

# The PINEHURST OUTLOOK

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## Annual Spring Tournament Under Way

A BEAUTIFUL spring day saw the start of play last Monday in the 20th renewal of the annual spring tournament. For the fourth successive year the field of starters numbered more than 300, the exact number this time being 319. No amateur tournament in this or any other country, save the National Seniors' championship, can approach such a record.

As this is written there is every indication that to John D. Chapman will go the honor of being medalist. In the opening day's play the Greenwich man ran the field ragged with a sterling round of 73 on the No. 3 course, five shots better than his closest rival, B. P. Merriman, of the Brooklawn Club, Bridgeport, Conn. One other had a chance to take the medal play honors, that one being a Japanese player, Rokuro Akahoshi, of Princeton, N. J., a member of the celebrated Pine Valley Club. He had a 79. Only these three succeeded in breaking 80, and they all played the somewhat easier No. 3 course.

George A. Law, Jr., of the Abeniqui club, Rye, N. H., shot an 82 to lead the players who were assigned to shoot on the No. 2 or championship course. Larry Paton, winner of the recent St. Valentine tournament, was but a stroke away, despite the discouraging total of 47 strokes which he needed to reach the turn. He raced home in 36 to fight for a place in the first division of qualifiers. William A. Rupp and Malcolm McBurney also had 83's on this course.

There was every indication that a score of 165 or 166 would be good enough to leave one in the championship flight. Donald Parson, of Youngstown, who was winner of the 1923 tournament, shot an 82 on the No. 3 course for a starter.

Other than the players already mentioned, those who seemed to have the best chance to qualify over the 36-hole route were: William McPhail, of Norfolk, one of Greater Boston's best amateur sharpshooters; Frank Keating, of Pinehurst; C. H. Paul, of Westchester Hills; Phil Randolph, Ned Beall and Jack Hyde, of Charles River.

A feature of the tournament was a hole-in-one made by George W. Statzell, of the Aronimink club, Philadelphia. At the 14th hole of the No. 3 course, measuring 138 yards and calling for a high shot over a lake, he drove with a mashie and had the pleasure of seeing the ball take a hop and a short roll, then disappear into the cup. It was the first time on record that the former Pinehurst Seniors' champion had perpetrated such a trick. It is reported about the clubhouse that he did the honors usual on such rare occasions, and the boys were perfectly willing to "let George do it."

Chapman's round and the par figures, compared:

Par—Out .....	4	4	4	4	3	3	4	5	4—35
Chapman .....	4	4	4	4	3	3	4	5	5—36
Par—In .....	4	4	5	4	3	4	3	5	4—36—71
Chapman .....	3	4	6	4	3	4	4	5	4—37—73

Only on three holes did he go over the par figures, while he bettered par on the 10th hole. Not long ago Mrs. Chapman tied with Mrs. Ronald Barlow for the medal in the annual St. Valentine's tournament for women. Last year the Chapmans won the Tin Whistle and Silver Foils titles.



First Division Final between Donald Parson, winner, and B. P. Merriman, runner-up, in the Spring tournament last year. Both these players are on hand to try for chief honors in this tournament again this year.