

The PINEHURST OUTLOOK

Vol. XXVII

JANUARY 26, 1924

Number 6

Entered as second class matter at the post office at RICHMOND, VA. Subscription, \$2.00 per year.

The Advertisers Tournament

(BY LARRY PATON)

WILLIAM T. HAMILTON, of Tuckahoe, N. Y., a member of the Westchester - Biltmore Country Club at Rye, N. Y., came to Pinehurst, saw a big field of golfers start in the annual get-together tournament of the Winter Golf League of Advertising Interests, and conquered all opposition to become the 1924 champion of the league, succeeding T. Russell Brown, of Montclair, N. J., who won the medal and who took both medal and title a year ago. To make the victory this year binding, Hamilton made Brown's trip to the discards a personally-conducted tour, for the new champion met the old in man-to-man encounter and emerged triumphant in the second round by a two-hole margin. Mrs. Clarence Cone, of the Inwood Country Club, Long Island, is the new ladies' champion.

This year's tournament of the Ad party began on Saturday, January 12, with a preliminary medal round held for the purpose of arriving at proper handicaps, and ran through Saturday, January 19th, with side events almost every day, for both men and women. For the first time the championship was run off on a handicap basis; so bringing the stars back to an even footing with "the field."

During the week of play many nice things were said by the Advertisers concerning the marked improvement in the Pinehurst courses, more particularly the No. 2 or championship layout, where many yards have been added and new holes constructed to lend variety and stiffness. That 80 was not broken on this course during the tournament brings additional evidence to the belief of the experts that No. 2 is now the hardest of the Pinehurst courses.

Altogether there were four divisions of 16 for match play, also a fifth or "slush" flight for the overflow. Players defeated in the opening round went into consolation flights and men who lost in the second round of the main divisions or first round of consolations were placed in a Shenandoah flight, meaning that they were flying high.

Hamilton had a fight on his hands in all but one of his four matches. Working under a 14-stroke handicap, he handily defeated W. E. Beckerle, of Dunwoodie, by 5 and 3, as a starter. Then he took care of Brown, who had won the medal with a round of 83 on the No. 3 course on Monday, and who played at a rating of 4 strokes. The edge in this instance was by two holes.

In the semi-final round, Hamilton struck a tartar in young Robert Finney, of Baltusrol. Twice they made the 18-hole circuit horse and horse. They had to play again on Saturday and along



W. T. HAMILTON, Winner of the Championship Division in the Advertisers' Tournament this week.

with them went Frank Finney, Bob's dad, who had worked his way through a strong lower half which included a former champion in Murray Purves, of Boston. The event had to be concluded on Saturday and so the three survivors decided to play together, the elder Finney matching cards with which ever of the others carried on to semi-final success.

Again it proved a touch-and-go battle, Hamilton eking out his way to the championship by beating both Finneys, 1 up. It was a rough sea for the Finney tribe, for Murray Purves went along to make it a four-ball and he beat Bob Finney in a special event for the beaten semi-finalists. It was hard for the gallery to tell who was who and what was what until the final putts were holed. Purves beat the younger Finney in their side argument, by two holes.

Winners in the minor divisions were: Second, A. R. Gardner, Westchester-Biltmore; third, Alfred B. Rode, Sleepy Hollow; fourth, M. C. Robbins, Wykagyl; fifth, James Barber, Englewood.

Consolation flight winners were: First, S. Keith Evans, Knollwood; second, Charles E. Sherman, Essex County; third, Guy Bolte, Dunwoodie; fourth, Montague Lee, Manhattan Club, Mt. Vernon, N. Y.; fifth, Arthur F. Sachtleben, St. Albans.

Other match play toppers were: First, Shenandoah, George C. Dutton, Woodland; second Shenandoah, A. S. Higgins, St. Andrews; third Shenandoah, W. R. Jenkins, Grassy Sprain; fourth division, Lost Rudders, W. H. Hamilton, New Haven, C. C.

Mrs. George Dutton was medalist in the ladies' championship with a round of 104. She lost out by 2 and 1 in the opening match play round to Mrs. J. H. Wright, who was beaten in the finals by Mrs. Clarence Cone on the 16th green.

The field in this year's tournament was not as large as those in some other years but it is safe to say that competition was never so keen. R. M. Purves and Mrs. John H. Wright were the putting champions of the week, the players qualifying from day to day on the clock sand in front of the clubhouse and then meeting on the last day to settle the issue.

The annual meeting, banquet and dance was held Friday night at the Carolina, and Frank Finney, of Baltusrol, was elected president in succession to C. A. Speakman, of Siwanoy, who that afternoon played himself out of office in the same manner that the captain at the famous St. Andrews plays himself in—by driving a ball off the first tee to be scrambled for by the caddies, the successful boy's reward being a five-dollar gold piece.