

Tales Of A Wayside Tee.

By Grantland Rice.

One of the most fallacious arguments in golf—fallacious in form, though proper enough in substance—in this: "Keep your eye on the ball." Any one who would suggest that this is not sound advice would be deemed heretical to the nth degree by nine-tenths of those who qualify from the Experts' Corner. And yet we believe we can prove our case against this advice with at least a modest amount of success.

The Controlling Feature.

The controlling impetus in any muscular activity comes from the mind, or the brain. The mind or the brain directs—and the muscle obeys, or tries to obey. At least, the muscle responds in that direction. In the same way the mind or brain controls the eye, largely, if not completely.

Which brings us up to a concrete illustration of the case. The golfer comes up to play a 130-yard pitch to the green for his second shot. A few yards this side of the green there lurks a deep, abysmal looking pit which the golfer knows from past experience and suffering is replete with trouble.

This trap, just at that moment, is the main thing in his existence. His mental power is all focussed upon that trap.

As he takes his stance he may be looking at the ball, but he is still thinking about that grotto ahead.

The Correct Attitude.

The trouble then arises in the use of the word in the above advice. It should be, rather than "Keep Your Eye on the Ball," changed to this—"Keep Your Mind on the Ball."

One of the hardest things in any game is to think in one direction and look in another.

If a golfer is thinking about a trap ahead or a water hazard he is going to find it extremely difficult to keep looking at the ball. Every natural instinct is against it.

In the opinion of Jerry Travers, even the best golfers look up at least five times in the course of a round.

According to J. S. Worthington, of England, this average is too low. "The best golfers would rarely miss a shot," he said, "if they never lifted their heads too soon."

Even these can't always take their minds away from thought of trouble on ahead. They have, therefore, the inclination to look up quickly to see whether or not they have escaped trouble.

How is this to be changed? Simple enough. To practice thinking only about the ball, not about looking at it.

To practice the elimination from the mind of every thought except about hitting the ball. If the golfer could make up his mind there was no space ahead except that just an inch or two beyond the ball, he could then easily enough put his mind on the ball exclusively. If there were no bunkers or bodies of water ahead to think about, he would then rarely look up.

The same holds true of putting. Most golfers are thinking not about hitting the ball on the green but about the hole. Naturally their heads come up for a peek at the hole before their club head reaches the ball. And as the head comes up the stroke is spoiled. They haven't kept their eye on the ball, of course. But the main

weakness here was in not keeping their mind on the ball.

By keeping your mind on the ball it is easy enough to keep your eye on it with undivided concentration. Otherwise it is almost impossible.

An Illustration.

Here is an illustration of the above, as given by Jerry Travers: "I rarely have much trouble," he said, "in keeping my eye on the ball in putting, for my whole attention is concentrated on hitting the ball, after I have once gotten my line. But I'll never forget a putt I laid in my match against Harold Hilton in the amateur championship at Apawamis in 1911. I was 4 down at the end of the morning round. Starting out in the afternoon, I won the first three holes. At the fourth hole I had a two-foot putt to win and square the match. It wasn't any part of a hard putt, and I knew if I made it I had a very good chance to win. All I could think of was the ball dropping into the hole. Naturally, my mind shifted from the ball to the hole. And naturally, also, as I made the putt, my head came up for a look at the ball about an inch to the right of the cup. That miss brought Hilton back to earth, restored his confidence, and from that point on he played very different golf. If I had concentrated my attention on the ball, as I generally do, and let the hole take care of itself, I couldn't have missed."

Simple Enough.

This may sound complex and complicated, but it isn't. Not in theory, anyway.

It is merely a matter of eliminating, as far as possible, any thought of what may lie ahead once you have measured or estimated the distance of the shot.

It should be a question then of a bunker to be carried or a green to be reached.

It is then simply a matter of lifting that Ball—with a masher or a mid-iron or a brassie—with sufficient force to get the distance required. The mind then, or the attention, should be directed exclusively to that ball. The rest of it should be wiped away. For if the mind stays upon the ball the eye is almost sure to.

Such golfers as Vardon, Braid, Evans and Quimet rarely look up because they have no fear of bunkers ahead. Their one thought is to hit the ball. Naturally then their one thought is the ball. Their swing, being purely mechanical, it is then only a matter of hitting with sufficient force. "Keep your eye on the ball" is all very well so far as it goes. The only trouble is that it doesn't go far enough.

Keep Your Mind on the Ball, and the Eye and Head will take pretty good care of themselves, hearkening, as they do, to their "master's voice."

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LOCALS LOST TO PRESBYTERIANS

Presbyterians Got a Big Lead in First Half and Kept It.

Outclassing their opponents in the first half and then holding them to a 50-50 in the last session, the fast Davidson College basketball team Friday night defeated the five representing the Charlotte Y. M. C. A. by the score of 50 to 33.

The local team was decidedly off color the first half, the Presbyterian crew quitting this first twenty minutes with a 31 to 12 margin. In the second half, however, the play of the locals picked up considerably—the locals leading the Red and Black two points in the second half. Davenport played the best game for the locals. Reese's floor work was spectacular at all times.

The line-ups: Charlotte, 33. Position. Davidson, 50. King, 2. R. F. ... King, 2. Davenport, 11. L. F. ... Childs, 16. Howell, 6. Center. Hengeveld, 12. Hunter, 10. R. G. ... Walker Crook, 2. L. G. ... Reese, 16. Substitutions: Charlotte, Beadle, 2. for Black; Marsh, 2, for Hunter. Davidson, Woods, 4, for Childs.

SHOPTON TOPS THE TEAMS IN COUNTY

The County Basketball league got under way for fair last week with the result that the standing has been considerably swayed—no less than nine teams appearing. Derita, Shopton and Cochrane are all knotted for the first job—but Derita deserves the palm since four games have been soaked without a single loss to two for Shopton and a lonely for Cochrane.

Standings table with columns: Team, W., L., P.C.

Last Week's Scores. Dixie 13; Huntersville 12. Derita 23; Dixie 8.

HIGHS BEAT HORNERS IN A CLOSE CONTEST

In an exciting game of basketball Friday night played before and between the halves of the Charlotte-Davidson go, the Charlotte High School five won from Horners by the score of 13 to 10. The game was fast and highly interesting throughout. Austin and Williams, C. H. S., and Bowden, Horners, featured.

The line-ups: C. H. S. Position. Horners. McDonald, 2. R. F. ... Bowden, 8. Austin, 6. L. F. ... Nisbet Williams, 5. Center. ... Wilson Pickens, 5. R. G. ... Godard, 2. Adams, 10. L. G. ... Tilson Substitutions: C. H. S. Wilson for Adams; Collins for Godard.

MONROE WAS EASY FOR MOORESVILLE

Mooresville, Jan. 20.—Mooresville found Monroe rather easy here Friday night at basketball—the local high school squad winning from Monroe by the score of 51 to 25. Hinson, Monroe, and Johnson, Mooresville, were the outstanding features of the game. The outcome was hardly in doubt after the first few minutes of play.

The line-ups:—Monroe, Hinson and Crowell, forwards; Goodwin, center; and Austin, Ayers and Fairley, guards. Mooresville, Rogers and Johnson, forwards; Kipka, center; and McKnight and Davidson, guards.

STETSON TEAM IS HERE ON TUESDAY

The next basketball game for the Charlotte Y. M. C. A. team will be played Tuesday night when the fast team representing John B. Stetson University from Deland, Florida, comes here to try conclusions with the local aggregation.

KIRKSEY FEATURED DERITA'S TRIUMPH

In a one-sided, though interesting, game of basketball, Derita won from Dixie by the score of 33 to 8. Dixie was bested from beginning to end, Kirksey seeming unstoppable. Cathey played the best ball for Derita. Referee, Grier.

BERKSHIRE HOG THE RUNNER-UP

A splendid two and a half year old Berkshire hog, killed by Graham Taylor, a well known farmer of Crab Orchard some days ago is being heralded as the second heavy weight porcine champion of the county for the present year, a Duroc-Jersey specimen owned by Bob Bryant, of Providence township, and exhibited at the Charlotte fair last fall being the first champion.

WEEK OF MEETINGS A DECIDED SUCCESS

The first week of the two week's series of meetings at St. Paul's Presbyterian church was a decided success in spite of the inclement weather the first part of the week.

Dr. James H. Henderlite, pastor of the First Presbyterian church of Gastonia, N. C., who is conducting these meetings, has a clear, analytical mind, and a strong way of expressing himself.

This evening at 7:30 o'clock, Dr. Henderlite will preach on the subject "Prepare to Meet Thy God." There will be a special musical program at the evening service directed by Nat C. White.

AROUND THE LINKS

With W. Fordham Morgan.

"Not on your life will you catch me playing that 'cow pasture pool,'" said Tom Griffith, the other day when asked if he was playing golf yet. But the projector of one's house and chattels has joined the Country Club, and he'll yet become inoculated.

It's a long way to the next Association tournament, but Columbia is already making plans for the Eighth Annual Wm. E. Earle, Jr. is an energetic soul, and the second meet of the Association in South Carolina's capital city will be a far greater success than its initial attempt, back in 1913.

For one thing the links are a different proposition from those of four years ago. Much money has and is being spent on the course; holes have been changed, traps dug and bunkers erected. In fact the Ridgewood club management is confident that they will make as good a showing as many of the clubs which have staged the premier event of Carolina golfdom.

As to the entertainment end leave it to Bill Earle. He is a prince of good fellows and he's going to pay his social obligations above par. Then, too, he has Will Swand, Dan Crawford and some other lieutenants who will see that the music doesn't lag or the floor lose its lustre. And by the way, the new club house is a dream in which to receive one's pals.

Greensboro, Raleigh and Durham have sort of a threesome association all to themselves. The first named city always sends some good players to the Annual, but the other two are content to show off in their own back yard. As soon as they produce a star however it will be different—the new satellites in Carolina golf are few and far between.

Asheville goes along in the event tenor of its way, tho' always with an eye to improving the course. The tourist business at the club is wonderfully good this winter. Each year shows a greater number of Northerners and Westerners patronizing the links. The popular Charlie Reynolds is as busy as a bee, but his assistant Langdons will be missed. The smiling Scot has recently gone to take charge of the links at the new Danville, Virginia, club.

A Southern girl, as every one knows, holds the women's championship of the United States. In the years to come Miss Sterling of Atlanta may lose her crown, but there is a tiny Charlotte Miss whose parents dream of her bringing the championship to the Queen City some eighteen years hence. Ladies and gentlemen: allow me to introduce Miss Paul.

Poor Spartanburg is having its financial troubles, and a radical change is soon to be made in the affairs of the Country Club there.

Far away Wilmington is enjoying its golf as never before. The fine showing of C. E. Taylor, jr., in the tournament of 1916 has done a lot for the Cape Fear organization.

A lot of naval men have recently joined the old Charleston club and things are lively out at beautiful Bevidere. Just now Charleston is claiming to be the oldest golf organization in America. Quite scornfully Savannah makes that famous card inviting one to a "golf ball" in 1811, and now Augusta is looking up files of the Chronicle which has reference to golf being played in the Georgia town as early as 1803.

And just when it looked as if Joe Ross was going into the Robin Broom class of heavyweights he banters or does something that reduces him to fit the picture of "After Taking." Whatever the promoter, Stoutness is not conducive to good golf and Mr. Ross' golf is likewise improving.

Take the conceit out of the average golf architect's composition and there isn't very much left. At least so think Charlotte men who had an idea of consulting one not long ago. Amateurs until recently, they are all rightly classed as professionals now-a-days. The U. S. G. A. is not to be denied its victims.

Smith: How's your golf? Jones: Off. Smith: How's your wife? Jones: Off, too. (Thus was created another golf grass widower.)

APPOINTMENT OR ELECTION ISSUE

Spirited Debate in the Senate Over Plan of Dept. of Education.

Raleigh, Jan. 20.—The senate this morning after a spirited argument as to fixing the state's policy as to the state appointment on county boards of election and county boards of education, raised by a motion by Senator Burgwyn to recall from the educational committee the bill to give Bertie county right to elect its board and put it on the calendar, decided to leave the issue to a caucus of democratic members of the assembly next Wednesday night. The issue was sharply drawn as to the state policy asked for by Superintendent of Public Instruction Joyner and Gov. Bickett and the county election policy now demanded by many others.

A resolution was passed asking the state delegation in congress to work for the location of the government armor plant in Cranberry Ore district.

The house today passed 86 to 11 the senate resolution endorsing the action of Governor Craig and the state's prison board in distributing ten dollars each to needy dependent families of convicts Christmas.

POINCARÉ TELLS OF ALLIED AIMS

Condemned to Continue War Until Guarantees Are Obtained.

Paris, Jan. 20.—President Poincaré has received Edward Marshall, an American newspaper writer, at the palace of the Elysee and talked with him in regard to President Wilson's note and the reply of the Entente Allies. The crux of the interview appears in these words of the president:

"We are condemned to continue the war until we,—our gallant allies and ourselves—can obtain the reparations and guarantees rendered indispensable by the aggressions of which we have been the victims, by the sacrifices to which we have subjected ourselves, and by the losses which we have suffered."

"May I tell America that France is our friend, even, though we are not fighting with her?" the American visitor asked.

"The United States of America and France are closely united by ineffaceable common recollections, by the same political traditions, by the same attachment to free institutions," said President Poincaré. "This war, which Germany unleashed upon Europe and which France did everything to avoid, could not alter the good relations between the United States and France. It has even made them closer and strengthened them."

"The United States," M. Poincaré continued thoughtfully, "have remained neutral, but the sympathies of individuals in every section have manifested themselves in favor of France and her allies. We have been deeply moved by innumerable demonstrations of friendship."

"There never has been a day since soon after the beginning of the war on which I have not personally received from America a voluminous mail containing generous offerings for our invaded populations, for our war widows and our war orphans. The letters which accompany these tributes emanate from all social classes and often are expressed in very moving words. Other letters bring to me warm wishes for the victory of France."

"Your great country surely understands that we, the allies, are fighting not only for our own independence and our own honor, but for a much higher cause, which goes further than the boundaries of our own interest. We are fighting for the rights of the individual and for the liberty of peoples."

"The violation of Belgium brings out the symbolic significance of this whole war. Germany was not satisfied with declaring war upon us without provocation. She had willed to butcher us without warning and to attain that end, she trampled under her feet in passing a little, innocent people. This is enough evidence by which to judge the responsibilities of our enemies; it is enough to define the nature of the struggle in which we are engaged. The United States have made no mistake about this."

"Are you willing to make some comment with regard to President Wilson's note?" the correspondent asked. "Knowing as we do the feelings of America, we have not failed to understand the thought which inspired the recent initiative of President Wilson. We are convinced that in the mind of the illustrious president the suggestion made to the belligerents was in accord with the traditional friendship between our two nations. But being conscious that we are fighting for mankind, we find ourselves without the right to lay down our weapons before we can sign a peace really humane; that is to say, founded upon principles which would make it workable and lasting, which would be consistent with the rights of nations and which would spare the world from the repetition of such a terrible catastrophe as this war."

"Unfortunately it is certain, that Germany who now pretends to consider herself victorious although she can hardly entertain any doubt as to the end, is not ripe as yet for such a necessary peace. We therefore are condemned to continue the war until we our gallant allies and ourselves—can obtain the reparations and guarantees rendered indispensable by the aggressions of which we have been the victims by the sacrifices to which we have subjected ourselves, and by the losses which we have suffered."

"The answer which the allied nations collectively have just given to President Wilson is perfectly clear in this respect. For our part, we have nothing to conceal. We were attacked. We are defending ourselves. But are not willing to be obliged to defend ourselves perpetually against fresh attacks. Therefore, we are determined to have reparation for the past and guarantees for the future."

"You feel that the president was justified in putting to the belligerent powers the questions which he asked?" the correspondent inquired. "It will not be from our side," said President Poincaré, "that will come any repulse of the generous ideas of President Wilson regarding the international agreements to be concluded as soon as the peace is signed in order to assure respect for the pledges given. On the contrary, we very willingly shall associate ourselves with his noble intentions. But in order that such understandings later may produce their full, beneficial effect, we must begin by restoring the right violated and by protecting Europe against a peace which would contain the germ of further outrages."

The correspondent asked President Poincaré whether France felt the return of her lost provinces, Alsace and Lorraine, as well as the restoration of Belgium, essential to the conclusion of a satisfactory peace.

"In our reply," said President Poincaré, "we also have spoken of the restitution of provinces torn away in the past by main strength or separated from us against the will of their inhabitants. Note this, that during 44 years France has strangled the pain which her old wounds have caused her."

"In 1871, Germany took from her Alsace and Lorraine, against the unanimous wish of the inhabitants. Whatever may have been the burning regret which she felt for this, France

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never would have been willing to make a war of revenge. We know too well, alas, what a war must cost humanity. "Instead, we waited, taking care to avoid all occasions for conflict. France proved herself patient and resigned. She endured provocations such as that of Agadir and many others. "But today, when war has been declared upon her without just motives; today, when her blood has been poured out through the fault of others, how could she fail to claim vindication founded upon right and justice? President Wilson and the people of the United States certainly will understand the high moral import of the answer of the allies."

CHARLIE KAISER IS HERE TUESDAY

Absolutely No Kin to Bill Kaiser, Germany, But Some Wrestler.

The wrestling menu for this coming Tuesday night at the Charlotte Auditorium is highly delectable and palatable—from soup to nuts—from entrée to exit. The usual good preliminaries will be run off—with this feature starting promptly at 8:30—and the big match of the night will be between Pink Gardner, local favorite, and Charlie Kaiser, no kin to Bill Kaiser, and an ex-champion.

Neither of these grapplers needs an introduction to the local mat followers. Pink Gardner's work is known of and backed by all. He was a whirlwind last year. He's a couple of 'em this year. Charles Kaiser, last year, made Raleigh his headquarters. He's gone back a bit this year—insofar as headquarters is concerned—for his wigwag is pitched in Greensboro, High Point's.

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Ella Wheeler Wilcox in The Chicago American, Said:

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