

## BRITISH GOLFERS TO MEET CANADIAN PROFESSIONALS

By JACK EVANS

CANADA'S season of tournament golf opens at Toronto Golf Club on June 18 and at Royal Montreal on June 21 with a medal competition in which the British Ryder Cup team is to contest prize money of \$1,000 with Canada's leading professionals. It is the first appearance on a Canadian course of noted British golfers in a match under the conditions of a championship and follows the international competition on June 3 and 4 at Worcester, Mass., for the Ryder Cup and the United States open championship at the Oakmont Country Club, Oakmont.

The British team includes Aubrey Boomer, Archie Compston, the colorful Ted Ray, Ferd Robson, C. A. Whitcombe and George Gadd. Its original intention was to play its international fixture and to make a bold effort to carry the United States open championship to British soil. Through the Royal Canadian Golf Association, it decided to return by way of Canada, playing matches as arranged by the association, in Toronto and in Montreal.

On account of the strength of the British team and the importance of the match, the Royal Canadian Golf Association decided to choose ten professionals representative of golf in Canada for the contest and decided also that a stroke competition would find favor with the gallery, which is expected to be the largest in the history of the game in Canada, rather than match play. Its ten players are: Charles Murray, Royal Montreal, captain; Albert Murray, Beaconsfield, Montreal; Dave Spittal, Timberdale, Montreal; Phil Taylor, Victoria Golf Club, Victoria; Davie Black, Shaughnessy Heights, Vancouver; James Rimmer, Jasper Park; Eric Bannister, St. Charles Winnipeg; James Johnstone, Rosedale, Toronto; Andrew Kay, Lambton; Nicol Thompson, Hamilton Golf, Hamilton. Reserves, Jock Brown, Summerlea, Montreal and George Cumming Toronto Golf.

Charlie Murray won the open championship of Canada on two occasions and the Quebec open in 1909-11-12-13-14-19-21-22-23-24. Albert Murray has held the professional golfers' championship; Dave Spittal is the present open Quebec champion and a professional golfers' title holder; Phil Taylor has been a contender for the titles of the Pacific North West Association; Davie Black has been open Canadian champion; James Rimmer is said to be one of the finest golfers in the West, having to his credit two scores over Arthur Havers, a former British open champion; Eric Bannister is a stylist, who, although he has made little headway in his tournament golf in eastern Canada, has won the titles of the Prairies; James Johnstone is the professional golfers' champion of the year; Andrew Kay has been the first Canadian professional in the Canadian open championship and has twice won the Ontario open, while Nicol Thompson is an experienced and finished player who has held his share of golf honors.

No finer team could be selected for the match than that which has been chosen by the association which had first agreed to accept the ten scores of the Ontario open championship and an elimination contest in Quebec as the basis on which it would name its ten players for matches in Toronto and Montreal. The objections to this were that experienced golfers might be eliminated through the fortunes of a medal contest and that amateurs might find places in the pairings.

The British team enters the international match at Worcester with high hopes and its members believe that one of their number will

lift the United States open championship. Should the team realize its ambition, the matches in Canada should attract a gallery of remarkable proportions. George Duncan, writing some time ago, declared that "melancholy as the record of the past few years may be" Britain had golfers who could defeat the Americans. Although he has travelled all over America, Duncan has never played the courses chosen for the International or at Oakmont. He compares Oakmont with St. Andrews from opinions expressed about it in the sense that it favors a ball that swings from right to left, particularly in the second shots. He can see something in Oakmont's traps that few golfers have ever been able to visualize—all have



Ned McKenna, one of Canada's leading professionals, holder of the Western Canada open Championship, which he captured at Winnipeg last year

the same sort of lie, being furrowed with a patent rake. If Duncan's opinion is correct it may happen that Britain's best will not stumble over one of the most difficult courses on the continent. Oakmont is long, built over rolling ground, has three holes which require blind firsts and seconds and innumerable traps along fairways and about greens filled with water washed sand, raked into deep furrows.

The American team for the International is to be chosen by Walter Hagen and is to be composed of home bred. It will include Sarazen Watrous, Mehlhorn, Diegel, Farrell, Turnesa and possibly Espinosa. Victory in the International for Britain might have been decidedly uncertain if Hagen had chosen naturalized Americans and included Macdonald Smith, Jim Barnes, Tommy Armour, Bob Cruickshanks and Jock Hutchison. British golfers believe they can meet and defeat

a distinctly American team, although they frankly admit they would win an International with difficulty if called on to play naturalized Americans.

The Toronto Golf course on which the first half of the 72 hole match is to be played was laid out by a well-known British architect who was brought from England. The course was laid out in 1915 and yet retains features which are regarded as tests. It is 6,500 yards in length; is built on the finest turf; has greens of fine culture and as courses of the present day go is not severely trapped. Probably the course record—a 72-held by Willie Freeman, York Downs professional, may be broken during the match. Royal Montreal has been built more recently. It is of championship length and has been on modern lines. Toronto Golf and Royal Montreal are clubs which have developed the game in Canada for more than fifty years and as a consequence will provide their best for the visit of the Ryder Cup team.

Of the sectional championships of Canada, the British Columbia men's and women's amateur have been decided. Dick Moore brought back the Bostock Cup from the United States, defeating W. Davidson, Seattle. The field included Chuck Hunter and Bon Stein, qualifiers of the western amateur of the United States, while Stein was a finalist in the championship which attracts annually the finest golfers of the United States. The next events of a provincial nature are the Ontario men's and women's amateur tournaments and the Ontario open. Preceding them there is an invitation tournament for amateurs being staged by the Uplands Club, Toronto, in which C. Ross Somerville, Canadian amateur champion; Donald Carrick, Canadian champion of 1925 and the finest players of Ontario are to be among the entrants. The Ontario amateur and open are to be played at Rosedale, Toronto, and the Ontario women's tournament at the Burlington Golf and Country Club, Hamilton. The women's match will bring Miss Ada Mackenzie, Canadian open and close champion, into tournament competition for the first time this season. Although she has devoted considerable time to her work as secretary of the Toronto Women's Golf and Tennis Club, Miss Mackenzie is playing a strong game. The Ontario champions are: Open, Andrew Kay, Lambton; amateur, Donald Carrick, Scarborough, and women, Mrs. W. Whittington, Toronto Golf.

With George S. Lyon as captain, a team of the Canadian Seniors' Association leaves for Great Britain on June 15 to take part in matches with teams of the United States and British Seniors' associations. The International match will take place at Sunningdale on July 7 and the British Seniors' championship to which the visiting teams have been invited will be held earlier at Addington. The Canadian team is to be selected from G. C. Heintzman, Lambton Golf Club; F. A. Parker, Lambton Golf Club; J. Dix Fraser, Rosedale Golf Club; C. A. Bogert, Toronto Golf Club; A. B. Evans, the Royal Montreal Golf Club; Dr. J. Sheehan, St. Catharines Golf Club; C. Y. Stanier, Winnipeg; J. E. Caldwell, Rivermead Golf Club Ottawa; P. D. Ross, Royal Ottawa Golf Club; S. L. McKay, Sarnia Golf Club; Dr. Courtenay, C.M.G., Royal Ottawa Golf Club; Geo. L. Robinson, Lambton Golf Club; Dr. Buchanan, River- view Golf Club, Galt; Dr. W. M. McGuire, Norfolk Golf and Country Club, Simcoe, Ont.; Ralph Connable, Lambton Golf Club; H. H. Williams, Lambton Golf Club; T. F. Matthews, Lambton Golf Club. W. H. Webbing, Brantford Golf Club, will accompany the team.