

# The PINEHURST OUTLOOK

VOL. XXIX

APRIL 24, 1926

NUMBER 17

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

## Mid-April Goes to Canadian

BY E. ELLSWORTH GILES

**T**HERE was something of an international flavor injected into the Mid-April tournament which came to a close on Saturday, April 17, when two Canadians took both the first and second division prizes.

To C. Ross Somerville, of London, Ontario, went the honor of winning the tournament, and to J. L. Weller of Hamilton, Ontario, the prize for winning in his division.

The weathervane of past performances pointed directly and unmistakably to Ducky Yates as the probable winner of this tournament, but tournaments and matches are not won on reputations alone but by the man who puts the ball in the hole in the least number of strokes on the appointed day. Yates found this to be quite true when R. A. Stranahan of Toledo, Ohio, overcame and dissipated a two-hole lead which he held at the turn, playing the last nine holes of the eighteen hole match in 34 strokes to win on the home green and completely upset the old dope bucket.

In turning the trick against Yates, Stranahan scored an excellent 75, but against Somerville in the final the Inverness man failed to keep his game up to that high medal level, and succumbed on the last green with a score of 81 as against Somerville's 82.

The match closed with Somerville's ball lying on the very lip of the cup, styming Stranahan who had a six-foot putt left to get his par four and halve the match. It was just one more case of the interposition of the unpopular stymie, and at a moment when there was left no further opportunity for redemption from the pure accident. True, Stranahan had left himself a long putt to negotiate, but until his opponent's ball closed the hole to him he still could offset his none too good approach putt by sinking the ball.

A stymie laid on a flat sand green on the last and deciding hole of any match makes a most unsatisfactory and inglorious finish, which is not golf, and which can never be wholly satisfactory to the player who benefits through the accident.

The cards of the finalists read as follows:

Somerville

Out 4 4 5 4 7 5 4 5 4—42

In 4 5 4 4 7 5 4 3 4—40—82

Stranahan

Out 5 5 4 4 5 5 3 5 4—40

In 4 5 5 5 6 3 5 3 5—41—81

Notwithstanding the fact that the finalists had some bad holes they nevertheless played championship golf on the majority of the eighteen. Somerville had ten par holes and one birdie, while Stranahan had no birdie holes but nine pars. They halved seven of the eighteen holes. Somerville, the cricketer, got a quick jump on his opponent by taking the first two holes in par figures, but Stranahan reached the turn a hole to the good and was still a hole in the lead facing the sixteenth which he lost to a birdie 4. Then came the eighteenth, the stymie and the anti-climax.

The winners and runners-up in the four divisions were:

First division—C. Ross Somerville defeated R. A. Stranahan 1 up.

Consolation—E. L. Scofield, New York, defeated J. V. Jenks, Harbor Beach, Mich., 19 holes.

Second division—J. L. Weller, Hamilton, Canada, defeated S. Howard Voshell, Pomonok, 3 and 2.

Consolation—B. S. Briggs, New York, defeated Dr. J. S. Brown, Montclair, 2 and 1.

Third division—Robert Lowry defeated P. S. P. Randolph, 2 up.

Consolation—J. T. McFadden, Jr., defeated W. Williams, 3 and 2.

Fourth division—H. Suydam defeated S. Y. Ramage, 5 and 4.

Consolation—E. T. Seagram defeated G. B. Covert, 4 and 5.

