

GOLF.

Cheshire Championship at Hoylake.

ARTISAN SUCCESS.

The remarkable success of the artisan golfers from the Wirral district was the feature yesterday of the match play for the Cheshire amateur championship, which is being played over the links of the Royal Liverpool Club at Hoylake. Of the ten artisans who entered seven survived the eliminating test, and three are included in the last eight. The three who remain have played very sound golf. They are members of the West Cheshire Artisans' Club, who are allowed the privilege of playing over the West Cheshire Club course.

N. Sutton, who is barely eighteen years of age, was perhaps the greatest attraction yesterday morning. He had to meet M. White, of Wallasey, who headed the list of qualifiers, and was five up at the turn, and won by three and one. He played steady golf in this match, and in the afternoon, against a fellow club member, J. Sherlock, he was brilliant, taking five for only one hole during the match. His brother William, who is eleven years his senior, had a hard match in the first round against H. A. Kay, a young Wilmslow player. Kay took the lead at the first hole, and then came six halves. Kay was one up at the turn, and still retained this lead until the fifteenth. Sutton went in front for the first time at the sixteenth, and won the match by two up.

Of the past champions G. Tweedale (Wilmslow) went out in the first round, but M. S. Walker (Royal Liverpool) and I. Sidebottom (Stockport) were successful. Sidebottom in the afternoon met a fellow clubman in W. F. Ashbrook, and looked likely to have a short match when he was four up at the seventh. Ashbrook, however, won the eighth and ninth, and took the match to the last green J. E. Hassall, who has twice been the runner-up for the title, was in brilliant form against P. E. Ogden (Wilmslow) in the morning, when he went out in 38, and he had another good win in the afternoon.

David Brown, of the Royal Liverpool Club, who in 1921 was runner-up to C. J. A. Colley for the Welsh open championship, and two years ago was beaten in the final for the county title, still remains, although in the first round he was five down at the eighth to K. Stoker. At the ninth Stoker knocked his opponent's ball into the hole, and that was the turning point of the game. Stoker was stymied at three holes after that, the third time being at the eighteenth, where Brown took the lead. Results:—

FIRST ROUND RESULTS.

- F. R. Hitchmough (Royal Liverpool) beat G. Tweedale (Wilmslow) 2 and 1.
- John Hassall (Bromborough) beat D. E. Ogden (Wilmslow) 3 and 2.
- W. B. Harvie (Royal Liverpool) beat J. M. Fatterson (Gatley) 6 and 5.
- M. S. Walker (Royal Liverpool) beat H. L. Holden (Bowdon) 2 and 1.
- J. Sherlock (West Cheshire Artisans) beat H. Coventry (Wallasey Villagers) 2 and 1.
- N. Sutton (West Cheshire Artisans) beat M. White, Junior (Wallasey) 3 and 1.
- W. F. Ashbrook (Stockport) beat H. B. Crook (Prestbury) 4 and 3.
- I. Sidebottom (Stockport) beat H. D. Porter (Bromborough) 2 and 1.
- W. Louden (West Cheshire Artisans) beat T. J. Wright (West Cheshire Artisans) 2 and 1.
- R. P. Macdonald (Leasowe) beat A. E. Harvie (Royal Liverpool) 7 and 5.
- C. H. Parker (Warrington) beat H. P. Scott (Royal Liverpool) 3 and 2.
- W. Sutton (West Cheshire Artisans) beat H. A. Kay (Wilmslow) 2 up.
- D. Brown (Royal Liverpool) beat K. Stoker (Royal Liverpool) 1 up.
- H. W. Heslop (Bromborough) beat J. Walker (Wallasey Villagers) at the 19th.
- T. E. Cunningham (Royal Liverpool) beat N. A. Robertson (Caldy) 2 and 1.
- A. Macbeth (Sandiway) beat T. N. Sidebottom (Stockport) 3 and 2.

SECOND ROUND.

- Hassall beat Hitchmough 5 and 3.
- Walker beat Harvie 4 and 3.
- N. Sutton beat Sherlock 4 and 3.
- Sidebottom beat Ashbrook 2 up.
- W. Sutton beat Parker 5 and 3.
- Brown beat Heslop 2 and 1.
- Louden beat Macdonald 6 and 4.
- Macbeth beat Cunningham 2 and 1.

Second Division Handicap.—Leading returns:

- E. T. Minshall, Curzon Park (15), 73; Captain Fulford, Heswall (17), 73; N. G. Wright, Boal Liverpool (15), 76; W. Lascelles, Huyton (12), 78; A. A. Johnson, Sale (18), 80; J. S. Maywhort, Congleton (18), 80; J. B. Russell, Timperley, (12), 81; E. Bowyer, Huyton (10), 82; A. M. Lightfoot, Huyton (12), 83; O. Moon, Sale (18), 85.

IMPORTANCE OF PRACTICE

Why the Americans Beat Us.

Percy Alliss, a former Welsh champion, who has recently become professional to a Berlin club, has added another to the long list of books on golf. Most of his chapters deal with the attainment of the true swing, and he points out, as is the fashion nowadays, that our great players in beginning the backward swing move the club a little to the right before the clubhead leaves the ball. **BETTER GOLF** (A. and C. Black, pp. xii, 189, 5s. net) is a book for the beginner or average player rather than the man who has got near to the scratch mark, but the advice on practice can be followed with advantage by anyone. He says:—

Plod steadily along instead of getting impatient for good results, remembering that it is better to make a poor effort in the right way than to throw all orthodoxy to the winds for the sake of slight temporary improvement. If the swing has been made perfect in practice without a ball it only remains to keep the mind on the clubhead for direction and pace when actually playing. There comes a time when the tiresome hours of practice are found worth while by a sudden discovery of the knack of correct timing and hitting.

If any proof were needed of the benefits of thorough practice it could be found across the Atlantic. In 1914 America was behind England in talent, and now she would seem to have overtaken us. Such splendid golfers as Bobby Jones, Hagen, Farrell, and Diegel—to name but a few—have acquired their skill by constant and thorough practice. The American treatment of the game is definitely more scientific than our own, being founded on hard thinking and painstaking care. To bear out this statement I will say that the golf emigrants, Jim Barnes, Jock Hutchinson, Macdonald, and Alex Smith, Tommy Armour, Bobby Cruickshank, and Cyril Walker, would not have become such great players had they stayed at home; five of these have won the highest honours in America.

The British professionals who have crossed the Atlantic at various times have made American golf, and American golf has made them; their employers were not slow to pick their brains, giving in return the advantages of training planned with forethought and deliberation. Writers on the game are often obsessed with the bugbear of "temperament," pointing to Hagen as an example of the ideal golf temperament as against Abe Mitchell. Hagen himself would be the first to admit Mitchell's greatness, and yet the latter cannot win the British open championship. There can be no doubt that temperament does count; Hagen has absolute confidence in himself, born of hours and hours of practice, and any of us who wish to win the big events must acquire the same frame of mind in the same way. If players are to be produced of a calibre to compete with the Americans there must be specialised preparation and thoughtful persistent practice.

Alliss has a few words to say about the fewness of the prominent golfers who have come from Wales—a fewness that is certainly surprising considering the number of good links there are on the coast of Wales. The only criticism that can be advanced against the book is that over thirty pages are used for rules of the game. This is wastefulness, but there is some excuse for printing the etiquette of the game, as there are many players who behave as though such a code does not exist.

YORKSHIRE CHAMPIONSHIP.

A Hole in One.

The distinction of playing a hole in one during a championship was achieved by J. Smith, of Wakefield, who qualified for the final of the Yorkshire amateur championship at Moortown, Leeds, yesterday. He will oppose N. W. Dunn (Doncaster) in the final over 36 holes to-day. There are few recorded instances of a player holing his tee shot in championship golf. Smith achieved this at the sixth hole in the fifth round, and by so doing was able to defeat S. L. Storrow, of Cleveland, by one hole. In the semi-final he had much the better of

his game with G. M. Hirst, Harrogate, and won by seven and five.

Dunn, who has been playing fine golf throughout, had two close matches yesterday. In the fifth round R. Taylor, Crossland Heath, beat J. Uttley, Huddersfield, four and three, and in the semi-final Dunn beat Taylor three and one.

FRENCH CHAMPIONSHIP.

Another Win for Boomer.

PARIS, THURSDAY.

When Aubrey Boomer, the home professional, completed the last of the four rounds which decided the French Open championship at St. Cloud Country Club here to-day he was embraced and cheered by the members of his club, and hailed as a worthy champion of the Republic, and presented with a bouquet. Boomer's last round score was 68, and he beat Abe Mitchell, the British professional, who had led the field for three rounds, by five strokes.

At the end of the first round Boomer was two strokes behind Mitchell. With two rounds played, Mitchell led the field by five strokes, but to-day the Jersey professional returned a card of 68 in the morning, and was still three strokes behind Mitchell. Then, to prove that it was no fluke in the morning, he had another 68, and made his aggregate the lowest ever returned in the championship which has been decided since 1906.

Surprising as it may seem, Boomer made some serious errors in his first round to-day. He was in the rough at the fifteenth hole, and took two to get out, and his putt for 67 stopped on the lip of the hole on the last green. Even with these mistakes he came home in 32. His golf in the afternoon was machine-like in its accuracy, and meanwhile Mitchell was dropping further and further behind with his worst round of the championship. As Mitchell had not exceeded 70 for three rounds, his scores being 70, 69, and 70, it seemed that he must at last win a national championship, but before ten holes had been played he was struggling against defeat. He wasted many strokes on the greens, and for the first nine holes his score was 38. He left the fairway with a pulled drive at the tenth, his ball finishing in a wood, and he took four to reach the green. When he came to the seventeenth, he sent his drive into a bunker and used another stroke, and to complete the story took three putts on the last green. Scores:—

	1st.	2nd.	3rd.	4th.	Agts.
A. Boomer (St. Cloud, Paris)	72	72	68	68	280
A. Mitchell (Warrington)	70	69	70	76	285
G. Duncan (Warrington)	80	72	71	68	291
E. Lofthouse (Biarritz)	74	72	77	72	295
E. Lofthouse (Biarritz)	76	73	75	74	296
R. G. Morrison (Rome)	77	75	75	74	296
A. Massey (Neville)	75	78	74	75	302
R. Gollas (Ormeau)	76	73	77	76	302
J. Gassiat (Chantilly)	75	79	74	75	303
T. Howard (Australia)	79	76	73	75	303
J. B. Loth (Evian)	74	83	75	73	305
J. Hiriogoyen (Biarritz)	78	74	75	79	306

P. Boomer (St. Cloud), 307; M. Carolo (La Bouille), 307; J. Orange (St. Germain), 308; C. H. Corlett (Dorset), 310; D. Souby (St. Anne's Old), 312; M. Earlmagne (St. Germain), 312; J. Jurado (Argentina), 314; A. H. Read (Sunningdale), 315; G. Chintrea (Sable, D'Or), 316; Comte de Montgomery (St. Cloud), 318.

AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, THURSDAY.

W. Melhorn (New York) set a fast pace during the first of the two eliminating rounds of the American open championship here to-day with a record score of 68—four under par. R. T. ("Bobby") Jones, the British open champion, was only two strokes behind Melhorn.

WEASTELL AGAIN WELSH CHAMPION.

B. S. Weastell, of Colwyn Bay, yesterday regained the professional championship of Wales, which he lost last year. He returned a score of 301 for 36 holes on the Royal St. David's links at Harlech, and he finished twelve strokes ahead of J. Horn (Holyhead), the holder, F. Collins (Llandudno), and H. Williams (Bull Bay), who tied for second place. The leading scores were:—

B. S. Weastell (Colwyn Bay)	301
H. Williams (Bull Bay)	313
J. Horn (Holyhead)	313
F. Collins (Llandudno)	313
B. Hodson (Newport)	315
J. Robson (Old Colwyn)	316
A. E. Moses (Morlais Castle)	318
W. R. Stockton (Maesdu)	319
B. Berry (Anglesea)	319

ROBSON'S NEW RECORD.

Fred Robson, the Cooden Beach professional, had a wonderful victory yesterday in the Sussex professional championship, which he won for the third time at Littlehampton. He led the field when the second half of the 72 hole competition began yesterday, and went round in 65, beating the course record by five strokes. He won by 12 clear strokes with 281.

RINGWAY OPEN MEETING.

The annual open meeting of the Ringway club will be held on Thursday and Saturday, July 22 and 24. On the first day there will be a foursomes competition over 36 holes, in each case an amateur being partnered by a professional. The amateurs will play from their lowest club handicap, limited to eight strokes for the single round, while the professionals will play from scratch. On the Saturday the competition will be for amateurs only over 36 holes, handicaps being limited to eight. The last day for entries is July 12.