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Annual St. Valentine's Tournament

(By LARRY PATON)

CHIEF honors in the 20th annual St. Valentine's tournament for men, played on the championship course from February 4 to 8, were won by Larry B. Paton, of the Bellevue Golf Club, Melrose, Mass., who qualified with an 82 and then eliminated, in turn, John D. Chapman, of Greenwich; Donald G. Herring, of Pine Valley; Malcolm McBurney, of The National Links, and T. Russell Brown, of Montclair, N. J. and Mallets Bay, Lake Champlain. Paton is a member of the Massachusetts state team and a 4 handicap player in the Bay State Association. He played in the event in 1921 and was beaten by Chapman in the semi-final round.

Parker W. Whittemore, of The Country Club, Brookline, Mass., took the qualification gold medal with a round of 75, so that golfers here are wondering whether there isn't something more than spoofing about the reputed value of the bear and the cod as training table food for golfers. Chapman and Brown were the only others to get below 80 in the card-and-pencil test round. They were 77 each. Brown underestimated the distance against the wind at the short 17th, got into a bad spot in the bunker and took a 5, else there would have been a tie for the medal. At any rate, Brown got satisfaction on that score later, for he put Whittemore out in the semi-final round right when about everybody was agreed that it looked very much like a Whittemore tournament.

The field was somewhat smaller than a year ago, 110 taking a flier, of whom 92 returned cards. Four players were tied at 88 for the last two places in the first division. W. H. Rupp and R. T. Houk, Jr., were the successful men in the playoff, W. T. Barr dropping into the second flight, along with H. C. Fownes, who voluntarily took that step. Five divisions of 16 and one flight of eight engaged in the match play stages.

The feature of the first round was the battle between the eventual tournament winner and Chapman. It went 20 holes before Paton



John H. Bartlett, First Assistant Postmaster General and former Governor of New Hampshire, is among the visitors at Pinehurst this week. Mr. Bartlett came with his son, Calvin P., and is here for an outing of golf and rest.

could shake off the Greenwich man, who had taken the first three holes.

But, despite starting with three 5's, Paton was out in 38 and stood a hole to the good at the turn. Twice thereafter he was hauled back to evens and they headed for the home hole all square. Here a peculiar thing happened and undoubtedly it had a direct bearing on the match. Both were well shy of the green with their second shots, into a rather strong wind, and Paton ran up to within seven or eight feet of the green. Chapman's running approach looked to be headed for a spot close to the hole but it collided with Paton's ball and knocked it onto the putting surface, so that, as things turned out, Paton had a putt for a 4 and victory, though he failed to hole it.

They halved the first extra hole in 4 and Paton won the second with a 4 when Chapman needed three to get down from off to the right of the green. Paton was practically on the sand with his second shot at both the extras.

Somewhat in the nature of an upset was the defeat of James D. Standish, Jr., in the first round at the hands of Malcolm McBurney. Brown had a close shave, having to go to the last green to beat Philip Stevenson, who really beat himself by taking three putts. He had stood 2 down with three to go and squared by getting a pair of birdies—a 4 at the 16th and a 2 at the 17th. Whittemore put out P. S. P. Randolph, Jr., winner of the Mid-Winter event, by 3 and 2, coming from behind to turn the trick.

Three of the four second-round matches went out quickly in the Wednesday wind, Paton winning by 6 and 5 from Donald Herring, the old Princeton football player, and Whittemore and Brown riding in by 7 and 6 at the expense of Francis T. Keating and N. E. Sprague, respectively. McBurney was a 2 and 1 winner over Earle Alexander, neither playing up to snuff.

Paton's task in the semi-final round was made a deal easier by McBurney's wildness from the tee, a department in which he