NOVEMBER, 1920 27

U. S. Professionals to Seek British Title

T one time or another representatives of the United States have captured the highest honors in all branches of athletic and sporting endeavor. On the track, through the field, on the road, in the ring and in and on the water they have brought glory to themselves and to their country. But among all these there is one prize that has resisted their efforts and that is the British Open Golf Championship.

When Jim Barnes and Walter Hagen, two of the United States' leading professionals, failed last spring it was shown conclusively that isolated individual competitors were under a severe handicap in such a huge field of Britishers determined to retain their laurels against all invaders. Then what is the solution? The only prac-

title last month which added to her United States title makes her truly the American champion.

Abroad United States players have made enviable impressions. Only this year Walter Hagen won the French open title, the best previous effort being fifth position secured by J. J. McDermott in 1911. The French amateur championship, however, has been won twice by players from this country. In 1911 an all-American final was provided when Charles "Chick" Evans, Jr., our national amateur champion, defeated John G. Anderson, the popular New Yorker, at the thirty-eighth hole while in 1914 Francis Ouimet brought back the title to Boston. But try as we have, the British amateur and open titles keep eluding the efforts of our best.

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GOLF ILLUSTRATED

J. LEWIS BROWN, EDITOR

Mr. George Sargent, President Professional Golfers' Ass'n 366 Fifth Avenue New York, N. Y. September 27, 1920.

Dear Sir :-

The improbability of an American winning the British Open Championship, when only one or two make the attempt, was very forcibly brought home to all of us this season.

However, our Mr. Harnett has conceived the idea and we fully agree with him that if a team of from twelve to twenty of the best professionals in this country were to attempt this task, the chances of ultimate victory would be greatly enhanced, and in an international team match they would undoubtedly do great credit to this country.

Why not send them over?

GOLF ILLUSTRATED is prepared to raise sufficient funds, by popular subscription from the different golf clubs throughout the United States, to make this possible.

If there should happen to be an over amount subscribed we would suggest that this be donated to the benevolent fund of your Association which we know to be a worthy cause.

The selection of the members of the team would be left entirely in the hands of your Association.

If you believe as we do and will give us your full cooperation, we will accept the responsibility of seeing this through.

Yours very truly,

GOLF ILLUSTRATED.

George Sargent - President Wilfrin Rein - Vice President George McLean - Vice-President Alex. Piris - Sec'y-Treasurer

THE PROFESSIONAL GOLFERS' ASS'N OF AMERICA THREE HUNDRED AND SINTY-SIX FIFTH AVE.

NEW YORK CITY

At the Office of the Secretary

October 14, 1920.

Golf Illustrated 425 Fifth Avenue New York, N. Y.

Gentlemen:-

In reply to your letter of September 27th, the following resolution has been passed by our National Executive Committee:

"RESOLVED, That the proposal as outlined in the letter received from Golf Illustrated dated September 27, 1920, be accepted and that our Secretary be instructed to notify Golf Illustrated that they may be assured of our hearty cooperation in every way and that we appreciate the inauguration of such an effort in our behalf; and further we urge that all our members, both as an Association and individually, do all in their power to make this a huge success."

You can depend on the officers of this association giving you every assistance possible.

Very truly yours,

PROFESSIONAL GOLFERS' ASS'N,

Alex, Pirie, Secretary.

tical way is to send a representative team which will be large enough to provide that atmosphere of comradeship and moral support which is so essential in such a competition.

Invasions of our championships have seen both the National amateur, open, and women's titles carried across the seas, Harold H. Hilton of England capturing the amateur honor in 1911 at Apawamis while at this time Edward Ray. also of England, is taking back with him the open title which he won at Inverness this season. The women's national laurels have been captured by Britishers on three occasions, Mrs. J. V. Hurd, formerly Miss Dorothy Campbell, triumphing twice and Miss Gladys Ravenscroft once. But as is well known the success of the United States players in foreign lands has been established. The Canadian open title has been won by them no less than five times, J. H. Oke winning in 1904 at Montreal, Daniel Kenny in 1910 at Lambton, George Sargent in 1912 at Rosedale and J. Douglas Edgar in both 1919 and 1920. Then Miss Stirling annexed the Canadian women's

Gardiner nearly broke the hoodoo in the Amateur this year when he reached the final only to lose out in a great match to Cyril Tolley. Several efforts have been made in the British open but the most successful were those of J. J. McDermott and Jim Barnes, the former finishing fifth in 1911 and the latter also being placed in the same position this year.

GOLF ILLUSTRATED has conceived the idea and is prepared to father the movement explained in letters reproduced on this page and we have received not only the sanction of the P. G. A. but their hearty endorsation and promises to give it every encouragement. It is up to every player in the United States to help us make this a success. If everyone gives a dollar sufficient will be raised and this provides an opportunity for every patriotic golfer in the country to send a team to England in whose honors he will share.

Get in touch with your club secretary. Keep him on the jump after the other members so that the fund may be closed by Dec. 1st. Mr. Golfer, this is your chance, do not dubb the shot.