what remains of the Aqua Claudia looks out on golfers—British, American and Italian—walking joyously in footprints of Roman history the while they play a game called "ancient" although young as compared with the city which was founded by Rom-



**HENRY P. FLETCHER**  
The American Ambassador



**SIR RONALD GRAHAM**  
The British Ambassador

locker house now. The club house, set off agreeably by evergreens, is modest in character but it serves all the present needs of the three-nation membership. Certainly it is important enough socially to be a distinct factor in the life of the Eternal City. The location at Aqua Santa, where the warm sulphur waters flow, is a very convenient one; on the Via Appia Nuova, it is only two miles from the Porta San Giovanni—the gate near the Church of St. John Lateran, which every tourist visits as a previous privilege. All the entertaining there is along delightfully informal lines.

Both Henry P. Fletcher, the American Ambassador, and Sir Ronald Graham, the British Ambassador, have been among



## WITH THE RUINS OF THE GREAT AQUA CLAUDIA BEARING MUTE WITNESS TO THE GLORY OF ANCIENT ROME

Lady Sibyl Graham is putting the while her husband, the British Ambassador, looks on; Henry P. Fletcher is coming up and his partner, the Marchesa de la Gandara, is marking her score

ulus on the Palatine Mount.

Thus golf on the eighteen-hole course of the Rome Golf Club is in surroundings surpassing in historical interest all other surroundings of the game. Not only does the long line of the Aqua Claudia stretch away in the picture but one is playing on the very Campagna and hard by, to the right, is the old Appian Way. Nor is that all; the faraway dome of St. Peter's looms large, Tivoli and Frascati may be discerned on the Alban Hills and if the atmosphere is particularly clear the snowy summits of the Appennines will show above the horizon.

For its gathering place the Rome Golf Club has taken one of the old farm houses. Or rather it has taken two of them in turn, the first one being the



**PRINCE DI FAUSTINO**  
Who married Miss Katherine Sage



**DONNA ANGELA LANTE**  
A well-known figure in Roman society

the players most frequently in evidence on Rome's sporty course of the stone ruins and the stone pines. They have led the American and British wings of the membership while, to round out the cosmopolitan character of the club, they have had the cooperation of representatives of the Roman aristocracy and other Italians of prominence. Mr. Franklin Mott Gunther, when he was counselor of the American Embassy, and Mrs. Gunther were on the course a great deal. Among the many others I have seen there are Prince Ranieri di San Faustino, whose mother is the former Miss Jane Campbell, Princess Dora Odescalchi, the Duchess of Sermoneta, Miss Margaret Kahn and Dr. Alfred T. Webb.