

BIG YEAR FOR GOLF LOOMS AS ENGLISH TOUR PLANNED

By ROSS "SANDY" SOMERVILLE,
Former American Amateur Cham-
pion and Captain of the R.C.G.A.
team which will visit Great Britain.



Dick Moore, R.C.G.A.
Team Member

What does the season of 1935 hold for golf in Canada? Amateurs, professionals and armchair critics have never had a year to which they could look forward with greater interest and enthusiasm. The year should provide more than its share of golfing history, controversial and argumentative topics and stories galore for the golfing fraternity.

First, there is the visit of a group of amateurs to the Old Country. This group will compete as a team in friendly matches and will take part as individuals in the British amateur championship.

Two other competitions will be available in all probability while in England if the players wish to compete—the first is played at the Royal St. Georges Club, Sandwich, for the "Gold Vase Trophy." The play is a 36-hole stroke competition which through age, custom and the difficulty to win is to Old Country amateurs the most prized trophy next to the national championship. The second is another 36-hole stroke competition played at the Royal Cinques Portes Club at Deal for the "Prince of Wales Trophy." This tournament usually takes place the day after the "Gold Vase" competition and together provide two days of very interesting and excellent golf over two of England's finest seaside links. It is usual, also, for competitors to take part in both tournaments.

The "Prince of Wales Trophy" visited Canada in 1933, as Jack Nash of London after a tie defeated Tony Torrance in the play-off. It will be interesting to see if another Canadian can add his name to the list of winners of this event.



Ross "Sandy" Somerville

It may be very unwise to attempt to predict what success our amateurs will experience in these matches and tournaments. Almost all of the members of the team have never before played in England and a radical change in playing conditions and types of golf courses played on very often influences to a considerable degree the playing ability of certain individuals. However, with a fair share of good luck the team should make a creditable showing both as a group and as individuals.

Will Help Canadian Golf

The Royal Canadian Golf Association, in sponsoring this team and the clubs and individuals who have contributed so generously in order to put the visit in effect, have done their part well in what, in the writer's opinion, will prove a great stimulus to the game in general in Canada, as well as helping to improve the general playing ability which all golfers hope to see from year to year. The players, which the R.C.G.A. selection committee anticipate will accept their invitation, will undoubtedly be representative of the playing ability of Canadian golf, in so far as this ability may be judged, as well as being representative of the country at large. The writer is certain that the players selected, in accepting this invitation and honor, will endeavor to assume their responsibilities in a manner befitting representatives of Canadian golf to the best of their ability.

No doubt golfers in Canada and sportsmen generally will watch with considerable interest what success the team enjoys on their first visit, and it is hoped not the last, to the home of golf.

Need American Experience

Second on the list of interesting events for 1935 is the Canadian open championship. This event has been won for several years, too long to think about it, by American professionals.

During the winter a few Canadian professionals have taken the first step to a golfing degree in what may be regarded as the only training school for tournament players. These members of our golfing profession visited the

sunny south and competed in the circuit of winter tournaments. The writer did not see detailed results of all these matches but those available showed the Canadians performing very creditably.

What does this mean? It means, in the writer's opinion, that if a Canadian, amateur or professional, even hopes to win the Canadian open championship, he will have to play considerable golf in the United States in order to eliminate that extra stroke or two per round and to acquire that finish seen in all open tournament winners. The winter circuit provides an ideal method of securing this extra polish and the influence of this experience on our professionals who were south this year will be watched with interest. However, it will require more than one trip to do a good job so let us not anticipate too much all at once. In any event, it's a step in the right direction and it is to be hoped that more may have the opportunity to go south next year.

West Gaining Ground

Third on the list is the amateur championship, which will be played at Hamilton this year. Albert "Scotty" Campbell no doubt will be back trying to make it three in a row, and, if he is playing to his ability at that time, will be very hard to stop. The usual strength in the Canadian entry will be on hand and we should see general all round improvement from a good many. The American entry should be large and very strong due to the convenient distance to the New York, Ohio and Michigan districts.

The tournament proper, as usual, will be opened with the provincial team matches. British Columbia, in defending the Willingdon Cup, as in Campbell's case, will be attempting to make it three in a row. Ontario and Quebec will have strong teams contending but the fact cannot be overlooked that the middle west and far west are producing a fine group of youthful golfers of championship ability. The east, just now, does not appear to be so fortunately situated and it would be wise for the east to look to the future and plan accordingly if they expect to remain near the top.

Other events of interest will be the provincial amateur and open championships, the informal invitation tournaments and inter-club matches. It does not appear that golfers in 1935 will suffer from lack of friendly and tournament golf. The enthusiasm created through international, inter-sectional, inter-city and inter-club games will be on hand again in friendly rivalry. It looks like a big year for Canadian golf.

Who May be Who in 1935



By BILL BRAUCHER

MARCUM SEEMED A DUD BUT MACK WAITED NOW HE'S ACE

It appeared the Athletics had spent \$30,000 foolishly when Johnny Marcum, rookie pitcher purchased from Louisville, lost his first six games last year. But Marcum pleaded for another chance.

"If you will be patient with me," he said to Connie, "I know I can win a dozen games for you this year."

Mack was patient. Marcum was as good as his word, winning 14 games out of his next 19, a record that few pitchers in either major league surpassed. Now he is regarded as ace of the Philadelphia staff, and counted on as a possible 20-game winner in 1935.

Marcum has a strange assortment of stuff, and is a careful student and thinker. He throws a knuckle ball taught to him by Eddie Rommel, coach and former pitcher. When Johnny was under Allan Sothoron at Louisville, he learned many of the master trickster's stunts. Sothoron, during his major league career, constantly kept umpires on the jump because of his varied freak deliveries.

Nick Cullup, the old left-hander, taught Johnny how to throw a screw ball. Mix in with the above a fine fast ball, fair curve and excellent change of pace and the result is bad medicine for batters. Johnny has mentally indexed most of the hitters in the league, and knows offhand what each likes to hit.

Father Semi-Pro Pitcher

Marcum is a native Kentuckian, spending the off season at Eminence, about 12 miles from Campbellsburg, where he was born September 9, 1909. His father, Ben Marcum, was a semi-pro hurler. Signed for a trial with Louisville in 1928, Johnny was sent to Dayton, O., in the Central League in '29. Because of his hitting ability he often was used in the outfield when not on the rubber. Finally he was brought back to Louisville, where the Athletics found him late in the 1933 season.

One of Johnny's possessions is a baseball on which are written the words, "Johnny Marcum beats Schoolboy Rowe, August 24, 1934, ending 16-game winning streak." Victory for Rowe in that game would have established a new American League record.

Johnny saves the last ball used in every game he pitches.



JOHNNY MARCUM

GOLF FACTS NOT THEORIES!

By
ALEX. J. MORRISON

Central Press Association



SPOTS OF SPORT

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a few minutes. They did not know that it was Manager Smythe, who had resented sarcastic howls of a fan in an adjoining box and just boiled up when the gent, who was doing the razzing, demanded if Smythe was trying to throw the game. This was too much for the peppery leader to stand and he made one leap over a well known lawyer and started to make the fan eat his words. There was wild excitement until police and ushers scorted the trouble-maker out.

Percentages are as important in golf as in anything else when it comes to winning. In spite of this I've never seen them mentioned in articles on the game.

The man who knows percentages, particularly about his own game, always has a good chance of beating his opponent. The best example of this is Hal Sims, the bridge expert. He wins as often at golf as he does at bridge. He knows exactly what his average performance is with every club in the bag.



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MICKY MOUSE

A MAN OF AFFAIRS

By WALT DISNEY

