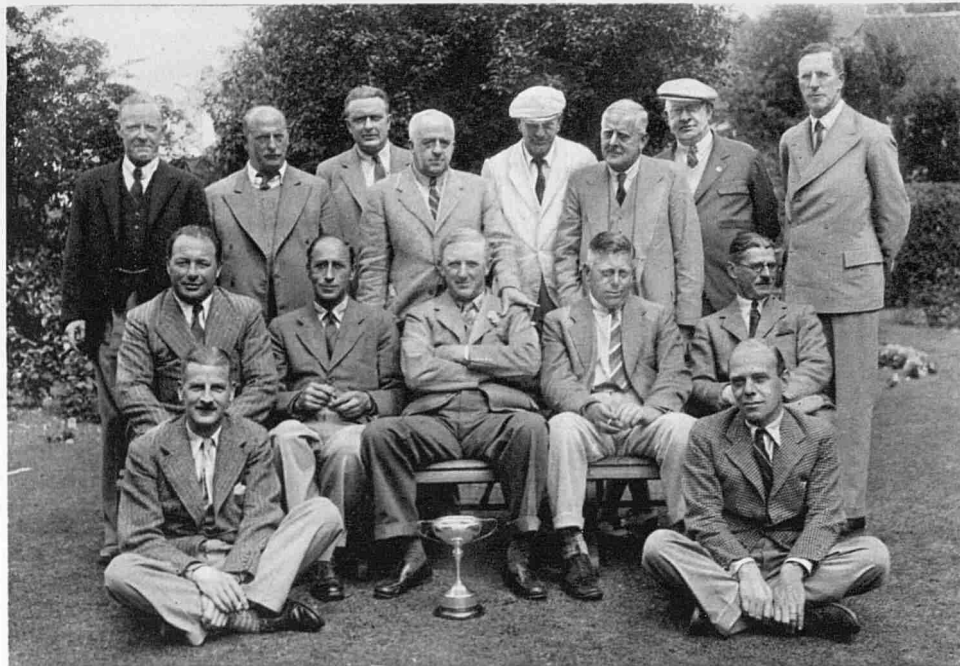


# J. S. F. Morrison on Golf

## The German Amateur Champion



*An English Golf Union Galaxy*

*Woodhall Spa Golf Club invited members of the E.G.U. and county secretaries for a week-end's golf in Lincolnshire, where this group was taken: (standing) Colonel C. A. James (Carlisle), Colonel S. V. Hotchkin (Woodhall Spa), Mr. J. M. Robison (Woodhall Spa), Major Whitley Lavarack, secretary E.G.U., Mr. R. H. de Montmorency (Sunningdale), vice-president E.G.U., Mr. F. A. M. Vincent (Moor Park), Mr. T. M. Wheat, secretary Lincs. Union. (Seated) Mr. W. M. B. Burridge (Chippenham), Mr. K. Stoker (Royal Liverpool), Major P. C. Burton (Brookman's Park), president E.G.U., Mr. A. Gordon Jones (Beauesert), Mr. A. R. Lovelock (Moor Park). (Front) Mr. E. Elias (Staffs), captain, Mr. H. M. Wardrop, secretary Woodhall Spa Golf Club*

I WAS pleased to read of Henry Longhurst's success in the German Amateur Championship, which was played this year over the course of the Country Club at Berlin-Wannsee. No one except Englishmen and Scotsmen has won this Championship since the war. The first German Amateur Championship was played in 1913 and owing to the war the next was not played until 1927. Scotsmen were victorious from 1927 to 1931, since when it has always been won by Englishmen.

Longhurst won very easily, as can be seen from the fact that in the majority of his matches he was not required to play the last six holes. As Longhurst reports golf for an evening paper, it is nearly impossible for him to play in golf meetings about which he has to write. If you write for a morning paper it is quite possible, if you are an energetic person, to play as well as write; but you will find it nearly impossible, if your reports have to appear in the various editions of an evening paper. Consequently, Longhurst gets little time for playing the game but he is a great student of it and well versed in all the different theories which are propounded by the professionals. It is, therefore, greatly to his credit that he can make periodical appearances on the golf-course, with little practice, and hold his own with the leading players who are in practice.

Longhurst calls himself an average golfer, but I am sure that he is very much better than that and I have little doubt if he had more time to play and practise he would be very near the top of the lists of the competitors in the more important competitions.

As a foursome partner, he can be relied upon always to do something which many reputed better golfers do not regularly do—namely, to play the average shot in a crisis, when everything depends on it and when only an average shot is required for victory. So many golfers, including some of our leading amateurs, when they are faced with a critical shot on the result of which depends the fate of their side, play an extremely bad one when an average or reasonably good one would make victory certain.

Longhurst says that by copying Cotton and curtailing his back-swing he has improved his golf by about three shots a round, and I do hope he is telling the truth, as he has been my partner for the last few years in the Halford Hewitt Cup competition and may be again, if I am not removed from the selection committee of the Old Carthusian team. In the Halford Hewitt Cup competition this year I felt sure he must be an improved player, as he wished to drive at the even holes.

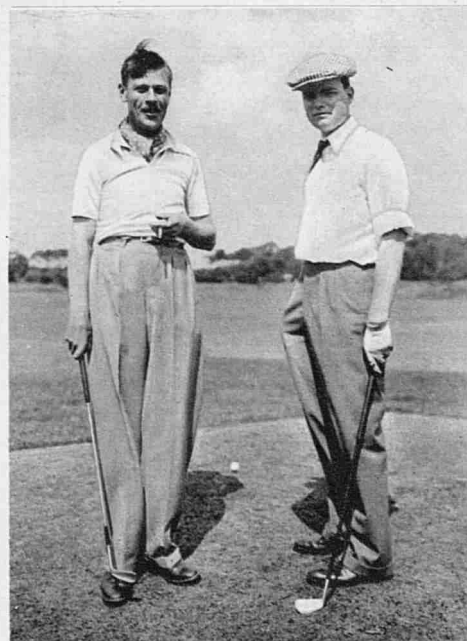
IT is rather an extraordinary thing that at Deal, if in a foursome you drive at the odd holes, you seldom—provided your partner plays to about 4 handicap L.G.U.—get anything but a straightforward shot to play. But if you drive the even holes you are continually faced with very difficult second shots and have to play the tee shots at all the short holes. There is, however, one great disadvantage in driving at the odd holes at Deal: it is that you have a long walk to the first tee, and in the afternoon you have to bolt your coffee while your partner can sit comfortably in the club-house and enjoy a

second cup of coffee, if he so desires, until you have actually driven.

The month of August is a most unsuitable time for the playing of the game of golf unless you are fortunate enough to be on holiday at the seaside, where there is nearly always a slight breeze. At this time of year it is usually too hot to play on inland courses, and whenever you visit long grass or heather you disturb large numbers of flies and insects which, as a rule, appear to be extremely hungry. You could, however, formerly get a lot of fun at this time of year, and some interesting golf, by playing in the Continental championships. This year, however, both the German and Belgian Championships were played in July, and unfortunately for those who wished to play in the various Continental championships, the French and German clashed.

THE Oxford and Cambridge Golfing Society is holding a dinner on October 8th at the Savoy Hotel, London. The idea of this dinner, which is excellent, is to entertain and return hospitality to representatives of the many clubs who have so generously entertained this Society in the past. The clubs which have been asked to send representatives include most of the leading clubs in England, Scotland, and Ireland, and among them are four of the five clubs on whose courses the Amateur and the Open Championships are regularly played. It is not only, however, the famous clubs of substance who have entertained the Society: in the list can be found the names of small clubs whose members have shown just as generous hospitality as the members of more prosperous and influential clubs.

Since the war, the Society has supplied the winners of six of the seventeen amateur championships which have been played; this is certainly a very good record when you realise that this championship has been won on four occasions by Americans. As members of the Society are permitted to bring guests in addition to the official guests it appears certain that a very large majority of the best and most distinguished people in the golfing world will be present.



*On the Le Touquet Course*

*Mr. John Lithiby beat Mr. Charles Sweeney after a close match in the Clive Burn tournament first round at Le Touquet; there was £1300 in the pool*