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LEADING AMATEUR EXPONENTS OF GOLF

George S. Lyon, the Famous Golf Expert of Canada, and the Men Who Went Up Against Him at Ottawa



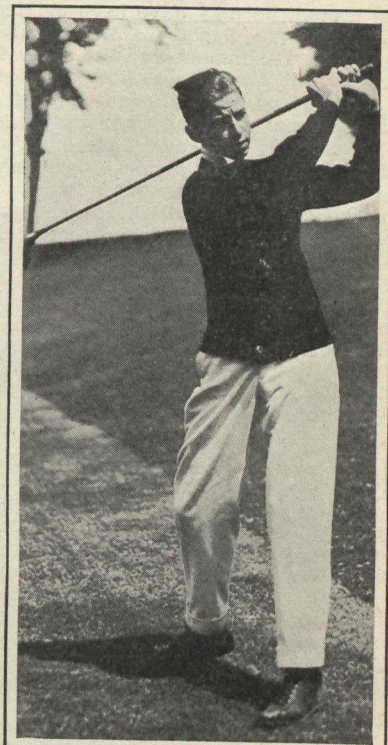
T. G. Grey, golf champion from South Africa, at the recent Ottawa Tourney.



In the championship Semi-Finals, Fritz Martin, of Hamilton, was beaten 4-3 by George Lyon, his brother-in-law.



T. B. Reith, of the Beaconsfield Club, whom Brice Evans, of Boston, beat One Up at the 38th in the Semi-Finals.



In the second Consolation, semi-finals, Brian Devlin, of Ottawa, was beaten 5-4 by Turpin, of Montreal.

AS a maker of amateur sport, golf in this country has got the lead over baseball and quite holds its own with tennis. We are able to produce baseball experts who become famous for one thing or another in company with other men from mostly anywhere. When it comes to golf, we make our cross-country hero of a man who plays the most individualistic game in the world except single-scul rowing. For the eighth consecutive year, George Lyon, of the Lambton Golf Club, is the amateur champion of Canada. He retained the championship at the recent tourney in Ottawa against several of the best players from Canada and the United States.

That will do very well as a title for Lyon until international or world-wide golf furnishes him with a better one. As a matter of fact, Lyon was predetermined by nature to be the popular golf king of Canada, and in some respects the most remarkable golf player in the world; just as Ned Hanlan was picked by his star of destiny to uphold the honours of Canada in world-oarsmanship and to be the nearest thing to a miracle in the way of rowing the world ever saw.

We shall never make a popular hero of Lyon the way we did of Hanlan. Golf is not that kind of game; though at Ottawa we learn, for instance, that "the putting of both men"—meaning Lyon and Brice Evans, of Boston, whom he played out in the finals—"was sensational at times and rounds of applause broke from the gallery." The average reader who is not



George S. Lyon, of the Lambton Club, eighth time amateur golf champion of Canada.



Brice Evans, of Boston, whom Lyon defeated in the finals at the Ottawa Tournament.

a "fan" gets to understand the universal and picturesque lingo of the diamond. But only the man who reads the sporting columns with the microscopic care that the higher critic lavishes upon the Bible could ever become visibly thrilled by the ungarbled ritual that gets into print as the intelligible report of a game at golf. We understand how this language developed. It came originally from Scotland, which produced also Gaelic and the stories of Ian Maclaren.

For instance, speaking familiarly about the finals when Lyon, of Toronto, worsted Brice Evans, from the city of pure culture in Massachusetts, the correspondent said:

"In the afternoon Lyon had a medal score of 44 for the eleven holes, an average of four." So far we figure it easily. Forty-four divided by 11 makes 4. Then, "He played brilliantly throughout, and though Evans repeatedly outdrove him, Lyon excelled the American with his short play. Evans took reckless chances and lost the 27th when he used a wooden driver off the tee and tried to cross the deepest course of the ravine in one. He found a bad lie on the slope of the hazard and sliced his next into the woods, while Lyon left the tee with a carefully played mashie straight down the course and was on the green in two."

This probably contains as much malevolence as the astounding epithet applied a few days ago to Dr. J. A. Macdonald, when Sir James Whitney said the editor of the "Globe" was an "arbiter elegantiarum."