



THREE FORMER NATIONAL CHAMPIONS
Chandler Egan, 1904-05; George Von Elm, 1926; H. J. Whigham, 1896-7

Golf on the Coast

By G. O. WEST

A quartette of Oregon goiters recently came down out of the North and defeated the best four-man team California could put into the field at that time. The matches were played over the Pebble Beach course, thirty-six holes foursomes and thirty-six holes singles. The home team was handicapped by the absence of Johnnie McHugh, California champion, who is playing golf along the shores of the Mediterranean.

The invaders were Chandler Egan, Dr. O. F. Willing, Rudie Wilhelm and Frank Dolp, a pretty formidable group you will admit. Representing California were George Von Elm, Dr. Paul Hunter, Jack Neville and George Ritchie. George Ritchie, who would not have been chosen had McHugh been at home, turned in an excellent two days' work and proved his right to the position given him in the Fairway's Annual Rating of Pacific Coast Golfers. The Fairway gave him twelfth place by virtue of his winning the 1927 Northern California championship. Ritchie, paired with Von Elm in the foursomes, had little chance to shine as Von Elm was making the most of the opportunity, but toward the end of the day when Von Elm faltered somewhat, Ritchie came through to clinch the victory; the score was 4 and 2. Chandler Egan and Rudie Wilhelm routed Dr. Paul Hunter and Jack Neville, which left the first day's score even. In the singles Chandler Egan defeated George Von Elm 2 and 1; George Ritchie defeated Frank Dolp 3 and 2; Rudie Wilhelm defeated Dr. Paul Hunter 3 and 2 and Jack Neville held Dr. Willing to a tie. Final score Oregon 3½—California 2½.

It was decided to make the Oregon-California contest an annual one, the venue of the trials to alternate between the two states. The matches had a large following—many having accompanied the team from Oregon, and a large gallery came from San Francisco.

Two important elections were held in January, the California Golf Association and the Northern California Golf Association. The officers of the State organization are as follows: President, Dr. Paul Hunter, Annandale Golf Club; first vice-president, Roger D. Lapham, San Francisco Golf Club; second vice-president, Norman Macbeth, Wilshire Country Club; sec-

retary-treasurer, Chester S. Lyday, Los Angeles Country Club. Directors: Edwin M. Eddy, San Francisco Golf Club; James A. Mackenzie, San Jose Country Club; George W. Nickel, Burlingame Country Club; Robin I. Skelly, Riverside Country Club; Everett H. Seaver, Los Angeles Country Club. The state amateur championship will be held at Del Monte September 3-10.

Edwin M. Eddy was elected to the presidency of the Northern California Golf Association. He is a member of the San Francisco Golf Club, and has been long and favorably identified with the game in the Bay district. First-vice-president is K. C. Mooers of Sacramento; second vice-president, R. M. Eyre, San Francisco; secretary-treasurer, R. B. Carter of Menlo Country Club. Directors: L. S. Ackerman, Vernon S. Hardy, G. W. Leistner, Roger D. Lapham, George W. Nickel, L. C. Stewart, A. V. Thompson.

In his retiring speech Mr. Hardy, the 1927 president, brought forth one of the most constructive considerations the association has ever had before it. Every member of the association—about 15,000—shall pay into the organization, according to Mr. Hardy, one dollar per year to create a fund for the general good of golf in the district. This is only one golf ball a year, he reminded his hearers, but the total would enable the association to do great good. He particularly wished to see funds in the treasury so that a study of grasses and irrigation of golf courses might be made by the University of California experts. He reported that the University was willing to take up this work but was unable to call on State funds for the purpose. Therefore, argued Mr. Hardy, the Northern California Golf Association could do no more constructive act than to finance this valuable research period. Delegates to the meeting thereupon divided a two class membership of the organization. All clubs whose members contributed a dollar apiece per year were to belong to Class A, and those clubs who did not make this donation were to be known as Class B clubs. Both classes of clubs are on equality as far as the conduct of the association's affairs are concerned but only the A clubs will participate in any benefits resulting from the

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funds to which they have contributed. Two distinguished golfing personalities have been visiting the Pacific Coast; H. J. Whigham and Mrs. Miriam Burns Horn, present Women's champion of the United States. Mr. Whigham was the second National champion of this country, winning the title in 1896 and 1897. Our first National champion was Charles B. McDonald, who captured the event in 1895. Mr. Whigham was an interested spectator of the California-Oregon team matches at Pebble Beach. He still plays a strong game himself.