

Golf on the Coast

By G. O. WEST

The selection of Everett H. Seaver of the Los Angeles Country Club as president of the Southern California Golf Association was somewhat of a surprise. Campaigning on the part of various factions reached real political heat as the election approached. Inasmuch as the Los Angeles Country Club has dominated golf in the South for over twenty years in the personage of the late Edward B. Tufts, there was a strong effort to have some other community represented in Tufts' successor. Other officials named were Norman Macbeth, Wilshire Country Club, first vice-president; Judge Lewis R. Works, Brentwood Country Club, second vice-president; Roy Pickford, San Diego Country Club, third vice-president; Chester Lyday, Rancho Golf Club, secretary-treasurer. The board of directors comprises such well-known leaders in golf as Arthur K. Bourne of Annandale; Peter Cooper Bryce, Santa Barbara; W. W. Campbell, Bel Air, Los Angeles, and Herman Politz, Hillcrest. The new president is a good golf player in addition to being a good golf leader. He has been Southern California champion and before coming to the Coast was Trans-Mississippi champion.

The writer has talked with leading golfers from all sections of the coast since Pebble Beach was selected by the U.S.G.A. for the 1929 National Amateur and he finds the election universally popular. All agree that the scenic links along Carmel Bay can be put into satisfactory championship condition with the expenditure of even a less amount than the Del Monte Properties Company has already agreed to expend. Nearly every one has declared that the second nine with the exception of adding a trap or two, could hardly be improved. The reconstruction of the course for the championship is in the hands of the following committee: Robert Hunter, Chandler Egan and Roger Lapham, the latter acting as chairman. Robert Hunter of Pebble Beach and his associate Dr. A. Mackenzie of England are also designers of the Cypress Point course a few miles from Pebble Beach.

Dr. C. H. Walter of the Castlewood Country Club, sixty years of age and getting to be a better golfer every day, won the Annual Northern California Senior championship in November. The event was held at the San Francisco Golf Club. His total for thirty-six holes over a somewhat heavy course, due to rains, was 165. This was one stroke better than Dr. A. D. Hines of San Jose and Edwin M. Eddy of San Francisco. Robert Hunter, winner for the past two years, was in fourth place with 167. Over sixty players between the ages of fifty and seventy participated.

Although the Chinese temperament is declared to be a better one for golf than the high-strung characteristics of the Japanese, the Chinese are slow in

taking up the game. That they are proficient is proven by the remarkable game played by Charlie Chung, the only Chinese professional that we know of. The Japanese, however, are taking up the game in all sections of the Pacific Coast and have recently organized a Japanese Golf Club in Los Angeles. The membership of more than fifty have no course of their own but participate in week-end tournaments at the Griffith Park Municipal course. Officers of the club have made it a point to instill the ethics and manners of the game into their players and it is stated that no golfers exceed and few equal the conduct of the Japanese players in regard to the courtesies and etiquette of the game.

It is interesting that the professional tournaments this winter in California are all to be held in the South. Last year there were events at Sacramento, San Jose and Del Monte. None of these are being repeated, but in the South the annual Los Angeles \$10,000 event and the Long Beach \$2500 event were amplified this year by several others. San Diego entered the circuit with a \$2500 purse. This was the first of the series, being held December 17-18. On December 20 there was an open tournament at La Jolla for \$1500. It was a thirty-six hole medal event, played all in one day. San Gabriel Country Club staged an eighteen hole medal round with an \$800 purse. Palos Verdes Country Club was a new comer. This club hung up a purse of \$2500 and staged a seventy-two hole medal tournament on December 29-31. Then will follow the Los Angeles Open January 6-7-8 with \$3500 for first money. In the past, the Long Beach Open has preceded the Los Angeles event. This year,

however, it has been switched to the following week. The dates are January 13-14-15. One of the four rounds will be played at the Long Beach Municipal course, which is said to be the equal of most private layouts. The other three rounds will be played at the Virginia Country Club. As far as is known at the present time, this will complete the schedule.

It was a great disappointment to the visiting professionals that no event was arranged for them in Central California. Several of them visited the Bay Region for a week or so and a number of interesting private competitions were held. Golfdom in and around San Francisco, however, has never responded to efforts in behalf of exhibition tournaments. Bobby Cruickshank and Tommy Armour played some wonderful golf over San Francisco's best links. Perhaps the outstanding accomplishment was Cruickshank's 68 over the San Francisco Golf Club's championship layout. This broke all records for the course, the difficulties of which can be understood from the fact that par 72 has never been equalled in tournament competition.



EVERETT H. SEAVER
The new president of the Southern California Golf Association