

NOTHING SIMPLE ABOUT MAKING GOLF CLUBS

SKILL AND ACCURACY FOR MANUFACTURE NECESSARY

WOOD MUST BE OF THE BEST. PERSIMMON OR DOGWOOD FOR HEADS AND SECOND GROWTH HICKORY FOR SHAFTS

WHEN a golfer wins a tournament which at the time is the chief ambition of his life, he is apt to forget the art that his clubs have played in the endeavor. There are few people who realize the skill necessary to make a simple-looking club, although they are turned out by the thousands. To begin with, the wood must be selected from the finest pieces. Persimmon or dogwood is needed for the head, and the shaft is made from second-growth hickory.

As for the wooden club, it may be true that a great percentage of the clubs in the shops are undoubtedly devoid of any bulge on the face, but on the other hand it will be found that literally every one has the face of the head in front of the shaft. There are those who declare that this is attributable to Lamb's invention, for the reason that previous to the Bulger club with the face anywhere but showing behind the line of the shaft was not to be found. It is also said that this is the only material change that has taken place in the make and shape of wooden clubs in the last quarter of a century.

When the head is completed, the shaft must be attached either by means of a socket or the old-fashioned splice. Even in the apparently simple a thing as boring the hole for the socket, great care must be exercised, for the hole must be perfectly true and reamed so as to be larger at the mouth than at the inner end. The joint made by the entrance of the shaft must be nicely smoothed, but great care must be taken not to weaken the strength of the club or impair its spring.

When the shaft for spring, sandpaper all over, the shaft, sandpaper shaft, stain, sandpaper head, lampblack (for ornamental filling of the grain), sandpaper shaft, oil head and shaft, wipe off, polish shaft, shellac head, sandpaper head, whip head, rasp in for grip, pitch handle, wind in lining, pitch, wind leather, file edge of leather, roll grip, cut off top, round top, sandpaper grip, whip grip, face head and file sole, polish shaft, shellac head, shellac whipping, put on paper.

Then the individual tastes and preferences of the players tend to complicate club making to a marked degree. There has been a cry raised some years ago that clubs should be standardized, and that there should be further regulations as to the make and shape of the implements with which the game is played, but the agitation did not seem to strike popular fancy. There were many who looked upon such a movement as unnecessary, claiming that when all circumstances are considered the make of clubs of the present day is very little different in design from those in vogue some twenty years ago, and that the principles of the implements have been altered only slightly in even the last half-century. It was argued that the present-day weapons may be more utilitarian, and more varied in design, than in the past, but that the club of the present time is essentially the same in the methods of material and the putting together thereof as it was in those far-off times, and is only different in minor details.

Consider the great increase in the number of devotees of the game, this is more or less remarkable, for year after year there are countless persons who attempt to fashion a golf club which will not only make the game easier to play, but, moreover, will bring fame and fortune to the inventor. It would be natural to think that the many inventors in their efforts to improve a club would have succeeded in evolving a theory which would have sufficed to revolutionize the game in respect to the implements used. The fact that there is so little change in the general principles would be likely to

suggest that our forefathers must have had a shrewd idea as to the best form of weapon with which to strike a sphere the size and consistency of a golf ball.

With all the army of what might be called professional inventors at work seeking for new ideas week in and week out, it is worth mentioning that the two ideas which may be said to have had a strong bearing upon the make and shape of the present-day golf club both emanated from players who fashioned a club wherever they were. It is claimed that the Bulger head, invented by Henry Lamb about 1859, is undoubtedly the parent club of the present-day short, round head, while the socketless iron club head of Frank Fairlie is declared to be the forefather of the many crooked-necked iron clubs of to-day. Except in the case of niblicks, the crooked-neck iron club has by no means become universal, and it is significant that they are seldom to be found in the bag of a professional player, suggesting that they are more of an aid to an inaccurate golfer.

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of campers. Orde, glancing around him, noticed these.

"Do not," he commanded sharply, "get at your grub! Make some coffee right off and bring it down. Come on, boys!"

Orde, a score of men attacked the sluiceway, for by now part of the rear crew had come down river. The pond above had recovered its volume. Water was beginning to trickle over the top of the gate. The men worked up to their knees in swift water. They could not see, and the strokes of an axe pick lost much of their force against the liquid. Down by the sluice a dozen lanterns flickered and blinked yellow against the blue blackness of the night. Orde opened the sluice gates. The water had become too deep for effective work, and a half hour's flow would reduce the pressure. The time was occupied in eating.

When the meal was belated the men lit their pipes and went back to work philosophically.

Near midnight a swaying lantern was seen approaching. Orde heard the sound of wheels. A moment later Daly's bulky form stepped into the illumination of the fire.

Orde wandered over to where his employee stood, peering about him.

"Oh, there you are!" cried Daly angrily. "What in h— you up to here?"

"Running logs," replied Orde coolly. "The logs are being run down the river. I'm a little behind in my work, but I'll get it done."

Orde lowered the paper to the campfire. It was an extra, screaming with wood type.

RIOTING AND BLOODSHED IN THE WOODS. Rivermen and Dam Owners Clash.

There followed a highly colored statement that a skirmish had left the field in possession of the rivermen. In spite of the sheriff and a large posse, but that troops were being rushed to the spot and that this "high handed defiance of authority" would soon be suppressed. It stated that the loss of life was as yet unknown.

"Don't you know any better than to get into that kind of a row down here?" said Daly, peering about him. "This isn't the northern peninsula."

Orde watched them disappear.

"Jim," said he, "and you, Ellis, and you, and you, and you, and you, get to work on that dam. And remember this—if you are arrested, go peacefully. Any resistance will spoil the whole game."

The men broke into mingled cheers and laughter as the full significance of Orde's plan reached them. They streamed back to the dam.

Reed came out, eyes blazing. Reed stormed back and forth for a moment, then departed at full speed up the road.

"Now, boys, get as much done as possible," urged Orde. "We better get back in the brush or he may try to get the whole thing of us on some sort of a blanket warrant."

"How about the other boys?" inquired North.

"I gave one of them a telegram to send to Daly," replied Orde. "Daly will be up to bail them out."

Once more they hid in the woods, and again, after a longer interval, the mill owner and the sheriff reappeared. Reed appeared to be expostulating violently and a number of times pointed up river, but the sheriff went ahead stolidly to the dam, summoned those working below and departed up the road as before.

Without the necessity of command a half dozen men leaped down on the apron. The previous crews had made considerable progress in weakening the heavy supports. As soon as these should be cut out and the backing removed the mere sawing through of the massive sill should carry away the whole obstruction.

At 4 o'clock the sheriff made his third appearance, this time in a seditious bar buggy.

"I wish I dared join that confab," said Orde, "but he'd jug me sure!"

"He wouldn't jug me," spoke up Newmark. "I'll go down." The young man departed in his precise, methodical manner. About sunset he returned.

THE YOUTH'S COMPANION FOR 1918

Among next year's contributors to The Youth's Companion will be Alexander Graham Bell, Franklin K. Lane, Secretary of the Interior in President Wilson's Cabinet, the Marquis and Marchioness of Aberdeen, H. de Vere Stacpool, Edith Phillpotts and Rev. Dr. George A. Gordon, of Boston—all children of the Empire, besides others whose names are familiar wherever the English tongue is spoken. The Companion will have its great run of serials and short stories. It will give the clearest and most reliable summary of the progress of the great war. At the same time the regular departments will be maintained in all their profusion and variety.

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THE YOUTH'S COMPANION, Commonwealth Ave., Boston, Mass. New Subscriptions Received at this Office.

Civilization is a state of affairs where nothing can be done without first being financed.—Life.

BRITISH HEROISM AND GERMAN BUTCHERY

London, October 22.—The British destroyer Mary Rose fought single-handed against the German cruisers in the convoy action in the North Sea, according to a story ascribed to a British officer rescued off Bergen and transmitted by the Christiania correspondent of the Times. The other destroyer, which should have been present, never appeared, and it is thought likely that it was destroyed at the beginning of the action.

After fighting heroically for half an hour, during which she was subjected to the most terrific concussive fire, the Mary Rose sank. Ten members of the crew were found clinging to buoys and rescued.

The correspondent says that the reports of the butchery of the crews of the merchantmen pass description. Two women on one ship waved a piece of white cloth, which was perfectly visible. They were silenced by a volley from the German cruisers.

"De man dat tends strictly to his own business," said uncle Eben, "sometimes don't git no credit 'cep' foh bein' unscorable."—Washington Star.

"So many young men make such imprudent marriages." "Our son didn't. He's just eloped with the cook."—Baltimore American.

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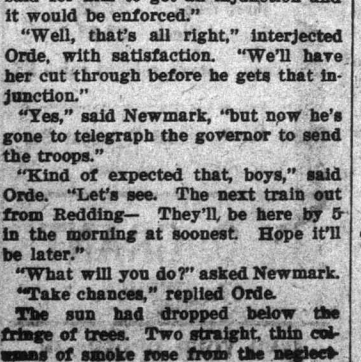
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