



THE GOLFER

By "Follow Through."

THE English Golf Union have much of which they may be justly proud. They have most loyally supported their parent body, the Royal and Ancient, in most tiresome matters regarding scratch scores and national handicaps; they have encouraged the young and hopeful by providing a new championship; and they have made many of us interested in team selection by providing a new international match. But honest as their intentions may be, they have made enemies. Two days before the English Close Amateur Championship was begun at Hoylake, one of the very most distinguished of amateur golfers that ever lived said to me that he thought that there were far too many championships. In his day, he said, there was the amateur championship, there was the open championship, there were gold medals or vases to be won at St. Andrews, Hoylake, or Sandwich, that were well worth the winning, but apart from that the game was enjoyable rather than testing. He could not understand the *raison d'être* of championships of Surrey, Sussex, Yorkshire, or even of England, when all considerable golfers should be content to show their paces in one, two, or, at the most, three meetings in the year. His point of view sounded well enough until one suggested that he was talking of days when good golfers were scarce, when the big meetings lay between a few, and when the young were not encouraged, as they are now, to devote their spare time to the game. What chance does a promising young golfer who is a member of a humble and comparatively unknown golf club stand of developing his game unless local, or, even better, international tournaments, are encouraged? He may win the monthly medal, month after month, with the most excellent scores, but he has a feeling that he is not learning any more about the game than he already knew when he joined the club. Give him some district, some local, some county competitions; let him meet some older, even if not stronger, players; and he will, or should, become a good as well as a successful player. Therefore the first English Close Amateur Championship is to be commended, though it would seem this year to have attracted more bad than good players. The entry was frankly disappointing, and the team chosen to play for England against the combined strength of Ireland and Wales was but a shadow of England's true worth. The combined team, too, suffered terribly from the absence of Major Hezlet, and it seemed that some re-

gular players on Welsh courses were unduly passed over. That there are many very good golfers unknown to the general public was shown in the foursomes of this international match, particularly when one saw Mr. J. E. Hassall and Mr. M. S. Walker, two golfers of

difficult to raise a team to represent Ireland and Wales in an international match before a championship in which many of their players can have had no personal interest. It is interesting to note that Mr. G. C. Stokoe, who played at the top of the team for Ireland and

Wales, took part in the English trial match at Walton Heath last year, and that his partner, Mr. David Brown, who filled Major Hezlet's place, is wholly and completely a Hoylake golfer, even though he is entered from Chester, which is difficult to find in a map of either Ireland or Wales. Mr. W. A. Powell, who scarcely did himself justice in the international trial match at Little Aston, more than carried his weight in this game at Hoylake, and must have made some of his detractors reconsider their opinions. Mr. Powell is one of the most amazing golfers you can see. He certainly has a tremendous lurch of the body, and he glories in it, so much so that golfers to whom he can quite easily give nine strokes have offered him a start of two holes up; but there is no amateur in this country who can hit the ball straighter and further than he can, and his full shot with the straight-faced iron—the most difficult stroke of all—is very nearly as good as a professional's. Add to this that he is a very good putter, and it is not difficult to understand why the selection committee persist in picking him to play in representative teams. The disappointment in the English team was Mr. Hassall who, judged by the standard which he sets when playing on Hoylake in a friendly match, should be as good as the best. Possibly his temperament

for important match play, though it would appear to be confident, is not of the best, and he has yet to fulfil the very high opinions of which many, including the writer of these notes, have formed of him. Mr. M. S. Walker, another of the post-war hopefuls from Hoylake, of which Mr. T. F. Ellison was undoubtedly the most promising, played remarkably low in the English team in the singles, but he has plenty of opportunities yet to come, and he may be safely marked down as a man to watch. That I should have talked so much of the English players and so little of the Irish and Welsh players I must beg to be excused, but the English side was so obviously a better and a more interesting team, and one can do no more than applaud the Irishmen and Welshmen for their sportsmanship in providing such an entertaining match, and, incidentally, showing up one or two of the reputed players on the English side.



JACQUELINE MAKES A START: GEORGES CARPENTIER, DURING HIS LONG REST FROM "LA BOXE," INITIATES HIS LITTLE DAUGHTER JACQUELINE INTO THE MYSTERIES OF "LE GOLF" AT LE TOUQUET.

great reputation at Hoylake, beaten by Mr. J. A. Chapman, of Newport, and Mr. R. M. McConnell, of Royal Portrush. Mr. Noel Layton and Mr. W. L. Hartley, also, one would consider to be a very strong combination, for both have been in a winning team in the London foursomes, but they were outrageously beaten at Hoylake by Mr. H. R. Howell, of Glamorgan, and Mr. C. E. L. Fairchild, of Bangor. The result of the match, however, must not be taken too seriously, for it must have been very



LABOUR LEADERS IN "WESTERN BARBARY": MR. RAMSAY MACDONALD AND MR. J. H. THOMAS AT PENZANCE. The other day Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, who was staying with his daughter, Miss Ishbel MacDonald, at the fishing village of St. Ives in North Cornwall, addressed a meeting at Penzance, and took the opportunity of having a round on the Penzance course, where he is here seen with Mr. J. H. Thomas.