

The PINEHURST OUTLOOK

VOL. XXVIII

APRIL 4, 1925.

NUMBER 16

Entered as second class matter at the post office at PINEHURST, N. C. Subscription, \$2.00 per year.

United North and South Championship for Women

(BY BURT HOXIE)

MRS. MELVIN JONES, a member of the Olympia Field Club, Chicago, has added the North and South Championship title for women to her long list of past achievements. On the Number 3 course last week at the expense of Miss Marian Bennett, the present Queen of the Windy City links, and former Western women's champion, became the successor to Miss Glenna Collett, who was not present to defend the title. The score was 4 and 3, and one of the largest galleries ever seen at Pinehurst in similar events turned out to witness the contest.

Miss Bennett is a miss of sixteen, a student, and was spending her vacation of two short weeks here. Mrs. Jones had never made a pilgrimage to Pinehurst before, and no doubt the finalists created something in the nature of a surprise, for the field was large, numbering well over 100, and it fairly bristled with talent.

When Miss Louise Fordyce, of Youngstown, the Western women's champion, stepped in to take the qualifying round with an 84, through a 44 out, and 40 back, she immediately became the outstanding favorite in the field. But a glance at the card of the new champion develops another surprise. For we find on the seventh hole a terrible ten dotted it. About everything happened there apparently, but at that she was out in 45, and back in 46 for a 91. This gave her name no particular prominence at the start, though it may be seen what might have happened in the initial test but for the double figures, and even after passing easily through the first round at Mrs. G. H. Bright's expense, and the second with Mrs. Jay Lee, as her opponent, Mrs. Jones was still considered likely to pass by the wayside, for Miss Louise Fordyce was to be her next opponent.

But the medalist suffered the same fate as the other opponents, a nervy shot on the home hole which developed into a par four by Mrs. Jones being her undoing.

While this was transpiring Miss Bennett was being looked upon as quite capable of creating an upset in spite of her youth. She had done so before here, and was playing golf of a delightful nature to her followers. Mrs. E. E. Harwood first found the pace too fast, and, secondly, Mrs. F. C. Letts had to lower her colors on the home green, the second of the "big six" in the country to have to become a spectator. Then only Mrs. N. K. Toerge stood in the path of the miss from the Nutmeg state to prevent her from being a finalist, but the New York representative had no better luck than those who had gone before and was put out of the running on the 17th green.

Then youth met experience and experience triumphed, and it was through better golf without any question. But to the credit of Miss Bennett it should be mentioned that her favorite brassie became useless in a practise session prior to the match and she was forced to use a spoon. She was heavily handicapped from the tees and to poor tee shots can be traced the loss of many holes. Early in the match it appeared a severe overthrow was her fate, for on the eighth tee she was three down, but that was the bracing point of the outward nine and the next two holes were tucked away so that when the two players headed toward home Mrs. Jones was enjoying but a single hole lead. The golf in spots was not so good but that is expected when the stakes are high and the gallery is large. Mrs. Jones was 45 to the mid-way station and Miss Bennett 47.

The match was never on an even keel. At the tenth Miss Bennett got a fortunate halve when she missed her drive and second shot, the Westerner, playing safe short of the brook, needed four more to put her ball into the cup. A drive to the woods at the eleventh was costly for Miss Bennett as her ball was practically unplayable and she was forced to concede the hole and become two down. At the long twelfth a reduction of the lead seemed about to take place. Miss Bennett was just off the sand in three and Mrs. Jones close to the next tee, but a deadly run-up shot by the Chicago golfer developed into a halve and the lead was still hers, two up. It became three up when Miss Bennett was trapped on her second shot at the thirteenth and required a six, Mrs. Jones having a perfect par four. On the water hole Miss Bennett missed her tee shot again and only gained about 75 yards. Her second was over the pond but was trapped. Mrs. Jones, in the meantime, was lying on the edge of the trap with another win apparently in sight, but she popped her second into the pit and thereby lost the hole, as Miss Bennett nibbled out dead to the cup for a four, and Mrs. Jones needed three more to get down. When the fifteenth was lost through Miss Bennett's drive to a trap, the end seemed just around the corner, Mrs. Jones playing the hole perfectly, a drive, brassie, perfect approach and one putt for par figures. The short sixteenth was where the champion again demonstrated her mastery of the run-up shot. Dead to the pin from 30 yards short of the green, she sank her putt and the match was over. Miss Bennett's try for par after a well hit approach shot was a valiant one but the cause had already been lost. She certainly is deserving of all manner of congratulations for her showing and better days are ahead. She showed that she has the stuff of which champions are

Continued on page Six