

### Current Comment

The new executive committee of the Metropolitan Golf Association met a few days after election and proceeded to arrange the 1928 schedule, including five new events. The Metropolitan Open championship will be played at the Shackamaxon Club, Westfield, N. J., July 12, 13 and 14. The Metropolitan Amateur championship will be played at the Fenimore Country Club in White Plains on June 13-16. The Junior championship will be played at the Wheatley Hills Golf Club, East Williston, L. I., June 27-29. The Caddie and Caddie-Masters' tournament will be played at Westchester Hills on August 27.

The Lesley Cup matches considered by Walter Z. Shafer, President of the Metropolitan Association, as the highest quality golf tournament to be played in the Metropolitan District next year, will be played at the Winged Foot Golf Club, October 5 and 6. Selected teams from Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Canada and the Metropolitan District will play for the cup. The Metropolitan Seniors, a new championship, will be held at the Garden City Golf Club, June 5-6.

Six one-day tournaments to be played on a handicap basis, the first test of the new idea to rate all players in the Metropolitan District up to 25, promise to be very popular affairs. These tournaments are scheduled as follows: Canoe Brook, Summit, N. J.; Baltusrol, Short Hills, N. J.; St. Albans, L. I.; Lido C. C., Long Beach, L. I.; Rockwood Hall, Tarrytown, N. Y.; and Oak Ridge, Tuckahoe, N. Y. By this division two of the tournaments go to each of the three divisions of the Metropolitan Association — Westchester, Long Island and New Jersey. The schedule and the snappy way it was arranged and handled should prove an inspiration for district associations throughout the country.

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Leo Diegel won the San Diego tournament, the first of the big-purse California series. Many admirers of Leo will be happy to know that he has again started to break through the line of the stars and win an important tournament. He has been of late much in the same position that Bobby Cruickshank was for a long time—just nosed out by a stroke. When the breaks came Bobby's way he gathered in a lot of titles—and what goes with them. Then Johnny Farrell struck his stride to the despair of a number of fine fields.

Tommy Armour looked as though he was going to have a winning streak after his great performance at the Open, but Diegel beat him by nine strokes when he led the field at San Diego, in the first of the California winter tournaments. Three outstanding features of the San Diego tournament are that it may mark the coming of Diegel's day; second, that Horton Smith of Springfield, Mo., tied Bobby Cruickshank for second place; and, third, that Horton Smith was driving with the best of the stars—and longer than some—with a short-back swing. The tale of the tourna-



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To be played for by a league of inter-city teams in Florida

ment is summarized in the following ten scores: Leo Diegel, 67, 72, 75—214; Bobby Cruickshank, 71, 71, 74—216; Horton Smith, 70, 71, 75—216; Billy Burke, 69, 73, 76—218; Ed. Dudley, 69, 78, 74—221; Al. Espinosa, 72, 75, 74—221; Frank Walsh, 74, 75, 73—222; Mortie Dutra, 69, 77, 76—222; Tommy Armour, 77, 75, 71—223; Larry Nabholz, 73, 74, 76—223.

Page the Seniors! Here's something that will make the junior duffers sit up and take notice: The new champion of Mexico is Claude M. Butlin, a 54-year-old golfer who won the title by defeating Percy Clifford, aged 20, by 4 up and 3 to play! Clifford had put out his opponent in the semi-finals by playing four strokes under par! Since we paged the Seniors to tell them this news, we might take up another matter. Mr. J. Lewis Bumgardner, a West Virginian gentleman who took up golf at 55 and thinks nothing of playing the No. 1 course at White Sulphur in the 70's has asked why there isn't a National Open Seniors event, similar to the Juniors, held in this country. While there is a wonderful annual tournament of Seniors held each year, it is not open to all Seniors, as the membership of the National Seniors is limited, and it has a long waiting list. In fact, it is a great honor to hold membership in the Association. The idea is to hold a national event, for the Open title, in which all State Senior Associations could have their low handicap mem-

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bers participate. Wouldn't such a tournament be a great event?

With the wonderful array of new officials at the helms of the major golf associations smooth sailing should mark their paths for 1928. The latest reports of the nominating committee for the U. S. C. A. indicate that Melvin A. Traylor of Chicago is to be the new President of the U. S. G. A. for the coming year. That such a fine representation of both national and western golf has been selected is generally approved. Mr. Traylor has had long experience in the presidential chair in both golf and business, and is the president of the American Bankers' Association and president of the First National Bank of Chicago.

The election of Robert M. Cutting to the presidency of the Western Golf Association puts the affairs of that association in good hands. His election is discussed by our Chicago correspondent in this issue.

The greatest turn-out of membership in the history of the Metropolitan Golf Association paid homage to Walter Z. Shafer after his unanimous election to the presidency of the M. G. A., and that live wire proceeded at once to submit new ideas. The first



**MR. LOUIS LANCASTER**

**President of Florida Golf League, composed of teams representing various cities, and donor of the Lancaster Trophy. The State Golf League idea is one destined to become popular**

one which was well received as a suggestion was that instead of listing less than 2% of membership with small handicaps, this number could be greatly augmented by the additional listing of members with handicaps up to 25. Another good idea is to issue an identification card with M. G. A. handicap ratings at \$1.00 each—such a card will be of great assistance to members of the Metropolitan Club playing with members of outside clubs and entering invitation tournaments. Another plan is to greatly increase the number of one-day tournaments under the auspices of the association. The indications are that the Metropolitan Association is to have about the greatest year in its history.

The Long Island Association has elected that sterling golfer, Gardner W. White of Nassau, formerly Metropolitan golf champion, to guide its destinies for 1928, and an interesting year is in store for the Long Island Association.

The New Jersey Golf Association at a meeting at the Vale Club elected Stacey Bender of Shackamaxou as president. Mr. Bender is another energetic golfer with good ideas and the ability to carry them out.