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Richard Davis Gordin

1967
ROBERT TYRE JONES, JR.--

HIS LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO GOLF

DISSERTATION

Presented in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for
the Degree Doctor of Philosophy in the Graduate
School of The Ohio State University

By

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* * * * * *

The Ohio State University
1967

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This study was initiated when the writer read a passage written by Bobby Jones in the foreword to a book on the history of golf. In the passage Jones said:

Golf has been called "the most human of games" and a "reflection of life." One reason that we enjoy it and that it challenges us is that it enables us to run the entire gamut of human emotions, not only in a brief space of time, but likewise without measurable damage either to ourselves or to others.

On the golf course, a man may be the dogged victim of inexorable fate, be struck down by an appalling stroke of tragedy, become the hero of unbelievable melodrama, or the clown in a side-splitting comedy--any of these within a few hours, and all without having to bury a corpse or repair a tangled personality.¹

It was felt that a man who could write a passage such as this must have a true appreciation of the meaning of sport--games are to be played for their intrinsic value and the enjoyment derived by each player. We, in the physical education profession, are constantly attempting to help each student acquire this appreciation. Here was a man who had it and who had also achieved great success playing golf as an amateur.

The author believed that a study of his life, golf career and contributions to golf would contribute to the literature. After some encouragement by Professors Lewis A. Hess and Bruce L. Bennett, The Ohio State University, a letter was sent to Mr. Jones explaining the nature

of the study. He gave his consent for it to be done and promised his utmost cooperation.

The study covers the entire life of Mr. Jones to the present day. His childhood is reviewed briefly; his early career as a youth is presented and his eight productive years in golf are dwelled upon extensively. The thirty-six year period from his retirement to the present is covered by presenting highlights of his life during this time. The study is concluded by a character analysis and a summary of his contributions to the game of golf.

The author is indebted to many people for their help in the preparation of this study: To Dr. Lewis Hess for his patient and helpful guidance; to Dr. Bruce Bennett for his encouragement and understanding; to Dr. Lyman Leathers, Ohio Wesleyan University, for his grammatical criticism; to Miss Mary Titus for the use of tape recording equipment; to Mrs. Jean Marshall for the myriad of information and for many hours of work above and beyond the call of duty as Mr. Jones's secretary; to Mrs. Eleanor Keeler for the use of books, scrapbooks, photographs and for her hospitality; to Mr. Charles Nicklaus for his help in initiating the study; to Mrs. Milton Shonting and Mrs. Julia Lobdell for their typing; to the gentlemen who responded to the questionnaire; to my wife and three sons for their understanding and patience; to the administration of Ohio Wesleyan University for financial support; and finally and most gratefully to Mr. Robert T. Jones, Jr., for his interest and invaluable cooperation.

The research was accomplished through an investigation of the available literature such as books, periodicals, newspapers and
scrapbooks. Interviews were held with Mr. Jones and others who know him well. A trip was made to the Masters Tournament during which the writer was able to talk with many people informally about the subject. A questionnaire was sent to amateur and professional golfers who have known Mr. Jones in various capacities and during different stages of his life. From the data gathered, an account of his life, golf career, and contributions to the game is presented.

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INTRODUCTION

The game of golf, as we know it today, had its origin in Scotland during the fourteenth century. There has been speculation, based upon contemporary paintings, that a game similar to golf called het kolven was played in Holland and there is some pictorial evidence which indicates that a game, using a stick and a ball called chole, was played in Flanders—both during the fifteenth century. However, the game in which a ball is struck with a club and played from one place to another over several acres until knocked into a cup in the ground is definitely Scottish in origin.¹

Golf was a very popular game in Scotland. It was so popular that in 1457 parliament issued a decree against it claiming that golf interfered with the practice of archery, which was necessary for the defense of the country. Disregarding the ban, people continued to play golf until 1491 when parliament placed a fine and imprisonment penalty upon participants as well as those upon whose land the game was played. However, about 1500 King James IV, the signer of the decree, began to play the game. Since the king was playing, the people played also. Mary, the granddaughter of James IV, became very interested in golf and played


The famous St. Andrews Course came into existence in about 1552. During the next two hundred years many other courses were constructed. Golf was played very casually for recreation until 1744 when the Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers was formed. This group established a set of rules which governed the game until a similar group was organized at St. Andrews. The St. Andreans established a set of rules in 1754 to govern their competition. This set of rules and its revisions are still in existence today and are called the Royal and Ancient Rules. They are recognized as the highest authority in golf and St. Andrews is known as the world center of golf.\footnote{Price, op. cit., pp. 19-20.}

Golf came to America in the 1880's. John G. Reid, a Scot immigrant, is given credit for introducing the game for in 1888 he founded the St. Andrews Golf Club in Yonkers, New York. The course consisted of six holes in a nearby cow pasture and the club had thirteen members. Soon thereafter, the first course with a clubhouse was constructed at Shinnecock Hills in Westchester County, New York. In December, 1894, the United States Golf Association was founded with five clubs as charter members; the Newport Club, the Country Club (Brookline, Massachusetts), the Shinnecock Hills Club, the St. Andrews Club and the Chicago Club. This organization, still in existence, is the governing body of golf in the United States today. Shortly after the founding, the association established two national tournaments, the United States Open for both
professionals and amateurs and the United States Amateur for amateurs only. Horace Rawlins won the first medal play Open Championship at the Newport Club in 1895 and Charles MacDonald became the first Amateur Champion at the Newport Club the same year.¹

In the early years, golf in the United States was dominated by the Scottish professionals. The game had been established in private clubs and therefore the number of players was limited to those who could afford to belong. There were very few public courses in existence. Because of this, golf gained its reputation of being a rich man's sport.

In 1900, Walter J. Travis, a thirty-five year old native Australian, won the first of three Amateur championships and soon established himself as the first great American amateur when he also won the British Amateur. He was followed by Jerome D. Travers, son of a wealthy New Yorker, who won four Amateur championships and one Open championship. Johnnie McDermott became the first homebred professional to win the Open in 1911 at the Chicago Golf Club. But American golf actually came into its own in 1913 at Brookline when a twenty year old caddie, Francis Ouimet, defeated the famous British professionals, Harry Vardon and Ted Ray, in a play-off for the United States Open. The following year a young professional from Rochester, Walter Hagen, established himself as a champion when he won the Open Championship. Hagen was destined to become the first great American professional.²

In 1916, Charles Evans, a twenty-six year old former caddie, won the Open Championship. Later that year he became the first amateur to

¹Menke, op. cit., pp. 511-512.
²Price, op. cit., pp. 74-106.
win both major United States tournaments, when he won the Amateur Cham-
ponship at the Merion Cricket Club in Philadelphia. In this tourna-
ment, however, the most notable news concerned a fourteen year old
amateur from Atlanta who led the first qualifying round and who defeated
two formidable opponents before losing to Bob Gardner, the other
finalist with Evans. This young man was Bobby Jones.

Jones was heralded as the child prodigy of golf who would be the
star of the future. However, success was not easy. He struggled through
seven frustrating years during which he was unable to win a national
championship although he undoubtedly possessed the skill. Yet he
eventually won the Open Championship at Inwood in 1923 and from that
point on until 1930, Jones established a golf record which surpassed all
previous records and has withstood all challenges since.

During the 1920's, the golden decade of sports, Jones's play and
his public popularity led to the extraordinary growth of interest in the
game in the United States. In the period from 1900 to 1934, approxi-
mately 5000 courses were constructed and a proportionate number of
players were using them. In seventy-eight years the game has made great
progress. It has grown from one course with thirteen players to an
estimated 8500 courses with nine million players.¹ Many competitors,
both professional and amateur, have contributed to this phenomenal
growth but none did more than Robert Tyre Jones, Jr.

¹National Golf Foundation, "Golf Course Growth in the United
Fig. 1.—Bobby Jones Following His U.S. Amateur Victory at Merion, 1930.
For when the
one great scorer
comes
To write against
your name
He writes not
that you won
or lost
But how you
played the
game

Grantland Rice
CHAPTER I

THE EARLY YEARS - 1902-1915

Robert Tyre Jones, Jr. was born on St. Patrick's Day, 1902, in Atlanta, Georgia. He was the only son of an Atlanta barrister, Robert P. Jones and his wife, Clara. "Little Bob" was named for his paternal grandfather, Robert Tyre Jones, a North Georgia business man who, ironically, cared nothing about sports.¹

Bobby's heritage provided him with natural athletic ability. His father was an excellent baseball player and his mother was a better than average golfer. Bobby's potential certainly was not visually discernible during his first five years of life, for he was a very sickly child. His illness was due to a malfunctioning of the digestive system which resulted in a spindly appearance. O. B. Keeler, Bobby's faithful companion, later described him during his first five years as "...about as unpromising a prospect for a competitive athlete as could have been selected."² Bobby's real struggle during this time was for life itself and his poor health certainly must have been one of the reasons that Mr. and Mrs. Jones decided to rent some rooms from Mrs. Frank Meador at the East Lake Golf Club five miles east of Atlanta in the summer of 1907. They probably thought the fresh air and exercise potential in

²Ibid.
these surroundings would be beneficial to young Bobby's health. Here, then, was the beginning of a true amateur, since the primary reason for Bobby's introduction to golf was for his personal enjoyment and well-being and not with the idea of making him into a great professional player.

Young Bobby's introduction to golf was inevitable after the Jones family decided to spend the summer at East Lake since golf was one of the major activities there. His first contact with the game really was quite uneventful since it was as a spectator watching the golfers play the second hole located in front of the Meador home. However, his active introduction to the game came when one of Mrs. Meador's boarders, Fulton Coville, gave Bobby a club called a cleek which he had cut down so Bobby could swing it. Soon thereafter Bobby and Frank Meador, son of the landlady and two years his elder, began to play the game together. Since youngsters were not allowed on the course, Bobby and Frank laid out their own two hole golf course along the road in front of the Meador house, and so began the golfing career of the young man who was to become the greatest golfer in the world. As Bobby Jones said later:

I wish I could say here that a strange thrill shot through my skinny little bosom when I swung at a golf ball for the first time; but it wouldn't be truthful. I do not remember the first time I hit a golf ball, or hit at one; and as I recall it the game did not make much of an impression on me, except that I used to get mad enough to dance in the road when a wild shot went under a little bridge covered with briers across the ditch which was not the second hole. I liked baseball much better, and played golf, or what we called golf, because of a dearth of boys in the neighborhood with whom to play baseball.... Nobody paid much attention to Frank and me and I am sure neither of us entertained any profounder ideas about the game than that golf balls were easy to lose and hard to come by.1

Even the staid British could not produce a truer amateur spirit than this.

**1908 - STEWART MAIDEN ARRIVES**

The Jones family returned to East Lake again the next summer but this time rented a cottage located near the thirteenth green of the old course. This location provided for a six year old boy with his own cleek and some golf balls the opportunity to pass the time by pitching balls to the green and then putting them out, not because he was told to do so nor forced to do so, but rather because he wanted to and it was fun. The weekends, particularly Sundays, were full of golf for the people at East Lake and it was during a Sunday dinner between rounds that young Bobby asked, "Dad, what do people do on Sunday who don't play golf?"\(^1\)

It was during this summer of 1908 that one of the most significant factors in the development of Bobby Jones, as a golfer, occurred. Stewart Maiden, a Carnoustie Scot, was hired as the professional at the East Lake Club to replace his brother Jimmy, who had resigned. As Bobby Jones said, "...Stewart Maiden came to be professional at the club, and that was the very luckiest thing that ever happened to me in golf, which is saying a lot, because my entire career, if it may be called a career, has been lucky."\(^2\) Stewart Maiden was a typical Scot, in that he loved and understood the game of golf, had very little to say and was an excellent stylist in his own play. The latter attribute was very important in the development of Bobby's game.

\(^1\)Ibid., p. 30.
\(^2\)Ibid., p. 26.
Fig. 2.—The Stewart Maiden Swing After Which Bobby Jones Patterned His Own.
Soon after Maiden's arrival at East Lake, Bobby began to follow him around the golf course watching him play the game. Bobby did not carry a club, he did not ask questions, he merely watched from a distance. After watching several holes, he would run home and start swinging his club utilizing the youthful talent of mimicry, at which he was a master; attempting to duplicate Stewart's swing. This is how the incomparable Jones swing was built.

Bobby was still not thinking of golf or golf form very seriously, however. As he recalled later:

I seemed merely to hit the ball, which possibly is the best way of playing golf; certainly it is the easiest on the mind. Besides, I was interested in other things—tennis and fishing mainly, now that I had access to a regular lake and the club's tennis courts. Golf was still incidental; I played at it as I played at anything else that came along and seemed attractive; if I have any genius at all, it must be a genius for play! I love to play—I love fishing and hunting and trapshooting and ping pong and chess and pool and billiards, driving a motor car, and at times I love golf, when I can get the shots going somewhere near right.¹

Stewart Maiden never formally gave Bobby a golf lesson. In the years that followed, he made a set of clubs for him, encouraged him, and helped him when the swing went bad if Bobby asked, but Maiden took great pride in Bobby's later accomplishments. Bobby's swing was patterned after Maiden's and evidently he was so successful in his mimicry that once while playing a practice round prior to the Southern Amateur Championship in 1913, he was mistaken for Stewart Maiden by an old friend of Maiden's from Scotland. Bobby was driving from the tenth tee and from a distance, the friend commented to Bobby's father, "When did

¹Ibid., p. 28.
Stewart Maiden get here?" Mr. Jones told him that Stewart was not there and the gentleman indignantly answered, "You can't fool me, I saw Stewart drive just now from the tenth tee. Think I don't know that old Carnoustie swing?" Mr. Jones answered, "Nevertheless, that happens to be my son Rob under that swing."1

THE FIRST TOURNAMENT

Bobby's first competitive golf was played during that summer of 1908 when he was only six years old. It was no formal tournament by any means, but, nevertheless, it was a tournament; his first competitive venture in golf, and he won. There was a party at Mrs. Meador's and as part of the entertainment Mrs. Meador arranged a six hole medal tournament for the children in attendance. Those participating were Alexa Stirling, later three times U.S. Womens Amateur Champion, Frank Meador, Bobby's companion, Perry Adair, who later developed into one of the great amateurs of the South, and Bobby Jones; a rather distinguished field to say the least. Bobby won that tournament and received a tiny cup from Mrs. Meador for his victory. He cherished it greatly then and still does to this day. Concerning this first cup, he said, "I took it to bed with me that night...I've a hundred and twenty cups and vases now, and thirty medals (1927), but there's one little cup that never fails of being well polished. And I never slept with another one."2 In 1960 Bobby presented this cup to the Commerce Club of Atlanta to be displayed in its Bobby Jones Room. As is the custom in Atlanta, the

1Ibid., p. 44.
2Ibid., p. 33.
Fig. 3.—Robby Jones Age Six
person after whom a room is named is asked to present something personal for display, and this cup was Bobby's contribution.

Another tournament in which he participated during that summer of 1908 was a handicap match play affair. The players were handicapped according to age and Bobby reached the finals where he met his friend and fellow competitor, Perry Adair. Since Perry was older, he had to give Bobby one stroke per hole. The match was scheduled for thirty-six holes and was played on a very busy Sunday at East Lake. Bobby felt very important as the four ball matches allowed them to play through because they were playing a match. It took them only about four hours to complete the thirty-five holes necessary for Bobby to win two and one. This time he received a tiny vase in remembrance of his efforts.¹

Looking back at this period of his first competition, Bobby recalled:

What a wonderful thing it is now, to think of that time when golf meant only to go up to a ball and sock it; when golf was only a game, and a match was only a match, with dear little Perry to beat if I could—not all cluttered up with silly notions of championship! One of these days I'll hang up the old clubs, so far as championship is concerned, and I'll be happier then. But it never can be again what it was when Alexa and Perry and I first played. The glare of championship takes the dew quickly off the turf!²

1911 - HIS FIRST FORMAL COMPETITION

The next two years were spent in the recreational pursuits of fishing, tennis and golf, but Bobby's interest in golf seemed to grow steadily. In the summer of 1911, at the age of nine, he entered the junior tournament of the Atlanta Athletic Club. He defeated Howard

¹Ibid., pp. 33-36.
²Ibid., p. 36.
Thorne, who was sixteen, by the resounding score of five and four in a scheduled thirty-six hole final. This was the first formal tournament competition for young Bobby and once again, he was a winner.

The next summer, 1912, Howard Thorne defeated Bobby in the same tournament in the semi-final round, but Howard was not destined to win, since he was defeated by Bobby's friend, Perry Adair, in the finals.

Golf was still only a game to Bobby. It was a game to be enjoyed, but there was something else which began to grow in importance, the competition. There was this great desire to test himself against something or someone. He began to love the competition more and more. He was competing against the other boys, mainly, and he tried very hard to win and it seemed that Bobby had that most important faculty in competition; he played his best when the competition was the greatest.

In 1913, at age eleven, several significant things happened to him. He began to play more golf than tennis primarily because he was having more success and gaining more satisfaction from playing golf. He kept an account of his scores in golf which at this time were usually around ninety, but the scores were secondary to beating the opponent. It was a contest with somebody not with something.

**BOBBY DISCOVERS PAR**

In October a very important event in Bobby's life took place. Harry Vardon and Ted Ray, the great British professionals, had come to the United States to compete in the National Open Championship at Brookline, Massachusetts. They, along with Francis Ouimet, a twenty year old amateur, had tied for the championship and Ouimet had won in a playoff. Vardon and Ray came to Atlanta to play an exhibition match
with Stewart Maiden and Willie Mann, professional at the Druid Hills Club. This was the first big match which Bobby had ever seen. He was impressed by Ray's prodigious driving even more than by Vardon's smooth and consistent play, but he did note that Vardon was scoring more consistently. His scores for the day were seventy-two and seventy-two and when they played thirty-six more holes the next day, he scored seventy-three and seventy-one which totalled 288 for the seventy-two holes or an average of even fours. It appeared, as Bobby said later, that "Harry seemed to be playing something beside Stewart and Willie; something I couldn't see, which kept him serious and sort of far away from the gallery and his opponents and even from his big partner; he seemed to be playing against something or someone not in the match at all."¹ Bobby had begun to discover that in golf one must compete against par. As he said, "...I never won a major championship until I learned to play golf against something, and not somebody."²

Following this discovery, young Bobby shot an eighty over the old course at East Lake, which was not an easy feat for an eleven year old. He was playing with Perry Adair as usual, but this time he was not playing against Perry, he was playing against par and, significantly, he shot the lowest round of his short life that day. Bobby had discovered the real opponent in the game of golf, Old Man Par.

The year of 1914 was a rather slow one from the standpoint of golf tournament play for Bobby. However, he was still playing the game as often as he desired and he was still watching Stewart Maiden and

¹Ibid., p. 41.
²Ibid., p. 39.
learning about this wonderful game. He was a year older, stronger and the desire to play and compete was still burning brightly and he began to realize that golf could be an important part of one's recreational life.

By 1915 Bobby was beginning to play good golf. Good enough, at least, that he had to seek tournament play to satisfy his desire for competition. The first event of the year was the annual invitation tournament at Montgomery, Alabama. George Adair was taking his son, Perry, and he persuaded Mr. Jones to allow Bobby to go with them. Bobby did not qualify well and was placed in the second flight. He did manage to reach the finals of his flight where he met a Mr. Hickman, who defeated him. The defeat was very difficult for young Bobby to take, but it seemed even worse to Bobby since Mr. Hickman played left-handed.

**THE FIRST SOUTHERN AMATEUR**

Bobby's dad had promised to let him enter the Southern Amateur Championship when he was fifteen, that is, if he showed sufficient progress. Bobby was hoping, of course, that he might be allowed to play in the 1915 championship since it was being played at East Lake, but after his showing at Montgomery, he was sure that he would not be allowed to enter. However, his father decided to let him enter and Bobby was surprised and happy when he, along with Will Rowan, George Adair and Perry Adair, was named to the four man team representing the Atlanta Athletic Club. Bobby responded to the pressure of the situation in his typical manner by shooting the lowest round of the team, eighty-three, only one stroke behind the leaders. In the eyes of
the young perfectionist it was not a very good round, but his greatness was beginning to show.

Sixty-four contestants qualified in this tournament. The first eighteen hole round split the field into two sections of thirty-two players and the second round established the flights. Bobby met and defeated Mr. Patterson of Charlotte, North Carolina, in the first round. He was then matched against Commodore Bryan Heard from Dallas, Texas. This matched the oldest and youngest contestants in the tournament. The Commodore played steady golf and closed young Bobby out on the seventeenth hole, two and one. And as the old campaigner walked back to the clubhouse, he told Bobby that he was a tough customer. This pleased Bobby.

The defeat placed him in the second flight where he met and conquered three opponents only to lose to Frank Clarke of Nashville, Tennessee, two and one in the finals. However, Mr. Clarke had to set a new amateur course record of seventy-six in the morning round on the way to defeating this young man of thirteen, who was playing the game for the fun of the competition.

Bobby did not enjoy losing in that tournament, but in reality, no great champion enjoys losing, nor does he ever expect to lose. Bobby Jones was a brash, confident young man at this point in his life. As he said later, looking back to this time, "I guess I moped about that southern championship more than I have brooded about anything since. It was almost as if I had expected to win the thing, with Charles Dexter and Rube Bush and Nelson Whitney in it, and all. I wasn't much of a

\footnotesize{Ibid., p. 52.}
respecter of persons in those days, having few brains and no real experience."\(^1\)

**THE FIRST BIG WIN**

Later, Bob's dad allowed him to enter the Roebuck Country Club Invitation Tournament in Birmingham, Alabama. He met and defeated his old adversary, Perry Adair, in the second round, two and one. He moved progressively on to the finals where he met Bill Badham, a former Yale player. Bobby and Bill had a fine match which was all even at the end of the regulation eighteen holes, but Bobby managed to win on the third extra hole; he had won his first organized tournament at the age of thirteen. Concerning this he later said, "I'll always love Roebuck, because that was the first important tournament I won."\(^2\)

This triumph seemed to set off a series of victories for Bobby. During the rest of 1915, he won the Davis and Freeman Cup at East Lake, as well as the club championship of both the East Lake Club and the Druid Hills Club. And not more than a month before he had felt badly because he had not won any golf tournaments of any consequence. This year had been a significant one in his young career. He was showing a small portion of what was to transpire in the years to come.

It is significant that all of this golf was taking place in the normal season and that Bobby was living a very normal life otherwise. He was going to school, as well as doing all of the things that a normal teenage boy should have been doing. Golf was merely a part of the very active life of a vigorous American youth entering those difficult

\(^1\)Ibid., p. 53.
\(^2\)Ibid., p. 54.
teenage years. As he said recently concerning his beginning in golf, "I didn't start out in golf with the idea of winning championships, but rather just to play the game."^1

However, the fire of competition burns brightly, particularly in certain individuals who are destined to be champions, and it became necessary for Bobby to seek competition at his skill level which was becoming extremely high. As his skill grew, he had to seek more challenging competition, not for financial gain nor for notoriety, but for the personal satisfaction of conquering that ever-changing golf course, as well as conquering himself.

The early years, then, were fun for Bobby Jones. He had discovered that life was for living and that the game called golf could be and was an important part of his total life. However, it was not his whole life, but only one facet of the vigorous life of an Atlanta youth who was to become the greatest golfer in the world.

^1Interview with Robert T. Jones, Jr., August 4, 1965.
By the summer of 1916, Bobby Jones had grown into a powerful, chunky young man, five feet four inches tall, weighing 165 pounds. He could hit the golf ball a long way with the woods, but somewhat wild at times; he had a good iron game and was a bold putter. His attitude toward the game was one of complete disdain for its difficulty. He attacked a course with no fear, had very little patience with himself over missing a shot and became furious over not holing all putts twenty feet and under. All of which adds up to a typical fourteen year old attitude toward anything. This kind of attitude many times produces outstanding golf, but it also can produce disastrous results as well.

1916 - THE FIRST NATIONAL TOURNAMENT

Mr. Jones decided that his son should enter the annual Montgomery invitation tournament, the same tournament in which the previous year he had lost in the finals of the second flight to the left-handed Mr. Hickman. This time, however, he qualified for the first flight and met his friend and competitor, Perry Adair, in what he describes as "...the most spectacular of all the matches we played."\(^1\)

Jones played the first nine in thirty-three and was three up. At this point, he must surely have felt that he had broken Perry's

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\(^1\)Jones and Keeler, op. cit., p. 56.
confidence and had the match well in hand. But as he was to learn later, a golf match is not over until the last putt is in the hole. Perry shot a thirty-three on the back nine and won the match one up. “It was the hottest blast of really hot golf I had yet encountered,” said Jones later. It was described as “...very likely the greatest match ever played up to that time in the South and it was played by boys of fourteen and seventeen....”2

Following this tournament, an attack of lumbago fell upon Jones and the pain and misery slowed him down somewhat. Disregarding this, he entered the Cherokee invitation in Knoxville, but during the play his lumbago started to bother him again and he had difficulty walking as well as swinging hard at the ball. The Cherokee course was very hilly and he said "...I had lumbago so grievously that I had to walk down the hills sideways...."3 This was a blessing in disguise, though, because he could not swing as hard on his drives and consequently they were shorter but much straighter and stayed on the fairway. He went on to win that tournament despite his physical miseries, shooting a seventy-three in the final round.

He played in two other invitation tournaments in the weeks that followed, winning them both. He won the Birmingham invitation, shooting sixty-nine while defeating Jack Allison two up in the finals of the match play competition and he defeated Perry Adair in the finals of an invitation at East Lake. This evened the competition between Bobby

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1Ibid.
2Rice, op. cit., p. 8.
3Jones and Keeler, loc. cit.
Jones and Perry Adair for the summer, and set the stage for their eventual meeting in the Georgia State Amateur Championship which was to be held in Atlanta in August.

The first Georgia State Amateur Championship was played at the Brookhaven course of the Capital City Club of Atlanta. There was much excitement over this tournament since the "Boy Wonders of Dixie," seventeen year old Perry Adair and fourteen year old Bobby Jones, were entered. Jones, who had grown to be taller and heavier than Adair, showed superior power, but Adair had greater accuracy. They were evenly matched in courage and determination. Both boys proceeded to win their early matches and, as had been hoped by many, arrived at the finals. Jones commented later concerning this match:

Up to this moment despite the fact that I had won two out of three matches in which Perry and I had met, I still considered that he was the better golfer. I looked up to him and thought that I had managed to win from him a couple of times mainly by accident. It was in this match at Brookhaven over thirty-six holes that I finally gained confidence in myself and in my game.¹

In the morning round, Adair's superior play plus Jones's tenseness and anxiety resulted in a three up margin for Adair. Jones was very upset with himself, particularly with his putting, so after his usual large lunch and ice cream, he went to the practice green and chipped and putted for an hour. During this session, Ralph Reed, the tournament chairman came to Jones and asked him to please play out the bye holes after the match was over because so many people had come out for the afternoon round and he felt they should get to see a full eighteen holes. The inference here was that Adair would beat Jones.

before the remaining eighteen holes were completed. Jones said, "I
replied that I would, without calling his attention to what I considered
to be a rather obvious and unpleasant implication."¹

Jones began the afternoon round by hooking his tee shot out of
bounds and losing the hole to go four down. Concerning this situation,
he described his feelings:

But at this point I remember to this day that my whole
attitude changed completely. Instead of being on the defensive
and uncertain, I began to play hard, aggressive golf, hitting
the ball with all the force at my command and striving to win
hole after hole, rather than to avoid mistakes.²

As a result of this attitude change, he halved the second hole,
then drove to the edge of the green on the par four third hole, which
he had never done before, and won it with a birdie. They halved the
next three holes in par and Jones won the seventh with a birdie to be
only two down. The turning point of the match was the eighth, where
Adair missed a four foot putt which would have given him a win and a
three up advantage. They halved the ninth, therefore Jones was only
two down with nine to go. Adair missed another short putt on the tenth
and was only one up. Jones played even par from that point on and won
the match two up, shooting a seventy in the round which had started
with a double bogey. In contemplating this moment later, Jones said,
"I think what did most for me was Perry's remark as he put my ball into
my hand on the last green. With understandable disregard for grammar,
he had muttered, 'Bob, you are just the best.'³ So at the age of

¹Ibid.
²Ibid., pp. 84-85.
³Ibid.
fourteen, Bobby Jones had become the first Georgia State Amateur Champion, which prompted him later to say, "...I think this tournament marked the beginning of my taste for and appreciation of real competition in golf...."\(^1\)

Following the fine showing of their sons, Mr. Adair and Mr. Jones decided that the two boys should compete in the National Amateur Championship which was to be played at the Merion Cricket Club in Philadelphia. When Mr. Jones told his son about the trip, the young man was both surprised and happy. He said, "Until that very moment, however, I was sure that I had never given one thought to ever playing in a National Championship."\(^2\)

The teenage phenomenon from Atlanta was beginning a new chapter in his golfing experience. He approached this step into national competition with excitement and anxiety but with very little fear, if any. He described his feelings by saying:

"My debut in national championship affairs at the Merion Cricket Club, Philadelphia, in 1916 has given rise to a deal of comment, due to my lack of years, and as the personal statistics have been somewhat mixed I may explain that I was fourteen years and six months old, five feet four inches tall, and weighed 165 pounds--a chunky, rather knock-kneed, tow-headed youngster playing in long pants; supremely innocent of the vicissitudes of major tournament golf and the keenness of northern greens--so different from our heavy Bermuda texture in the South; pretty cocky, I suppose, from having at last won a real title, if only a state championship; and simply pop-eyed with excitement and interest."\(^3\)

\(^{1}\)Ibid., p. 83.

\(^{2}\)Ibid., p. 85.

\(^{3}\)Jones and Keeler, op. cit., p. 61.
Fig. 4.—Fourteen Year Old Jones at Merion, 1916
The youngsters arrived at Merion and went out to the famous old course to practice. Jones was overwhelmed by the beauty of the course, particularly the greens. He was anxious to go out and play and it was during a practice round on the West Course that he discovered the difference between the heavy Bermuda greens of the South and the slick, bent greens of the North. It was on the sixth green which sloped toward a creek which crossed in front. Jones's ball was thirty feet past the hole, which was located in the middle of the green. He hit the putt with his usual firm stroke and watched in amazement as the ball seemed to gather speed as it passed the hole and rolled into the creek. He had been on the green in two, and he was now playing his fourth shot from the creek in front of the green. As he described it, "...a most embarrassing contretemps...."^1

Bobby Jones burst onto the national golf scene with brilliance as the qualifying rounds started. The field was divided into two sections, one playing the West Course in the morning round and the other the East Course, and then they were to switch for the afternoon round. He played the West Course in the morning and shot a seventy-four, which was the lowest score of the morning round on either course. He was the leader of the tournament in his first try at national competition! The word spread rapidly that the youngster was leading and as they started the afternoon round nearly the entire gallery was following him. His teenage reaction to being thrust into the limelight was understandable

^1Ibid., p. 62.
as he said, "Gosh--it scared me to death."\(^1\) A newspaper described the situation:

In the afternoon, therefore, over the east course, the boy was closely watched as a possible winner of the medal--a thing which would have been the greatest sensation in the history of American golf. However--and there comes a long however--he blew up. The detonation was audible all over the course.\(^2\)

His afternoon score of eighty-nine was as bad as his morning score of seventy-four was good, but his total of 163 was four strokes under the cut-off and qualified him for the match play competition. Ferry Adair shot 167 and made the match play by winning in a play-off.

In his first match, Jones drew Eben Byers, the 1906 national champion. Everyone felt sorry for the young man and told him so, but the name Eben Byers meant nothing to Jones and he was anxious and ready to play his first match no matter who the opponent was.

The Byers-Jones match did not bring forth very good golf from either player. They both played poorly and reacted similarly to their bad play by throwing clubs. A description of the match said: "Byers, a volatile competitor, had years of experience on Jones, both at hitting golf balls and throwing clubs."\(^3\) The match continued and the worse they played the more the clubs flew. Players in the match following described it by saying, "...it looked like a juggling act on the stage."\(^4\) Byers eventually threw a club out of bounds and wouldn't let his caddy

\(^1\)Ibid.
\(^4\)Rice, op. cit., p. 12.
retrieve it. Jones finally won by the score of three and one and he described the match by saying, "...I think the main reason I won was because he ran out of clubs first...." The newspaper saw it differently, however, as the match was described as follows:

The great surprise of the day, however, was the defeat of Eben Byers of Allegheny, National Champion of 1906, by the fourteen-year-old youngster from Atlanta, Bobby Jones.... He outdrove Byers most of the way, but the really remarkable part of his play was his recovery from awkward positions, where the most hardened veteran might have been pardoned for losing his head or his courage. Not so with this boy, for he is full of confidence and never knows what it is to give up a hole until the other fellow is in the cup with the winning stroke.

The next match was with Frank Dyer, who had been considered one of the favorites in the tournament. He started fast and at the end of six holes was five up on Jones. But Dyer made some mistakes and Jones took advantage of them and managed to even the match at the end of the first eighteen holes. In the afternoon round Jones played superior golf and won the match, four and two.

In the third round, the opponent was the defending champion, Bob Gardner. This match drew a lot of attention since it pitted the young upstart, who had defeated one of the favorites and a former champion against the defending champion. Forty-two years later considering this situation, Jones wrote:

Although I had no such thoughts at the time, I have since had emotions of sympathy for Bob Gardner on that day, and at the same time admiration for the gallant and courtly way in which he met and handled what must have been a very difficult situation.

Gardner was a tall, handsome, athletic young man who looked every bit the champion he was.... On the other side was I, a

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1Jones and Keeler, op. cit.: p. 66.
pudgy school kid of fourteen, playing in my first national championship. I was wearing my first pair of long pants, and I owned one pair of golf shoes, a pair of old army issue into which I myself had screwed some spikes.  

Jones had a psychological advantage since he had everything to gain and nothing to lose. He was young and carefree and was doing what he loved most, playing golf. Gardner, on the other hand, was the defending champion, who, incidently, was playing with an infected finger. He was defending his position and his pride against this fourteen year old youngster. If he were to lose, he would be disgraced.

The match began and neither Gardner nor Jones played very well in the morning round, but Jones played well enough to shoot a seventy-six and hold a one up lead at the halfway point of the match.

The closeness of the match brought out the gallery for the afternoon round. They witnessed an excellent match and one which meant very much to Bobby Jones and his future in golf. Gardner won the first two holes to erase Jones's lead and go one up. They halved the third, Jones won the fourth to even the match, but Gardner won the fifth to be one up again. On the sixth, Jones's second shot was twelve feet from the pin and Gardner's second shot was ten feet over the green leaving him a very difficult downhill shot to the pin. It looked as if Jones could very well win this hole, but Gardner's chip shot stopped four inches from the hole. Jones missed his birdie putt and the hole was halved. On the 210 yard seventh, Jones's ball was about fifteen feet from the pin and Gardner again missed the green and was in the rough to the left. Once again, he chipped very close and saved his par, which was good for another half. On the eighth, Jones placed his second shot

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1Jones, op. cit., p. 88.
ten feet from the hole. Gardner's second shot was too strong and went over the green and stopped on the ninth tee. His chip was not very good and he was still away. It looked as if Jones would win this hole, but Gardner, playing like the champion he was, holed the putt, after which an unnerved Jones missed his birdie and the hole was halved. He described his feelings as he walked to the ninth tee:

After all these years I remember exactly how I felt as I walked onto the ninth tee, and I remember exactly what I did. I felt that I had been badly treated by luck. I had been denied something that was rightly mine. I wanted to go off and pout and have someone sympathize with me, and I acted just like the kid I was. I didn't half try on any shot thereafter. In short, I quit. Ten years later it might have been different, but it wasn't then.¹

Gardner won five of the next seven holes and the match, five and three. Bobby Jones had quit. The great recoveries by Gardner had been too much for him. He was angry, disgusted and fourteen, which could account for his reaction. The thing he could not understand was how Gardner could be so fortunate while hitting the ball so poorly. In reflecting upon this match Jones's attitude toward life and golf is shown:

It is the keen poignant, and accurate recollection of this episode which has caused me so often to be thankful it happened just as it did. If I had won those three holes, or even two of them, I probably should have won the match. And it is not inconceivable that I might even have won the tournament...

Yet if I had won, what would have happened next?... I must admit that I had already become a bit cocky because of my golfing success in play against grown men. Had I won that championship, I should have been Amateur Champion for not only the next twelve months, but, because of the suspension of play for the period of the war, for three whole years. I shudder to think what those years might have done to me, not so much to my golf, but in a vastly more important respect, to me as a human being.²

¹Ibid., p. 90.
²Ibid.
The golfing year 1916 was over for Bobby Jones. It had been a wonderful year for him. He had won the first Georgia State Amateur Championship and had played in national competition for the first time. Due to his success in the national amateur, his golfing prowess was now known throughout the United States and, therefore, he would never again enter a tournament as an unknown. This was a great burden to put upon one who was so young.

THE WAR YEARS AND THE RED CROSS MATCHES

By the time Spring, 1917, arrived, the United States had entered World War I. Tournament golf was greatly curtailed and in many instances, completely stopped.

The Southern Championship was held, however, at the Roebuck County Club in Birmingham and Jones entered. This was his second try for the championship and this time he won. He moved through the early rounds without much difficulty. In the semi-finals he met and defeated Rube Bush, the great player from New Orleans, placing him against Louis Jacoby, a very methodical and deliberate player from Dallas.

This was Jones's chance for his first big sectional tournament victory. The match brought out a large gallery primarily because Bobby Jones was a finalist, and they were not disappointed. He built a four up margin after the first eighteen holes while shooting a seventy-six. This commanding lead was cut to only one up after the first three holes of the afternoon round by Jacoby. He had rallied and Jones had helped him by playing poorly. But on the fourth hole, a 200 yard par three, Jones placed his tee shot three inches from the hole for an easy birdie which raised his spirits and moved him on to a convincing six and five
victory, and his first of several Southern Amateur Championships. He was the youngest (fifteen years, seven months) man to win this important sectional championship. This was the only tournament in which he participated in 1917 and 1918.

Because of the necessity of raising money for the War Chest of the American Red Cross, J. A. Scott of the Wright and Ditson Company arranged a tour of golf exhibitions involving the "Boy Wonders of Dixie," Perry Adair and Bobby Jones and two of America's best young women players, Alexa Stirling, the reigning U.S. Amateur Champion from Atlanta, and Elaine Rosenthal of Chicago. This group traveled over the eastern part of the United States raising money through their exhibition matches for the Red Cross Fund.

It was during this tour at Brae Burn in Boston that Jones had an experience which was meaningful to him both as a golfer and as a man. As anyone who has played the game knows, golf can be frustrating at times, particularly when a shot is mis-shot or misdirected. Jones experienced this feeling many times and, to vent his anger, his first inclination was to heave his club. This happened several times during the round. Young Jones was very upset with himself and he showed his disgruntled feelings by throwing his clubs and occasionally the ball. He embarrassed the other members of the foursome, particularly Alexa Stirling. As he explained the situation later, "I read the pity in Alexa's soft brown eyes and finally settled down, but not before I had made a complete fool of myself." This incident brought forth some

Ibid., p. 94.
Fig. 5.—Stewart Maiden and His Three Pupils: Alexa Stirling, Bobby Jones and Perry Adair
rather severe words from the Boston press. Jones kept many of these articles as reminders, one of which follows:

Some interesting golf was shown during the match, interspersed with some pranks by Jones, which will have to be corrected if this player expects to rank with the best in the country. Although Jones is only a boy, his display of temper when things went wrong did not appeal to the gallery.\(^1\)

He realized that these outbursts of emotion must cease and vowed to himself that they would, without realizing the strength of human emotions. But, he was well on his way to conquering these outbursts by his recognition that they are not acceptable to others. As he explained the situation:

And I was a year or two more getting my turbulent disposition in hand. It wasn't an easy matter.... It's sort of hard to explain, unless you play golf yourself, and have a temper. You see, I never lost my temper with an opponent. I was angry only with myself. It always seemed, and it seems today, such an utterly useless and idiotic thing to stand up to a perfectly simple shot, one that I know I can make a hundred times running without a miss—and mess up the blessed thing, the one time I want to make it! And it's gone forever—an irrevocable crime, that stroke...I think it was Stevenson who said that bad men and fools eventually got what was coming to them, but the fools first. And when you feel so extremely a fool and a bad golfer to boot, what the deuce can you do, except throw the club away?\(^2\)

This temper problem was a cross which Jones had to bear during all of his golfing years. He bore it well and eventually conquered it in his public competition. But as he said only a few years ago, "To the finish of my golfing days, I encountered golfing emotions which could not be endured with the club still in my hands."\(^3\)

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\(^1\)Jones and Keeler, *op. cit.*, pp. 64-65.

\(^2\)Ibid.

\(^3\)Jones, *op. cit.*, p. 94.
During the summers of 1917 and 1918 Jones came in contact with the professional golfers for the first time. There were many exhibition matches played, which were much the same as the ones involving the four young amateurs, except that these matches involved both amateurs and professionals and they were for the benefit of War Relief. The players chosen were divided into teams or categories: Amateurs, Homebred Professionals, Scottish Professionals and English Professionals. The first match was held at Baltusrol, New Jersey. It was a foursome match and the Amateurs, of which Bobby Jones was a member, were playing against the English. Norman Maxwell and Bobby Jones defeated George Sargent and Herbert Strong and were the only two amateurs to score against their opponents. In the singles matches Jones was able to go through three days of play at Baltusrol, Siwanoy and Garden City without a defeat and this was against the best professionals in the country. This was his first competition with the professionals and he loved it because they presented such a challenge to him.

With the end of 1918 came the end of World War I. During these war years Jones had been fortunate to have been asked to play in many exhibitions. These exhibition matches had provided an excellent learning opportunity for him. He had learned much about golf from being with the professionals and from playing so many different courses in various parts of the country. The incident at Brae Burn had taught him much about himself. He had graduated from Tech High School in the spring of 1918 and was going to be a freshman at Georgia Tech in the fall, which, of course, added to his maturity. The combination of all of these experiences had contributed to his growth both as a golfer and as a person. The war years had been good to Bobby Jones.
1919 - THE RUNNER-UP YEAR

The golfing year 1919 began earlier than the previous years, since Jones began playing golf for the golf team of Georgia Tech. Georgia Tech had not had a golf team before, but when Bobby Jones and Perry Adair arrived, the Tech golf team had its beginning. These two young Atlanta golfers, together with Tom Prescott and Hal Schley, organized themselves into a team, obtained sanction from the athletic department and began to play matches with other schools. Previously his golf had not begun until he finished school in the spring, but because of the formation of the team, this year his competition began much earlier.

Nineteen-nineteen has come to be known as the Runner-up Year for Bobby Jones since he finished second in three of the four tournaments which he entered. The Southern Amateur was the first of the year and the only one in which he did not finish second. It was to be played in New Orleans and he was the defending champion. This was not Jones's year to win this tournament, however. He did manage to reach the semi-final round, but at this point Nelson Whitney gave him a sound defeat, six and five.

The most memorable anecdote which came out of this tournament concerned Jones's not knowing the rules. This incident happened on the first hole of the qualifying round at the New Orleans Country Club. This hole was a 150 yard par three. Jones's tee shot landed in an old shoe which was in a wheelbarrow inadvertently located too near the green. Not being sure as to the ruling and fearing possible disqualification, he elected to play the ball. He took his niblick and with a mighty swing knocked the shoe and the ball onto the green and the ball
rolled out of the shoe. From there, he two-putted for his four and a bogey on the hole. After discovering that he would have received a free drop and saved a stroke, Jones was quite chagrined, but never again was he caught short in knowledge of the rules. This was another chapter in the education of a champion.¹

His next competition was in the Canadian Open at Hamilton, Ontario. A foursome from Atlanta, made up of two professionals, Willie Ogg and J. Douglas Edgar, and two amateurs, Perry Adair and Bobby Jones, decided to enter. As they started for Canada, little did they know that one of their group was to become famous by shooting the lowest score ever recorded for a national open championship up to that time.

J. Douglas Edgar, the little English professional from Druid Hills, shot rounds of 72-71-69-66 for a winning total of 278, which was a record and also was sixteen strokes ahead of the second place finishers, Bobby Jones, Jim Barnes and Karl Keffer. Edgar's finishing round of sixty-six stood as the lowest single round ever recorded in national competition until Tommy Armour shot a sixty-four in the same tournament over the same course in 1930. This was J. Douglas Edgar's tournament. It was to be his only great mark made in tournament golf, however, since he was mysteriously killed two years later by a passing motorist in front of his Atlanta home.

Jones had played well at Hamilton. His 29½ was a very respectable score and one which could conceivably have won in any other year. He needed only two putts on the final hole for a 293 and second place alone, but he three-putted to tie with Barnes and Keffer. This was

¹Rice, op. cit., p. 20.
the first of his three second place finishes in 1919.

The Southern Open Championship was played at the East Lake Club in Atlanta. Jones entered and was once again placed in a pressure situation. He had been playing well and the tournament was being played on his home course; therefore, he was favored to win. He met the pressure well as usual and the tournament evolved into a struggle between himself and Jim Barnes, a fine professional.

After the first two rounds, Barnes was leading by one stroke. Jones, being only one stroke behind, was paired with Barnes for the final two rounds. They played even through the first three holes of the third round. Beginning at the fourth hole, Barnes scored a birdie four, on the fifth he made an eagle three holing a 150 yard shot and on the sixth, he made a birdie two; while Jones played the same holes in par losing four strokes to Barnes while so doing. He kept struggling and fighting back in the final round, but Barnes's three hole sub-par streak of golf in the third round was too much to overcome and once again Bobby Jones was the runner-up. This time, however, he was only one stroke behind the winner, whereas in Canada it had been sixteen.

His final competition in 1919 was in the United States Amateur which was played at the famous Oakmont Country Club in Pittsburgh. Because of his fine showing in both the Canadian and Southern Opens, Jones was considered one of the favorites along with 1914 winner, Francis Ouimet and the defending champion, Chick Evans. This was Jones's second attempt at the U.S. Amateur title.

The first qualifying round was marred by a severe hail storm which, together with the difficulty of the course, helped send the scores very high. Davidson Herron, an Oakmont player, tied with Jim
Manion and Paul Lewkesburg for the medal with 158. Bobby Jones was second with 159, and the almost unbelievable total of 172 qualified for the match play. In spite of his poor driving, Jones moved easily to the finals defeating his 1916 conqueror, Bob Gardner on the way. Here he met the qualifying medalist Davidson Herron. Neither of the other co-favorites, Francis Ouimet nor Chick Evans, remained, since Ouimet had defeated Evans in an earlier match and lost himself the next day to Woody Platt.

Jones and Herron had a close match during the morning round and ended all even. In the afternoon, however, Herron's superiority on the greens gave him a three up advantage as they came to the twelfth hole. On this 621 yard hole the famous "megaphone incident" took place, which turned out to be the turning point of the match. Jones had outdriven Herron and Herron's second shot had landed considerably short of the green. Jones had a chance to put his second shot close to or even on the green and an almost sure birdie. He had his famous brassie in his hands and was just at the top of his backswing when a gallery marshall yelled "Fore." Needless to say, he missed the shot and it ended in a bunker where he recovered poorly and lost the hole. Rather than being two down with six to play, he was now four down with six to play. Herron went on to win the match on the fourteenth hole, five and four and Jones was runner-up for the third time that year. He was very quick to deny that the incident had caused him to lose the match; he preferred to believe that this was not his tournament and he was not meant to win.

While 1919 was not profitable from the standpoint of tournament victories, it was profitable in other ways. His participation in two more national championships contributed greatly to his growth.
Experience plus growing up helped improve his mental approach to the game. But most important, he learned more about controlling himself.

1920 - THE FIRST UNITED STATES OPEN

In the summer of 1920, Bobby Jones was eighteen years old, relatively slim and in his second year at Georgia Tech where he was a fine student and an outstanding member of the golf team. His competitive golf season, other than college matches, took place between the end of school in the spring and the beginning of school in the fall and was always secondary to his education. This attitude remained constant throughout all of his school years and exemplifies his strictly amateur outlook toward golf.

The 1920 season began with the Southern Amateur at Chattanooga. Jones's game generally had been very good and consequently he experienced little difficulty in winning this sectional tournament for the second time. Because of this success, he decided to enter the Western Amateur the following weekend at Memphis. He had never played in this tournament before, but since it was being played in Memphis and it was a national tournament as well, he thought that it would be valuable experience.

Jones's golfing excellence continued throughout the qualifying rounds as he set a new Western Amateur qualifying record with rounds of sixty-nine and seventy. Chick Evans, the perennial Western Amateur champion, was the favorite. He and Jones moved through the first three rounds of match play without much difficulty bringing them together in national competition for the first time in the semi-final round. Evans was an experienced veteran of tournament play. He had won both the
U.S. Amateur and Open tournaments in 1916, the first man ever to accomplish this feat. He was a fierce competitor and very difficult to beat, particularly in match play.

The match was very close during the morning round, but Evans started playing well in the afternoon and after eleven holes had achieved a three up advantage. At this point Jones began to apply the pressure and won the next three holes to draw even with four holes to play. They halved the thirty-third hole and also the thirty-fourth where both players made eight foot putts. On the thirty-fifth Jones was on the green and Evans was in the trap in two shots. Evans' shot from the grass trap was excellent and stopped twelve feet from the pin. Jones's approach putt left him six feet from the hole. Evans holed his putt for a four and when Jones's putt for his four rimmed the cup, Evans gained a one up margin which was enough as they halved the thirty-sixth hole. Chick Evans was the winner. He defeated Clarence Wolff in the finals the next day and was once again the Western Amateur Champion. In reflection upon this match Jones said, "We had one of the greatest matches I ever took part in, and I want to say that the way he beat me proved, to my mind, that Chick is one of the gamest and best competitive golfers the world ever saw."¹ This was the first and last time Chick Evans ever beat Bobby Jones in match play.

The 1920 United States Open Championship was held at the Inverness Club in Toledo, Ohio. This was Jones's first attempt at the Open Championship, which, as all golfers know, is the championship. This is where the professionals and the best amateurs get together to determine

¹Jones and Keeler, op. cit., p. 9h.
who is the best player of all golfers from all parts of the world.

Walter Hagen was the defending champion and all of the name
golfers of the day were entered: Ted Ray, Harry Vardon, Chick Evans,
Jock Hutchinson and many others. In the qualifying rounds Bobby Jones
was paired with the great English professional, Harry Vardon. It was
a unique pairing in that Vardon at fifty was the oldest contestant and
Jones at eighteen was the youngest. Regarding this pairing Jones
said, "I was delighted and more than a little flustered--Harry Vardon
had been a hero and an idol to me ever since I first saw him play when
I was a kid 11 years old, at my home course in Atlanta."

However, Jones must not have been too awestruck by the situation,
since he immediately went out and shot a thirty-four on the front nine
to Vardon's forty. On the second nine, however, they reversed the
order and Vardon came in with a thirty-five while Jones came in with
a forty-one giving each man a seventy-five total for the first day.

During the second round of the qualifier an incident occurred
which has become one of the great stories of golf. The seventh hole at
Inverness is a 320 yard dogleg around some tall grees which invited the
long bold drivers to attempt to cut the dogleg which would reward them
by placing the ball directly in front of the green for a very short
second shot. This is precisely what both Vardon and Jones did, leaving
themselves shots of only about twenty yards to the pin. Vardon was
away and elected to play a conservative run-up shot which ended close
to the pin. Jones, on the other hand, chose to play a delicate pitch
shot with a niblick, even though there were no obstacles between himself

\[1\text{Ibid., p. 99.}\]
Fig. 6.—Harry Vardon and Bobby Jones at Inverness, 1920
and the hole. Jones came up on the shot and topped it. The ball went clear across the green into the deep rough. It cost him a bogey and a great deal of embarrassment. Vardon was a silent player in competition and had said nothing during the whole round to Jones. As they were walking to the next tee, in order to ease his embarrassment and possibly break the conversational ice as well, Jones said to Vardon, "Mr. Vardon, did you ever see a worse shot than that?" Vardon answered, "No." That was the end of the incident and also the conversation.1 Jones's evaluation later of Vardon's comment was "I still regard it as the funniest and most conclusive estimate I ever heard on anything.2

Jones had qualified easily but in the opening round of the championship he started five over par in the first six holes and could not recover. He completed the first round shooting a seventy-eight which left him far behind the leaders. He did better in the second round, shooting a seventy-four for a 152 total, leaving him seven strokes behind the halfway leader, Jock Hutchinson. Jones had more or less counted himself out of the tournament, but when in the morning round of the final day, he shot a seventy for a 222 total, he realized that he was in contention. Harry Vardon was leading with 218, Jock Hutchinson and Lee Diegel were at 219, Ted Ray was at 220 and Jones at 222 only four strokes behind.

Jones thought that he needed another seventy or better to win the championship. In his overzealous attempt to shot a sub par round, he shot a seventy-seven for a 299 total which placed him in a tie for

1Rice, op. cit., pp. 29-30.

2Jones and Keeler, loc. cit.
eighth place with Willie McFarlane, but only four strokes behind Ted Ray's winning score of 295.

If Jones could have only shot a par round, he would have been the winner by one stroke. He did not know at this time the great pressure involved in the last round of an Open Championship and what effect it had on the scores. Harry Vardon had had a four stroke lead with nine holes to play, but lost six strokes in the last seven holes to finish in a tie for second with Jock Hutchinson, Jack Burke and Leo Diegel, all of whom had a chance to win, but didn't. Jones's own evaluation of this tournament shows that he believed that much was to be learned from losing:

A fourth round of 72 would have won me the first open championship in which I played, and doubtless would have ruined me utterly. Of all the luck I've had, and I've had a lot, the best luck is that I didn't win at Merion as a kid of 14 in my first amateur championship, or at Inverness, in my first open.... But that tremendous finish at Inverness hypnotized me. Think of it--five players having a chance to win, right up to the seventy-second green! I concluded right there that the open championship was the thing...I confess it still is my idea of a tournament...I watched Leo Diegel play the last three holes, and I remember wondering why his face was so gray and sort of fallen in....I found out, for myself, later.

In September came the U.S. Amateur Championship at the Engineers Club on Long Island, N.Y. This was Jones's third try for this championship. In the qualifying rounds, he played quite well and ended in a tie for the medalist honors at 152 with Freddie Wright. They agreed to let the medal honors ride on the match play competition if they met during the tournament. This match materialized in the third round and what a match it was!

On the opening hole Wright made a birdie three, which seemed to

\(^1ibid., p. 98.\)
set the tone for the match. Jones countered with a birdie three at the second hole. They halved the third with fours, but Wright made a birdie three on number four. Jones won the fifth hole with a four and then made three consecutive threes to end the front nine in thirty-three. Freddie Wright was even par, thirty-five, and two down. Jones proceeded to make four more threes on the back nine and finished the morning round five up. This was too much of a margin for Wright to overcome and Jones won the match five and four and with it the medalist honors as well.

This win placed him in the semi-final round against Francis Ouimet, one of the outstanding players in the country at that time. The match drew a large gallery, but it was Ouimet's day and he established a three up lead during the morning round. Ouimet's relentlessly superb golf closed Jones out six and five on the thirteenth green in the afternoon. As Jones approached the green with defeat inevitable, the huge gallery gave him a resounding round of applause. This pleased him, since the Northern galleries had not always been so kind to the young Southerner. This was the first and last time that Francis Ouimet ever defeated Bobby Jones in match play.

1921 - THE FIRST TRIP TO GREAT BRITAIN

In the spring of 1921, a number of American amateur golfers, including Bobby Jones, were on their way to Great Britain to compete in the two major British tournaments, the Amateur at Hoylake and the Open at St. Andrews. A few Americans, mostly professionals, had taken part in these tournaments before, but this was really the first organized effort on the part of American amateur golfers to compete in Britain.
The group was organized by W. C. Fornes, Jr. and was described in the newspaper as follows: "...it represents almost the national strength of the United States and is certainly the strongest team that ever crossed the Atlantic."\(^1\) This group met with a group of British amateurs for some informal team match play prior to the British Amateur. The team match play was won by the Americans. This informal team competition was the forerunner to the Walker Cup Matches, the biennial amateur team matches between the best amateurs of Great Britain and the United States.

Jones's introduction to golf in the British Isles, which he later grew to love so much was quite devastating in many ways. Nevertheless, he gained many valuable experiences on this trip. The first thing he learned was that British golf courses are not as well cared for as the ones in the United States. The British more or less let nature take care of the courses. If the weather is dry, the greens and the course are dry and hard. Conversely, if there is plenty of rain, the course will be soggy. With many of the courses located near the sea, variable winds play an important part in a round of golf. The player must be able to adjust his game to the changing conditions of the course and to the elements. Jones wasn't able to do this at first, but he was destined to learn.

He also became acquainted with the British attitude toward sport; that is that more emphasis should be placed on how the game is played than on its outcome. The typical American attitudes of win at any cost encompassing the overly eager quest for victory, as well as excessive

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lamentation following a defeat are very distasteful to the British. Jones was to discover this in a shocking and embarrassing way on this trip.

The first tournament competition was in the British Amateur on a hard, dried out course at Hoylake. Jones started well by shooting a par round and handily beating a man named Manford. Next he played against a Mr. Hamlet. This match was absurd from the standpoint of the scoring which one expects in a national championship. It was won one up by a man shooting an eighty-six. British writer Bernard Darwin wrote, "It was a farcical affair and the crowd were divided between patriotism, fury and laughter." Jones had to win the last two holes to do it and he caromed his half-stymied ball off his opponent's ball and into the hole to win on the last green. The next opponent was one of the good British players, Robert Harris. Jones was playing much better in this match, however, and defeated Harris easily, six and five. The fourth round match was his last as Allan Graham defeated him while using a very old brass putter. The fact that Graham was using this outdated brass putter seemed to hurt Jones more than the loss itself. Willie Hunter was the eventual winner, which is significant since Hunter and Jones were destined to meet in a memorable match in another tournament later in the year.

The next stop was at the famous course at St. Andrews, Scotland. This was Jones's first visit to the course with which he fell in love in later years. But this first meeting turned out to be disastrous. It produced what Jones termed, "...the most inglorious failure of my

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golfing life ...."¹ The incident occurred on the eleventh hole of the third round. He had played the first nine in forty-six strokes, which is quite a few even at St. Andrews. On the tenth, he made a double bogey six; on the eleventh he put his second shot in a bunker and had difficulty getting out. He finally managed to get on the green, but he was so disgusted with himself that he picked up his ball without holing out which automatically disqualified him. He played out the round and the tournament, but only unofficially, since officially, he was disqualified. This act was not completely unusual, for it had been done before and has been done since. But to the staid British it was inconceivable that this much heralded, brash young American could come to their great Open Championship and withdraw in the middle of a round. The British newspapers were very critical of Bobby Jones. One author said: "The fuss that was made of this incident in later years always seemed to me an inverted compliment to him. With a lesser man it would have been instantly forgotten."² The adverse publicity hurt Jones personally and once again he vowed to himself to conquer his sometimes uncontrollable emotions, which fortunately he soon was going to be able to do. Five years hence, because of his conquering himself, he was to turn the British feeling of scorn into adoration. Jock Hutchinson, the St. Andrews born American professional, won the tournament by defeating Roger Wethered in a playoff after having shot a three under par seventy in the final round to tie. Jones's

¹Jones, op. cit., p. 95.
²Longhurst, loc. cit.
first trip to Britain had been negatively eventful for the present, but positively eventful for his golfing and personal future.

The next tournament was the United States Open at the Columbia Country Club in Washington, D.C. A new qualifying rule applied this year in which the qualifying round was eighteen holes instead of thirty-six and Jones nearly didn’t qualify. Fortunately, he made the cut-off, however, and started the tournament with an unimpressive seventy-eight which was nine strokes behind the leader, Jim Barnes.

On the second day, he improved and closed the gap to only five strokes by shooting a seventy-one. In the third round he played just as well from tee to green but had one of his worst putting rounds in championship play using forty putts. As he started the final round nine strokes behind Barnes, Jones began to play bold golf. He started 3-3-4-4 and was two under par after four holes. On the long, 560 yard, fifth, he had a fine drive out 280 yards which left him 275 yards to the green and an almost sure birdie. In his tremendous effort to get the ball on the green, he hooked it out of bounds. He dropped another ball and hooked it out of bounds, also. His blood began to boil and it rose up into his neck and his ears turned scarlet, but this time Jones won the battle with his temper. He dropped another ball, played it safely down the middle, put his next shot onto the green and two-putted for a nine, which ruined any chance he had of overtaking Barnes. He finished with a seventy-seven for a 303 total and a tie for fifth with Alex Smith. He had not won the U.S. Open, but he had won the battle with his temper. Never again did he display the temper which had dogged him in his early years and caused him so much unpleasantness. As O. B. Keeler, the man who knew him best, said, "I firmly believe that this
tournament at Columbia was the ultimate closing of one chapter in the development of this remarkable young golfer. Jones gained final control of his temper.\(^1\) Walter Hagen, the greatest professional of the day, said of Jones following this tournament:

Bobby was playing some great golf in spots. He's got everything he needs to win any championship, except experience; and maybe, philosophy. He's still a bit impetuous. But I'll tip you off to something--Bobby will win an open before he wins an amateur.\(^2\)

The 1921 U.S. Amateur tournament was at the St. Louis Country Club. This was Jones's fifth try for the Amateur title, and he wanted to win very badly. He qualified with a 151 which was seven strokes behind Francis Ouimet's winning score. He won his first two matches easily defeating Clarence Wolff, runner-up in the 1920 Western Amateur, by the humiliating score of twelve and eleven, and defeating Dr. O. F. Willing, nine and eight. This brought him into a match with Willie Hunter, the current British Amateur Champion. This was a memorable match in which Jones learned a great deal about match play.\(^3\)

They started the morning round and Jones played the first nine in one under par figures, but he was still only two up on Hunter. He was outdriving his opponent by thirty to sixty yards but Hunter just kept hanging on with true British tenacity and the morning round was completed with Jones being two up. They battled even through the first seven holes of the afternoon round. The eighth hole was 347 yards long with an elevated tee and a sharp dogleg to the right to a small green...

\(^1\)Rice, \textit{op. cit.}, p. 58.
\(^2\)Ibid., p. 59.
\(^3\)Hunter's description of this match is contained in the appendix.
hidden in the trees. Jones had driven over the trees and onto the green several times in practice rounds and since he was becoming impatient with Hunter's tenacity plus his own inability to widen the margin, he elected to attempt to drive the ball over the trees and onto the green for a sure birdie. He hit a long, high drive which cleared all but the last limb of the tallest tree. The ball dropped straight down and into a dry creek bed from where he took two shots to recover and three putts which gave Hunter the hole and reduced Jones's margin to one up. Hunter won the next hole as well and went on to win the match two and one.

Jones had added another page to his book of golf knowledge. He had learned that a golfer must be patient. He must play the course, make as many pars as possible and let the opponents make the mistakes. Furthermore, a golfer must not be greedy for birdies and impatient for victory as he had been on the eighth tee. His old friend Keeler lectured him about this following the defeat. Jones knew it, but as he said, he still liked the old Scottish maxim, "When you get him 1 doon, get him 2 doon; when you get him 3 doon, get him 4 doon!"¹ But he didn't win any match play championships until he changed his mind. Concerning this he said:

'It took some doing. I'll admit, but it is a fact that I never did any real amount of winning until I learned to adjust my ambitions to more reasonable prospects shot by shot, and to strive for a rate of performance that was consistently good and reliable, rather than placing my hopes upon the accomplishment of a series of brilliant sallies."²

That was the end of the tournament year 1921. It had been

¹Jones and Keeler, op. cit., p. 115.
²Jones, op. cit., p. 68.
another non-winning year, but another significant learning year in the preparation of a champion.

1922 - THE LAST OF THE LEARNING YEARS

This was the last year of a period in Bobby Jones's golfing life which has come to be known as the "Seven Lean Years," when he competed in eleven national championships without winning one. The year opened for him with two non-golfing events; an operation for swollen veins in his left leg and a college graduation ceremony. During the U.S. Amateur at St. Louis the previous fall, the veins had begun to swell on several areas of his left leg. He noticed the pain but it seemed to be more noticeable during long periods of walking. The condition had to be remedied before he could play golf any more, so he entered an Atlanta hospital and submitted to the operation.

At approximately the same time, he finished his work at Georgia Tech, and a degree in Mechanical Engineering was conferred in June. He was also attempting to complete his enrollment in Harvard for the fall term, where he planned to pursue a degree in literature. This was a very busy and important time in the life of Bobby Jones.

In the midst of all of his personal turmoil, the Southern Amateur was scheduled to be played at the East Lake course. In all probability, because of the operation and his school problems, he would not have entered except that for the first time the George Adair Trophy, in memory of the great Atlanta sportsman whom Jones admired so much, was to be awarded to the winner. Out of deference and respect for George Adair, he entered the tournament.

Only two weeks out of the hospital and with very little
opportunity to practice, his chances for victory appeared very slight. He had practiced only a few times and had played only nine holes prior to the tournament, but nevertheless he tied for the medal honors with a seventy-five in the qualifying round. He went through the five matches necessary to win the tournament in ten under par figures and became the winner of the first George Adair Trophy. Concerning his play in this tournament he said, "This tournament probably was the best-scoring prolonged event I ever played."\(^1\) Jones had achieved his purpose by winning and having his name appear upon the trophy dedicated to George Adair about whom Jones said, "...a great sportsman and the man, who, I think, did more for golf in Atlanta and the South than any other...."\(^2\)

Ironically, this was Jones's last time to enter the Southern Amateur.

The U.S. Open was played at the Skokie Country Club in Chicago. Jones's confidence was high due to his fine play at East Lake and he started well by shooting 77-72-70 in the first three rounds for a 216 total and a tie for the lead with Bill Mehlhorn. One stroke behind was John Black, the California Scot; at 219 was the great Walter Hagen, current British Open champion; and at 220 was Gene Sarazen, the young Italian.

Sarazen came through in the final round with a four under par, sixty-eight, which placed him into the lead with a 288 total. Jones was on the tenth tee, having shot a thirty-six on the front nine, when Sarazen's score was placed on the scoreboard. Jones saw it and knew that he must shoot a one under par, thirty-five, on the back nine to win.

\(^1\)Jones and Keeler, _op. cit._, p. 120.

\(^2\)Ibid.
The challenge was there and it would not change, so Jones went out to meet it. He missed a putt and lost a stroke at the tenth hole. He also took a bogey at the twelfth hole when his pitch shot went over the green. He rallied at the fourteenth, however, and sank a birdie putt of thirty-five feet. He was row only one stroke back and needed one more birdie in the last four holes to tie. He just missed getting his birdie at the fifteenth and managed a par at the sixteenth. As he stood on the seventeenth tee, he foresaw a par four on the seventeenth and a birdie four at the par five eighteenth which would tie for the lead. But seventeen was to be his downfall, as what looked to be a perfect drive across the large bunker guarding the dogleg ended in a roadway under a small tree. From there he took four more strokes and instead of needing a birdie to tie, he now needed an eagle. He did manage to put his second shot on the back edge of the par five eighteenth, but he missed his eagle putt and had to settle for a birdie which placed him in a tie for second with John Black. It was not Jones's turn to win yet. He was moving up in the Open finishes, however, having been eighth in 1920, fifth in 1921 and now second. He was the low amateur and no amateur ever finished ahead of him again in Open competition.

The first official international amateur team competition, the Walker Cup Matches, were to be played in August at the National Links in Southampton, Long Island, followed by the U.S. Amateur at The Country Club in Brookline, Massachusetts, in September. On the way to the tournament, Jones was reading Cicero's Orations Against Cataline in preparation for Harvard that fall. He contemplated as he read on
Cicero's outlook upon life and he thought to himself and later wrote:

If I only thought as much of my golfing ability as Cicero thought of his statesmanship, I might do better in these blamed tournaments. You know, Cicero was a long way from hating himself.¹

The American team won the first Walker Cup competition and Jones won his singles match against Roger Wethered with some excelling putting. He teamed with Jess Sweetser, the Yale golfer, to defeat the English team in the foursome competition as well.

The play moved on to the famous Country Club course in Brookline, where a drenching rain marred the second qualifying round. Jesse Guilford was the medalist with scores of 74-70, 114, and Jones was second with a 115. He won his first three matches, experiencing some difficulty with his old nemesis, Bob Gardner, in the second round but otherwise winning easily over James Beadle and William McPhail. This brought him up against his partner in the Walker Cup Matches and his natural rival from Yale (now that Bobby was a Harvard student), Jess Sweetser. Sweetser had been playing magnificent golf defeating H. E. Kenworthy ten and nine, former champion Willie Hunter eleven and nine and Jess Guilford, the medalist and defending champion, four and three.

The match started unobtrusively as the first hole was halved. On the second hole, however, Jones's downfall started. Both players drove to within ninety yards of the green, but Sweetser was slightly away. He took his mashie-niblick and hit the shot to the slightly elevated green. It was perfectly on line and when the roar from the crowd around the green arose, Jones knew Sweetser had holed the shot for an eagle. He tried hard to get his eagle, too, but his shot stopped

¹Ibid., p. 124.
six inches from the hole for an easy birdie, but he still lost the hole. These shots were two of the greatest ever played in golf competition, the first for an eagle from ninety yards and the second within six inches following the eagle. Sweetser was not to be denied from that point on. At the end of the first nine Jones was six down which prompted his Boxwell, O. B. Keeler, to say "...something I never saw before, something I had never expected to see at all, and certainly would never see again...." At this point Jones started to play great golf. He played the next nine holes in two under par, but he was able only to pick up one hole on Sweetser, so they finished the morning round with Sweetser five up. This lead was insurmountable and it was only a matter of time in the afternoon round as Sweetser played every hole in par and eventually won on number eleven by the overwhelming score of eight and seven.

He went on the next day to defeat Chick Evans, two time winner, by the score of three and two and thus become the National Amateur champion. Sweetser's golf that week was possibly the greatest that had even been played up to that time. As O. B. Keeler said:

He won through the greatest field ever assembled by defeating the stoutest opponents that could be expected to oppose him. And to realize what a worthy champion he really was, take a look at what he was called on to beat in the order named: H. E. Kenworthy, 10-9; Willie Hunter, 11-9; Jess Guilford, 1-3; Bobby Jones, 8-7; and Chick Evans, 3-2. Any golfer who could beat these last four on successive days over the 36-hole route deserves to be champion.

This was the last competition for Bobby Jones in 1922 and it was the end of the "Learning Years." The base had been established and

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1 Rice, op. cit., p. 72.
2 Ibid., p. 73.
from here on, the "Productive Years" would reap the harvest of self-
satisfaction and championships that were to come. Bobby Jones had
taken many valuable lessons of character and golf, if they can
reasonably be separated, and—in the years to come, he would pay back
to golf and to the world many times over, the debt for the lessons he
had learned.
In 1923 the United States was in the beginning of a great prosperity. As one historian said, "For nearly seven years the prosperity band-wagon rolled down Main Street."\(^1\) Paralleling the prosperity was an increased interest in sport. Since money was plentiful, people could now afford some recreational luxuries which before had been denied them. They wanted both to watch and participate. Sport heroes arose such as Jack Dempsey in boxing, Bill Tilden in Tennis and Bobby Jones in golf. As one historian said, "Sport, too, had become an American obsession."\(^2\) The people of this era idolized success of any kind. Bobby Jones was to become their golfing hero because of the success which he was to attain in the next eight years.

1923 - THE FIRST MAJOR VICTORY

The opening of the tournament season of 1923 found Bobby Jones attempting to ready himself for the United States Open Championship which was to be held at the Inwood Course on Long Island, New York. He had been at Harvard during the school year before and because of the pressures of school, had played very little golf. Due to his


\(^2\)Ibid., p. 56.
Fig. 7.--Jones Ready to Begin the Productive Years
lack of play and a depressed mental state, Jones's golf game was not very good at this point. This circumstance was due not only to his lack of play during the previous year but also to the fact that he was worried because he had not yet won a major championship, even though he was professed by many to be the greatest shot maker in the game.

O. B. Keeler commenting about this situation said:

He was more depressed and worried, I think, than ever before—or since. It seemed, in a way, as if a great load of responsibility had settled on him. He had been in major competition now for seven years; this tournament at Inwood would be his eleventh start in the Big Show. And all the time, and in every field, he was rated first as a possibility, then good enough to win, then a favorite. And he never had won.¹

Concerning this point in Jones's life Krout wrote:

The half dozen years after his debut at Merion were valuable to the young Atlanta golfer, but he felt a growing dissatisfaction with the progress he was making. Year after year he failed at match play in the amateur tournaments and at medal play in the National Open. In 1923 his perseverance was rewarded. On the Inwood course at Chicago he won his first national championship—the Open.²

Since Jones's game was not coming along well, Stewart Maiden, the East Lake professional, decided to go along to help him improve his game prior to the tournament. During the practice rounds at Inwood, Jones's golf seemed to get worse rather than better. He was wild with his drives and therefore was in trouble constantly, and this did not help his already depressed mental condition.

With the opening of the tournament, however, everything in his swing seemed to fall into place. This strange phenomenon of playing


best when the pressure is greatest is a part of the make-up of champions and fortunately for Jones, he had it and it came forth once again. In the first round he was paired with Walter Hagen. He had nearly always played well when playing with Hagen and it was no different this time as he shot a one under par, seventy-one. Jock Hutchinson shot a seventy and was leading by one stroke, his seventy and Jones's seventy-one being the only two scores under par in the first round.

In the second round, Jones shot a seventy-three and Hutchinson a seventy-two, which gave Hutchinson the lead at the halfway point with a 142 to Jones's 144. Bobby Cruickshank was third with 145 and there were only three other scores under 150 which is indicative of the difficulty of the Inwood Course.

Jones began the third round very poorly by taking forty-one strokes on the first nine. However, he played the back nine in thirty-five and finished the round with a seventy-six, which gave him the lead after three rounds, since Hutchinson had eighty-two and Cruickshank a seventy-eight. After fifty-four holes, Jones led with 220, Cruickshank was second with 223 and Hutchinson was third with 224. The rest of the field had nearly eliminated themselves from contention by their poor play in the first three rounds.

Prior to the final round, Jones began to figure on what score he might need to win. His reasoning was as follows:

It was then I learned what a devilish thing it is to be setting the pace. At the luncheon intermission I figured that another 73 would win for me, or even a 74, and probably a 75. And I made the fatal mistake of playing for a certain figure that was not Old Man Par. What I should have done, of course, was to set my sights on par and shoot for that as best I could and shut out of my mind Bobby Cruickshank and
Jock Hutchinson and the rest of them. I admit I was thinking about Bobby Cruickshank, who was starting behind me.¹

Jones started the final round by shooting a thirty-nine which was not very good for him. However, he had played the back nine very well throughout the tournament never having been over par, thirty-five, and therefore, things seemed still to be all right. He made a birdie three on the tenth, parred the next three holes and birdied the fourteenth, which put him two under par to that point on the back nine. He made a par on the fifteenth, and then disaster struck. On the last three holes, the par of which was 4-l-4, Jones scored 5-5-6. On the sixteenth, he pulled his second shot out of bounds, but still made a five when his provisional ball hit a mound and ended close to the pin and he holed the putt. He missed the seventeenth with his approach shot and took another five and playing the 425 yard eighteenth into the wind, he pulled his second shot to the left of the green. He had to wait while the chains guarding the green were removed, after which he knocked his next shot into the bunker and finished with a six. The terrible finish gave him a thirty-seven for the back nine and a seventy-six for the round for a total of 296. Jones's comment following his round in answer to O. B. Keeler's congratulations and mention of his being a champion was: "Well, I didn't finish like a champion. I finished like a yellow dog."²

He went into the clubhouse to wait and see whether Bobby Cruickshank could equal or better his score of 296. As it turned out,

¹Jones and Keeler, op. cit., p. 131.
²Ibid., p. 133.
Cruickshank tied Jones's score by making a birdie on the final hole, which brought about a play-off for the championship.

This play-off was very important to Bobby Jones, not only from the standpoint of winning the championship, but, more important to him personally, to test himself or as he described it, "...that gave me the chance to see if I really was hopelessly weak under the belt...."\(^1\)

Jones started the play-off round by being even par for the first six holes, but found himself two strokes behind. At the seventh, a 223 yard par three, the first turning point came. Cruickshank drove first and played safely short of the green with an iron, since there were out of bounds markers on both sides. Jones had to decide whether to play a wood for the green or also play safely short as his opponent had done. He decided to go for the green with a wood and chance hitting the ball out of bounds. He brought the shot off perfectly, hitting the green and by so doing picked up a stroke when Cruickshank chipped short and missed his putt. They halved the eighth and Jones gained another stroke back at the ninth when Cruickshank missed a five foot putt. The match was even after nine holes as both players had thirty-seven.

They both played badly at the tenth hole as Jones took a five and Cruickshank a six. They both bogied the eleventh, but Jones gained another stroke at the par three twelfth with a birdie. However, his two stroke advantage was lost in the next two holes as Cruickshank had two fours as Jones took two fives. Jones regained the advantage by a stroke at the sixteenth, but Cruickshank gained it back at the seventeenth. They stood at the eighteenth tee all even. Cruickshank pulled

\(^1\)Ibid., p. 134.
his drive into a road behind a tree and could not go for the green. He played short of the water in front of the green. Jones, who had driven into the rough to the right faced the decision of playing short of the water or going for the green from a bare ground lie some 200 yards from the green. He described the situation:

I suppose I had to decide again whether to play safe or go for it with an iron of about 200 yards. But I don't remember it. Stewart Maiden was near me. He told me later I never played a shot more promptly or decisively. He says I picked a no. 2 iron from the bag and banged it.... I saw the ball on the green near the pin.1

That shot had won the championship. Cruickshank's approach went over the green into a bunker and he needed three more shots to hole out. Jones two putted for a four and his first national championship. He had won at last and his first thought was, "I don't care what happens now, I had won a championship."2

On the trip home, Jones and his two faithful companions, Keeler and Maiden, had very little to say to each other. It was very difficult for them to believe that Jones, at last, had won. Keeler vividly described the arrival in Atlanta:

The old home town put on the first of many tremendous welcomes, with a band and a parade which wound up at the Chamber of Commerce so the mayor and various prominent citizens could make speeches about Bobby, who was terribly embarrassed. He was more than embarrassed, too. When he faced that crowd, packing the auditorium to the doors, and the cheering started, Bobby—well, he had to turn away for a moment. It was the only time I ever saw him show a trace of emotion of that sort.3

1Ibid., p. 135.
2Ibid.
3Keeler, op. cit., p. 189.
The National Amateur was to be played at the Flossmoor Country Club near Chicago. Because of his Open victory, Jones was the overwhelming favorite to win.

Prior to this tournament, as was the case with the Open, Jones's game had not been very good. But, just as had happened at Inwood, his game came together during the qualifying rounds and he shot a 149 for the thirty-six holes which tied him with Chick Evans for the medal over the very difficult par seventy-four Flossmoor course.

In the first round match, Jones was paired against T. B. Cochran. They had a very close match which Jones managed to win by the score of two and one. This victory placed him against Max Marston in the second round match.

The Jones-Marston match produced some fine golf. In the morning round Jones played very well and with two holes to play was four under par and four up on Marston. However, Marston birdied the last two holes while Jones made pars and the margin was reduced to two up. After eighteen holes, Jones was four under par, but only two up in match play. Marston's two birdies had started a string of nineteen holes carrying into the afternoon round in which he played five under par golf, beating Jones on the thirty-fifth hole by the score of two and one. Max Marston went on to win the championship by defeating Jess Sweetser, the defending champion, in the finals one up on the thirty-eighth hole. Jones's only consolation was that he was defeated by the eventual champion.

This tournament taught him a valuable lesson concerning match play. After both Jones and Evans had been defeated in the match play, they decided to play-off for the qualifying medal for which they had
tied earlier in the week. Jones won the medal by shooting a two under par seventy-two while Evans was shooting seventy-six. He also gained the knowledge that a player in match play must play the course and not the man. Concerning this Jones wrote:

> Then I got to wondering why the devil I didn't play that way in matches. And that was the lesson I learned. That was the answer for me. If only I could manage to shoot against Old Man Par in the matches, as I did in the medal play events, and (to be impolite) let my opponents go to the devil, why, maybe I either wouldn't run into so many hot rounds, or, when I did run into them, I wouldn't be so much affected. I thought I'd give it a try anyway.... It worked pretty well.

Concerning this same idea, he later wrote:

> I suppose I never became as good at match play as at medal, but I did make progress in the former department by the ultimate achievement of the realization that after all, a round of golf in either form was still a complete structure to be built up hole by hole, that restraint and patience paid off in either form, and that consistent pressure would subdue an opponent just as effectively as an opening salvo of birdies.

The golfing year of 1923 was at an end. It had been an important year for Bobby Jones since it had seen him win his first national championship. It had produced the new Jones, that is, Jones the winner. He could now begin to think as a champion. He was mentally ready to win many more championships in the years to come.

1924 - HIS FIRST AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

In the spring of 1924 Jones received his bachelor's degree in English literature from Harvard. He had not competed in golf for Harvard because he was ineligible due to the fact that he was a graduate of Georgia Tech. However, he was awarded a special letter by the

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1Jones and Keeler, op. cit., p. 138.
Faculty Committee on Athletic Sports because he had won the United States
Open the year before while he was a Harvard undergraduate. He helped
the Harvard golf team with their games and traveled with them to the
matches. One anecdote concerning this arrangement is related by team
member Robert Clough:

Although the golf team had no coach, Jones was unofficially
appointed coach by the team members so that he could accompany
us on some of the team matches. During 1923-24 we held an
unofficial golf championship of Harvard in which Bobby played
against all the rest of us (six members of the team). In
order to save time, he played against us all simultaneously
in a single match. Of course he won handily.¹

After his return from school Bobby Jones was preparing for two
major events in his life. He was to defend his title as Open Champion
of the United States and soon thereafter he was to marry his first and
only sweetheart, Mary Malone. The defense of his title preceded the
wedding by two weeks and two such major events within two weeks made
it very difficult for Jones to maintain his composure. He was used
to the pressure of golf but the marriage was a new experience.

The Open was played on the monstrous Oakland Hills Course near
Detroit, which stretched some 6900 yards with a par of seventy-three.
Eleven of the holes were four pars of over 400 yards so it appeared
that the long hitter would definitely have the advantage. Jones fitted
the description perfectly and being the defending champion as well, he
seemed to be the favorite. Speculation by the players and writers
prior to the tournament predicted a score of 300, an average of seventy-
five should win the tournament.

¹Letter from Adolph Samborski, Athletic Director, Harvard Univer-
sity, February 6, 1967, quoting from The Second H Book of Harvard Ath-
Bobby Jones shot exactly 300 as he birdied the last hole to finish one stroke ahead of Bill Mehlhorn. This finish seemed to make the tournament a success for him since he was able to make a birdie under pressure to go ahead in the tournament, whereas in 1923 he had finished so miserably. However, Cyril Walker was still on the course with a chance to win, which he did by shooting a thirty-seven on the final nine for a score of 297 giving him the championship.

Jones had not successfully defended his title, but he had finished second which was the third consecutive year in which he had finished either first or second in the most prominent tournament in the United States.

The next big event in Jones's life was the wedding. The marriage of Robert T. Jones, Jr. and Mary Malone took place at 8:30 p.m. on June 17, 1924, in Atlanta, Georgia. It was a large outdoor wedding attended by many people including all of Jones's close golfing companions, Perry Adair, O. B. Keeler and Stewart Maiden. It was a happy occasion as weddings usually are, and it was a marriage which has lasted forty-two years up to the date of this writing.¹

The United States Amateur Championship of 1924 was played at the Merion Cricket Club in Philadelphia where eight years before Bobby Jones had made his debut in national competition. His quest for the Amateur championship was to culminate there as well, and he was to use his recently found theory of playing against the card rather than the man in match play competition.

D. Clarke Corkran won the medal in the qualifying rounds by shooting sixty-seven and seventy-five for a 142 total. Jones was two strokes behind with a pair of seventy-two's for a 144. As the match play started, Jones was paired against W. J. Thompson, the Canadian Amateur Champion. Jones won this match easily by the score of six and five. The morning round, in which both players had played poorly, finished with the match being all even. In the afternoon round Jones played much differently. A newspaper described the play as follows:

Young Robert thoroughly annoyed with himself set out seriously under a warm sun and in the first eight holes, he reeled off six pars and two birdies, at which stage he was 5 up and the match was settled.¹

In his second match he was paired against the medalist, Ducky Corkran. This was the only difficult match in the tournament for Jones. The morning round gave no indication of the difficulty to follow as Jones played one over par through thirteen holes and was six up. At the fourteenth, Corkran made a birdie to be only five down; he also won the sixteenth and Jones gave him the eighteenth by three putting. Therefore, after the first eighteen, Jones was three up. In the afternoon round, Jones played better golf and had Corkran five down with five holes to play. Corkran won the next two holes, but when they both parred the sixteenth, Jones was the victor, three and two. He defeated Rudy Knepper in the third round by the score of six and four which placed him in the semi-finals against his old friend, Francis Ouimet.

Prior to the Ouimet match, Jones was emotionally disturbed about having to play his old friend. Jones said, "I don't want to play

¹O. B. Keeler, The Atlanta Journal, September 24, 1924.
Francis. I'm going well, and his game is all shot to pieces, and I'm pretty sure I can beat him, and, darn it all—I don't want to beat him." In response to this his advisor, Keeler, told him:

When you go out there on the first tee tomorrow morning, you're not playing Francis Ouimet. You're playing the card of the Merion Cricket Club's East Course. And so is Francis. The one who plays it closest will go into the finals on Saturday.²

This is precisely what Jones did. After the morning round, he had shot a seventy-three and was eight up. The match ended early in the afternoon round on the eighth green as Jones won eleven and ten, the worst defeat in Francis Ouimet's career. But Jones had not been playing Francis, he had played the card as best he could and in the process had dealt Francis this severe defeat. A vivid description of Jones following this match was:

Bobby looked less like a victorious golfer when this match was over than any one I had ever seen. He looked far more like a man who had just been notified that his bank balance was overdrawn.³

This victory placed him in the finals against George Von Elm, who was rated as one of the top amateurs in the country. Jones had only to win this match to realize another ambition, that of winning the Amateur title which had eluded him for eight years. He was confident and ready when he arrived at the course for the match. Keeler described him as follows:

He was the most formidable looking golfer I ever saw as he walked out on the first tee; bulky and powerful and trim; cool and confident and business-like; even before his perfect swing

¹Keeler, op. cit., p. 200.
²Ibid., pp. 200-201.
³Rice, op. cit., p. 112.
began operating, it must have been a severe test of nerve to walk out there as his opponent.¹

Von Elm won the first hole, but Jones's relentlessly superior golf gained for him a two up advantage after nine holes and a four up margin after the first eighteen. With victory in sight, he played like a man possessed and finished the match on the tenth green, when Von Elm conceded his putt giving Jones a ten and eight victory and his first United States Amateur championship. It seemed ironic that he should win his first Amateur victory on the course where he had begun eight years before. The New York Times said:

By a strange coincidence, Jones attained his greatest ambition on the self same course on which he began his career eight years ago this month, for it was here in 1916 that Bobby made his debut as a 14-year old youngster in knee pants.²

Jones's victory took the championship south of the Mason and Dixon line for the first time and it goes in the care of as worthy and deserving a golfer as could possibly be selected and as popular a one as has ever held the title.³

1925 - THE SECOND AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

Prior to the tournament season of 1925, Mr. and Mrs. Robert T. Jones, Jr. were blessed by the arrival of their first child, Clara Malone Jones, on April 18, 1925. In his private life Bobby Jones was engaged in the real estate business and was associated with the Adair Realty Company of Atlanta. His golf, other than the tournament play, was the same in amount and frequency as any other normal amateur who loved to play the game, probably two or three times per week and

¹Ibid.


usually in the company of his father, with whom he loved to play. He had the amateur spirit in the strictest sense.

The first tournament of the 1925 season was the United States Open Championship which was played at the Worcester Country Club in Massachusetts. This was a memorable tournament since it culminated in the first thirty-six hole play-off in the history of either the United States or British Open championships.

Jones opened his quest for a second Open championship by shooting a seventy-seven which contained a most controversial penalty stroke. On the eleventh hole, he pulled his iron second shot into the long grass to the left of the green. As he prepared to play his third shot, the ball moved and Jones promptly called a penalty stroke on himself. Neither the tournament officials nor the spectators in the vicinity thought that he had caused the ball to move. However, he insisted that he had and following a meeting of the tournament officials and Jones's insistence, the penalty was assessed and his score was seventy-seven rather than seventy-six. As the tournament turned out, this one stroke eventually was the difference in his winning or losing the championship. But to Jones, this was not important. In his estimation there was and is only one way to play the game and that is according to the rules and the rule states that if the ball moves in the process of addressing it, the player must call the penalty on himself, which he did.

He was praised by many for this wonderful sportsmanlike gesture, but his only comment was: "You'd as well praise me for not breaking into banks. There is only one way to play this game."¹

¹Keeler, op. cit., p. 204.
Following this seventy-seven there was some speculation that Jones was out of the tournament and that there was a great possibility that he would not even qualify for the third and fourth rounds. However, he pulled himself together in the second round and shot a seventy, which moved him into tenth place only six strokes behind the leader, Willie McFarlane. In the third round Jones shot another seventy which allowed him to gain two more strokes on McFarlane, who had shot a seventy-two. The three round totals showed McFarlane with a 213, Farrell a 214, Ouimet a 216 and Jones a 217.

In the final round Jones shot a seventy-four to McFarlane's seventy-eight which placed them in a tie for the championship and necessitated an eighteen hole play-off to determine the champion.

In the play-off round, McFarlane played better golf than Jones and probably should have won except that a chip-in birdie by Jones on the fourteenth plus a missed six foot putt by McFarlane on the eighteenth produced a second eighteen hole play-off. In the second play-off, Jones started well on the first nine and his thirty-five gave him a four stroke lead. However, McFarlane birdied the tenth and had another birdie at the thirteenth as Jones took a bogey and the final stroke of Jones's lead vanished as McFarlane parred and Jones bogied the fifteenth. They halved the sixteenth and seventeenth and with one hole to play, they stood just as they had started 107 holes earlier, all even. The prospects of a third play-off looked promising at this point, but when this was suggested to Jones by Keeler, his answer was,
"No, there won't be another play-off. I'll settle it one way or an-
other this round."¹

His prophesy came true. They both drove well on the 335 par
four hole. McFarlane played his second shot first and was on the green
some forty feet from the pin, which was cut in close behind the large
bunker guarding the front of the green. Jones elected to play a deli-
cate pitch shot designed to hit just over the bunker and roll up close
to the pin for a birdie, but the shot was hit too softly and caught the
top of the bunker and rolled back in. His bunker shot stopped eight
feet away. McFarlane's putt came within inches, after which Jones
missed his putt and the new champion was Willie McFarlane. Jones had
gambled and lost and for the third time in four years was the runner-
up in the United States Open. He returned to Atlanta to his work and
to await the Amateur Championship in September.

The 1925 United States Amateur Championship at Oakmont near
Pittsburgh was to be remembered primarily because two men from the same
club met in the finals. This would not have happened had not Bobby
Jones been so impressed with the play of a Georgia Tech student in the
Georgia State Amateur tournament. This student was Watts Gunn and
Jones was so impressed with Gunn's ability that he went to his father,
Judge Will Gunn, to try to persuade him to let his son enter the
National Amateur. Judge Gunn did not believe that his son was good
enough, but with Jones's persuasion, gave his consent.

In the Amateur for the first time only sixteen men were to qualifi-
fy for the match play instead of the usual thirty-two. Roland McKenzie

¹Ibid., p. 208.
won the qualifying medal with a score of 115. Jones was second with 117 and Watts Gunn tied for fifth with George Von Elm, whom Jones had conquered in the finals the year before.

Jones's march to the finals was an easy one as he disposed of William Reekie eleven and nine, Clarence Wolff six and five and George Von Elm seven and six. The real story of this tournament was Watts Gunn. The relatively unknown boy from Atlanta defeated Vincent Bradford twelve and ten. After having been three down after twelve holes, he had won fifteen consecutive holes. In his second match, he gave Jess Sweetser the worse defeat he had experienced, ten and nine, and then defeated Dick Jones four and three to advance to the finals where he met his friend and teacher, Bobby Jones. This was the first time in the history of the National Amateur that two players from the same club had met in the finals. The drama of this match was very involved. The master was to meet his pupil for the most coveted amateur golf title in the United States. Jones had much more at stake than Gunn, for he was the defending champion attempting to repeat which no one had been able to do since Jerry Travers in 1912 and 1913. Gunn was in his first national tournament and had nothing to lose. The situation was reminiscent of the Bob Gardner-Bobby Jones match in the 1916 tournament, except that for Bobby Jones the positions were reversed.

The match began with both players playing excellent golf. Through eleven holes Jones was even par and was one down to Gunn. On the long and treacherous twelfth, 621 yards par five, where the famous megaphone incident of the 1919 tournament had occurred, Jones once again faced adversity as his third shot ended in the large bunker
beside the green while Gunn was safely on in three for a sure par.

Jones described his thoughts:

When I went down into that bunker I was morally certain of one thing. If Watts took that hole from me I'd never catch him.¹

His bunker shot came onto the green and stopped ten feet away. After Gunn had made his five, Jones sank his ten foot putt for a half. This seemed to give him confidence as he went on to finish the last six holes in 3-3-½-3-3-½ and finished the morning round with a two under par seventy and a four up lead over Gunn.

In the afternoon round Jones began by making birdies on the first two holes, to which Gunn responded by making birdies on the next two holes. Gunn tried desperately to hang on but Jones was not to be denied and he finished the match on the twenty-ninth green winning by the score of eight and seven. The great match was over. Bobby Jones had conquered his protege and had repeated as National Amateur Champion.

It was following this tournament that Jones revealed to his Boswell, Keeler, his secret ambition in golf. He said: "If I could be national champion of the United States six years in succession, either open or amateur, then I'd feel that I could hang up the old clubs."²

With the close of the 1925 season, he was half way along toward this ambition.

1926 – TRIUMPH ABROAD

This year began with defeat and ended with defeat but in between Bobby Jones produced two great triumphs which comprised a first in

¹Jones and Keeler, op. cit., p. 245.
²Keeler, op. cit., p. 211.
golfing history and by the close of the year he had envisioned the possibility of accomplishing the Grand Slam.

Jones spent the winter prior to the 1926 season in Florida promoting and working with a real estate venture for the Adair Realty Company. He was living in Sarasota and had played numerous four ball matches with Tommy Armour as his partner against the professionals who were spending the winter in Florida. He also played many individual matches against Armour, which were very seriously contested. Both Jones and Armour were fierce competitors and these "friendly" matches usually developed into serious conflicts. Concerning these matches Armour said, "I think I was the main beneficiary of his golf knowledge. I had a lesson from him practically every day for four months and it really helped me as it did many of us."\(^1\) Walter Hagen was the P.G.A. champion at the time and as a portion of the campaign to promote real estate sales, a seventy-two hole match was arranged between Hagen and Jones. The first thirty-six holes were played at the Whitfield Course in Sarasota and the last thirty-six holes were played at Hagen's course in Pasadena. Concerning this match Jones said: "Although this match involved no championship, it did carry a sizable load of prestige, and I wanted badly to win it."\(^2\) Concerning this match, historian Durant in writing about Hagen said:

In 1926 he (Hagen) met Bobby Jones in Florida for the unofficial world championship in a match played in two installments of 36 holes each on two different courses. Jones got the beating of his life, 12 and 11. Bobby got

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\(^1\)Questionnaire reply from Tommy Armour, September 21, 1966.

\(^2\)Jones, *op. cit.*, p. 96.
revenge twice that season—in the U.S. and British Open championships—but the match-play licking still smarted.¹

Hagen was at the peak of his game and Jones had been playing very well, except for his iron game which had been troubling him for quite some time. The outcome of this match was obvious by the end of the first thirty-six holes as Hagen was eight up. In recalling the match, O. B. Keeler said, "I do not recall finer match-golf than Walter Hagen displayed straight through that engagement."²

The match moved to the Pasadena Club, where Walter eventually won by the overwhelming score of twelve and eleven, being four under par at the finish. The match ended on the sixty-first hole where Jones sank a forty-five foot putt for a birdie only to have Walter make a forty footer for a birdie also to end the match. Jones in recalling this match said:

The winning margin of twelve-eleven does look anything but respectable. Two things a golfer most dreads are failing to qualify and losing a match by "double figures." Yet the latter can happen at thirty-six holes—and even more easily at seventy-two. In this match Hagen secured command by the twenty-seventh hole. In the last nine of the first day, he broke away with some fine golf to open up a big lead. The last thirty-six, like the second round of some thirty-six hole matches, was strictly no contest.³

The opening defeat was over and Jones had learned one thing, namely that his iron play was deficient and he had to improve it before going to Great Britain for the Walker Cup Matches and the other tournaments. Professional Jimmy Donaldson corrected his error by


²Keeler, op. cit., p. 212.

³Jones, op. cit., p. 100.
Fig. 8.—Bobby Jones and Walter Hagen in Florida, 1926
pointing out that there was too much right hand in his stroke and that one must concentrate on pulling down and through with the left arm to have effective, straight iron play.

His first encounter in Scotland was the British Amateur at Muirfield. Jones played quite well in the first few matches and went through the first four of these easily. In the fifth match he met the defending champion, Robert Harris, whom he defeated handily by the score of eight and six, winning nine of the twelve holes. It appeared that he would go through to the finals and meet Jess Sweetser, who was the favorite in the other bracket. However, fate had not willed it that way, since the next day Jones was defeated by Andrew Jamieson, a young unknown Scot, who rode his bicycle to the course each day. Jamieson had thirteen pars and one birdie against Jones and defeated him four and three in one of the great upsets of the tournament. An incident which occurred prior to this match and was not revealed until 1958 by Jones, serves to show something of his character and sportsmanship. On the morning of the match with Jamieson, Jones lifted his head from the pillow and felt the muscle on the left side of his neck pull. This unfortunate affliction was quite painful, but the pain was not so important as the fact that this injury restricted his turn considerably during the backswing. This incident brought on what Jones termed "...the most difficult decision I ever had to make with respect to a golf tournament--whether to play the match or default."¹

He was rooming with Keeler so he told him of the trouble with the admonition that he must promise not to disclose the secret. Jones

¹Ibid., p. 103.
felt that it would be unfair, if he played, to impose on Jamieson the burden of playing against a man who was injured or deprive him of the credit for victory if he should win. Jones decided to try his swing before making the decision.

After arriving at the course, Jones and Keeler went down the eighteenth fairway to hit some balls back toward the tee. Jones had difficulty raising his hands above his neck, but he determined that the abbreviation of the swing seemed greater than it really was. Soon thereafter, he was called to the tee and the decision had to be made. Jones believed that in golf it was the player's responsibility to be ready both physically and mentally and if he were incapacitated, it was no one's fault but his own. He decided to play and do the best he could and say nothing to anyone else. He played the match and did reasonably well although he was defeated by Jamieson's below par golf. As Jones related in 1958: "It was certainly no discredit and no accident to be beaten by a player of his ability. On the other hand, I was left with some reason for believing that things might have been different had I remained fit."

Due to a case of homesickness plus a desire to arrive home well before the United States Open, Jones had booked passage home on a boat leaving immediately after the Walker Cup Matches. However, after his defeat in the British Amateur, he decided that it would appear unsportsmanlike for him to leave and not play in the British Open. His reasons for staying are more clearly revealed in the following passage:

Then I got to thinking that if I went home now it would look somewhat as if I were sulking over failing to win the British

\[1\textit{Ibid.}, \textit{p. 104.}\]
Amateur Championship—the Lord knows I was disappointed, because I'd love to win it. But truly I wasn't sore. And I didn't want people to think so. Moreover, I remembered that I hadn't behaved very well on my first visit, five years earlier. And I thought I'd like to stay over and show people I really could shoot some golf, at times.

He went to St. Andrews and took part in the Walker Cup Matches. He played very well there and defeated Cyril Tolley twelve and eleven in the singles. He also teamed with Watts Gunn to defeat Tolley and Andrew Jamieson four and three in the foursome match. The other team members did not fair quite so well, but the Americans did manage to win the team title by the very close score of $6\frac{1}{2}$ to $5\frac{1}{2}$.

Jones went over to St. Anne's with Freddie McLeod, an American professional, for some practice prior to the British Open. It was during this visit that an incident occurred which exemplifies the British attitude toward amateur and professional golfers at that time. Jones and McLeod went to St. Anne's early one morning and played a practice round. Following the round, they went to the clubhouse and ate lunch. Then they went back out and played another round that afternoon. The next day they returned and played another practice round. As they started in for lunch, the manager of the club called Jones aside and addressing him as Mr. Jones said, "You may eat in the club, Mr. Jones, but McLeod must eat with the servants." Jones's answer was, "Thank you, but we will eat back at the hotel." There was a definite distinction made between the amateur golfers, who were looked upon as gentlemen, and the professional golfers, who were looked upon as servants in Great Britain at that time. Fred McLeod said recently that he

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1Jones and Keeler, op. cit., p. 152.

2Interview with R. T. Jones, August 5, 1965, Atlanta, Georgia.
appreciated Mr. Jones's courtesy in that situation. He also said that this difference no longer exists and that the American professionals, led first by Walter Hagen, would not accept this treatment and by so doing have broken this tradition.¹

Jones's golf during the practice rounds at St. Anne's was not exceptionally good. However, when he went to the Sunningdale course near London where he was to play his qualifying rounds for the Open, it seemed to take a turn for the better. One of the reasons for his good golf at Sunningdale was that he bought a new driver from Jack White, the Sunningdale professional. The club was perfect for him and seemed to give him inspiration for playing good golf. This driver came to be known as "Jeannie Deans." Keeler explained the name. "Anything in Scotland that is beloved or specially heroic is 'Jeannie Deans,' after the beloved heroine of that name."² Jones never used another driver in competition after that.

The qualifying rounds began and during the first round Jones played what was called by many the finest round ever played in Britain. The score of sixty-six was excellent, but it was the way he achieved it that was so creditable. He hit every green except the thirteenth in regulation figures, but saved his par there by one putting. As Keeler related it in symmetrical terms:

He played the first nine in 33, and the last nine in 33. He had 33 putts and 33 other shots. He had neither a 2 nor a 5--six 3's and twelve 4's. He holed only one long putt of 25 feet, and to pay for it he missed two putts of five feet.

¹Interview with Fred McLeod, April 10, 1966, Augusta, Georgia.
²Keeler, op. cit., p. 219.
each for a birdie. He had twelve pars and six birdies.¹

This was truly a great round of golf and when on the next day, he added a sixty-eight for a total of 134, he led the qualifying by seven strokes and set a new record as well. Jones had done what he wanted to do, that was to show the British some fine golf. He was afraid, however, that it had come a week too soon since the tournament proper was the place to have those scores.

In the first round of the tournament at St. Anne's, Jones shot a methodical seventy-two. Walter Hagen had a sixty-eight and was leading. Jones used his famous putter, "Calamity Jane," very well as he one-putted the last four greens of that first round. In the second round, he had another seventy-two which put him past Hagen and into a tie for the lead with Bill Mehlhorn at 134.

During the third and fourth rounds, he was paired with Al Watrous, an American professional, who was two strokes behind after thirty-six holes. In the third round, Watrous shot a sixty-nine while Jones was shooting a seventy-three which placed Watrous into the lead by two strokes with eighteen holes to go.

In the final round, "Calamity Jane" failed Jones. He was hitting the other shots very well, but he could not putt. He gained a stroke on Watrous three different times during the first thirteen holes, but gave it back through his terrible putting. So with five holes to play, Watrous still led by two strokes. Jones played those last five holes in par and the strain of the tournament seemed to make Watrous lose his putting stroke as he took three putts at both the fourteenth

¹Ibid., p. 220.
and fifteenth holes. The sixteenth was halved and they stood on the seventeenth tee all even. Watrous drove down the center, while Jones hooked his drive into a bunker some 170 yards from the green. Jones had to play first and he hit what was termed by one Scottish writer, "...the greatest shot in the history of British golf."¹ The shot went onto the green for a sure four, after which Watrous played a poor shot to the edge of the green and took three more shots to get down, while Jones two-putted for his four and a one stroke lead. Watrous bogeyed the final hole, while Jones parred for a two stroke lead which was good enough to make Bobby Jones the first American amateur to win the British Open. The shot from the bunker on seventeen had been the difference, having broken Watrous' confidence and turned the advantage in Jones's favor. The British erected a small plaque in the bunker from where Jones struck that famous shot. He had played poorly, using thirty-nine putts, but he had made the great shots at the most opportune times, which is what it takes to be a champion.

Jones's victory was a very popular one in Britain, primarily because he was an amateur and he had defeated the professionals who make their living playing golf. A magazine article of the time explains this attitude:

The one handle that British apologists seized hold of was Hagen's advice to take golf as a form of work. This gave them the pleasure of announcing that the English play for the love of the sport and not merely to win.... The fact that the amateur Jones is probably more aware of this distinction than the professional Hagen perhaps accounts for the popularity of the former, whose miraculous play aroused real enthusiasm.²

¹Ibid., p. 226.
²"Bobby Jones and England," Living Age, August 7, 1926, p. 335.
Another periodical gave a summary of the general feeling in the United States about Jones following his triumph in the British Open:

Robert Tyre Jones, as he is named in the Harvard Quinquennial Catalogue, stands today as the best golf player in the world. His victory in the British Open Championship tournament is one of the most popular in the history of athletic sports. He won not only the cup by his golf but the heart of Britishers by his demeanor and character. He is that strange creature among the topnotchers in sports today—a true amateur. How he manages to play golf that is practically flawless and at the same time enjoy life and engage in business is not the least mysterious element in the mystery of his astonishing skill. In 1923, he won the American Open Championship, 1924 and 1925 the American Amateur Championship and now he has won the British Open Championship. No man in the world, amateur or professional, is his equal in the game of golf.¹

This glowing tribute was possibly premature extolling Jones as without equal in golf. However, the author was prophetic at least, since in the future Jones was to win nine more championships in addition to the four already won.

America being what it was in the twenties, very demonstrative to heroes, felt compelled to give Bobby Jones a hero's welcome. When he arrived in New York, some two hundred Atlantans on a chartered boat went out to meet him. A parade was held down Broadway and as a very embarrassed Bobby Jones marched toward City Hall for the mayor's speech, the streets were covered with miles of ticker-tape amidst the cheers of thousands.

A very tired and worn Bobby Jones went to Columbus, Ohio, two weeks later to play in the United States Open Championship. He was mentally stale and had very little idea of winning. He was expected to play, however, and he intended to go and do his best.

The condition of the Scioto Country Club course was typical of the Open Championship. It was a very long course and the rough was nearly knee high. An anecdote concerning the rough which is credited to Jock Hutchinson was told by Jones later with some doubt as to its validity, but nevertheless, it serves to reiterate the point concerning the length of the rough:

It seems that Hutchinson and his playing partner had both driven into the rough. They were able to find Hutchinson's ball and they left his golf bag near the ball while they searched for the other ball. After finding the other ball, due to the length of the rough, they were unable to find Hutchinson's golf bag.1

The tournament began and after the first round Bill Mehlhorn was leading with a sixty-eight. Jones was in second place with a seventy. In the second round, Jones's poor mental condition took its toll as he posted his highest score ever in an Open tournament, a seventy-nine. This score contained two penalty strokes, one of which he called on himself on the fifteenth green when the ball moved as he addressed it, as well as a double bogey, seven, on the eighteenth hole which came as a result of what Jones called "...childish, petulant mistakes."2 He was now six strokes behind with two rounds to play and his chances did not appear promising.

On the morning of the final two rounds, Jones awoke plagued with a great amount of nausea. The strain of the tournament and the intense heat had produced this condition. He was able to get some medicine to settle his stomach, but the prospect of thirty-six holes without food during the next ten hours was not enticing. He was

1Interview with R. T. Jones, August 5, 1965, Atlanta, Georgia.
2Jones and Keeler, op. cit., p. 159.
determined to finish, however, and went out to play the third round. In the stress of competition, his illness subsided and he played a fine round shooting seventy-one for a total of 220 which placed him only three strokes behind the third round leader, Joe Turnesa.

In the final round, Turnesa played two groups ahead of Jones. They played stroke for stroke during the first eight holes, but at the par three ninth, Jones's jinx hole throughout the tournament, Turnesa made a par while Jones took another bogey. He was now four strokes behind with only nine holes to play. They both made par fours at the tenth and eleventh holes, but on the long, par five, twelfth hole, Jones had a birdie while Turnesa took a bogey, therefore gaining two strokes. On the thirteenth, Turnesa had a five while Jones made a four and on the long par three fourteenth, Turnesa had another bogey while Jones made a par and they were even. They both parred the fifteenth and sixteenth holes, but Jones's par three at the seventeenth gave him a one stroke lead since Turnesa took a four. However, Turnesa birdied the par five eighteenth, which left it entirely up to Jones as he stood on the eighteenth tee needing a par five to tie or a birdie four to win. He drove the ball about 300 yards and thirty-nine years later he recalled his second shot: "I played a three-quarter three iron to the green which stopped about twenty feet past the hole." He put his approach putt to within six inches and tapped it in for his birdie four, making him two under par for the last nine holes which allowed him to gain five strokes on Joe Turnesa and gave him his second United States Open Championship. Jones thus became the first man ever to win

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1Interview with R. T. Jones, August 5, 1965, Atlanta, Georgia.
both the United States Open and the British Open in the same year. It had not been easy, however, since he had lost some twelve pounds in four days, but the victory moved his continuous yearly string of American championships to four on the way to his goal of six.

The final tournament of Jones's greatest year to date was the National Amateur Championship which was held at the Baltusrol Golf Club in New Jersey. He was not only the defending champion, but was seeking his third consecutive title, a feat which had never been accomplished before. He was also attempting to become the Amateur and Open champion in the same year which had been done only once before by Chick Evans in 1916, and finally he was after his third major title of the year.

Jones won the qualifying medal with a score of 143, only one stroke over the record and one stroke under par. In the first eighteen hole match against Dick Jones, Jones was pressed to the final hole which he birdied to gain a one up victory. He defeated Bill Reekie in the second and final eighteen hole match and moved into the third round against Chick Evans over thirty-six holes. This was their first meeting in match play since Evans defeated Jones in the 1920 Western Amateur. Needless to say, Jones wanted to win this match very badly. During the first eighteen holes Jones shot a two under par seventy, but was only two up. He was still two up after twenty-seven holes and was one under par at the thirty-fourth hole where he finally won three and two. Colonel Jones's prophecy following Evans' victory in 1920, had come true. Evans did not beat Jones this time.

By virtue of this victory, Jones moved into the semi-final round against Francis Ouimet. The last time they had met at Merion in 1924,
he had given Ouimet the worst defeat of his career, eleven and ten. Ouimet had been off his game in that match, but this was not true at Baltusrol. In the first nine holes, Ouimet was even par but found himself three down, as Jones played the first nine in three under par. The three up advantage remained the same through the rest of the morning round. In the afternoon, once again Jones played the front nine in sub-par figures as he shot a thirty-three, but gained only one hole on Ouimet. However, Jones continued to play very close to par and eventually won by the score of six and five in one of the great matches of the tournament.

Bobby had reached the finals by virtue of two very difficult victories over Evans and Ouimet and he was scheduled to play George Von Elm, whom he had defeated nine and eight at Merion and seven and six the year before at Oakmont. The match was a very great and exciting one which finally ended with Von Elm winning by the score of two and one, being one under par at the finish. His victory spoiled Jones's bid for his third consecutive Amateur championship.

In this difficult match sportsmanship came forth on the seventeenth hole of the morning round. Von Elm had putted first and had left himself a very difficult thirty inch putt for his par. Jones putted for his birdie and missed but made his putt for his par. The gallery started to move and make noise as Von Elm prepared to putt. He stepped away obviously disturbed by the movement of the gallery. At this point, Jones conceded the putt. Von Elm returned the favor on
This was the last thirty-six hole match that Bobby Jones ever lost in competition.

He had ended the year with a loss, the same as he had opened it, but between the two losses, he had gained the British and United States Open Championships as well as the reputation of being the greatest golfer of the time. The culmination of this most exciting year in Jones's life came in the fall when the Jones family was blessed with its first and only male heir as Robert Tyre Jones III arrived on November 30, 1926. It had been a good year for Bobby Jones.

1927 - TWO MORE CHAMPIONSHIPS, ONE BRITISH, ONE AMERICAN

During the fall of 1926, Jones decided to enter the Law School of Emory University in preparation for becoming a junior partner in his father's law firm. Therefore he had played very little golf either in the fall or in the spring prior to the 1927 tournament season.

Since the Southern Open tournament was being played at East Lake and there was a fine field of professionals entered, Jones decided to enter. He played in very few tournaments other than the Open and Amateur championships now, but this was different since it was at East Lake and even without practicing much, he felt he could play well there. As Keeler related, "It was the course on which he was brought up; as he used to say, he should be able to kick the ball around it in par."²

Jones completely dominated this tournament. He started with a seventy-two and was one stroke behind, but during the second round he

²Keeler, op. cit., p. 237.
suddenly found himself and shot a sixty-six, which placed him five
strokes ahead of the rest of the field. He finished with a seventy-one
and a seventy-two for a 281 total, eight strokes ahead of his closest
competitors, professionals Johnny Farrell and John Golden.

This performance at East Lake by Jones seemed to indicate that
he would be unbeatable in the Open which was being held at the old and
famous Oakmont Course in Pittsburgh where Jones had defeated Watts
Gunn for the 1925 Amateur Championship. This was a misconception, how­
ever, since one could not "kick it" around this great course in par.
The 6900 yard length of the course was difficult enough, but during
this tournament all of Oakmont's enormous bunkers were raked in furrows
which ran perpendicular to the line of play, making it nearly impossible
to play a shot of any length from a bunker.

Mainly because of this condition, the scores were high in this
tournament. Jones started with a seventy-six, to which he added a
seventy-seven on the second day for a 153 total. This score appears
high and it was, but it was good enough to leave him only six strokes
behind the leader, Harrison Johnson. It seemed that with thirty-six
holes to go a six stroke lead was certainly not insurmountable.

He started the third round with the idea of staying as close to
par as possible and during the first twelve holes, he was right on his
plan and only one stroke behind the leader, Harry Cooper. However, on
the par three thirteenth, Jones pulled his tee shot into a drainage
ditch and from there knocked it into a bunker, took two to get out and
two-putted for a miserable triple bogey six. He finished the round
with a seventy-nine, leaving him eight strokes behind the leader. His
seventy-seven in the final round produced a 309 total and placed him
in a tie for eleventh place with several professionals eight strokes behind the winning total of 301, the highest winning total since 1919. Tommy Armour and Harry Cooper tied for the championship and in an eighteen hole play-off the next day, Armour won by three strokes, shooting a seventy-six to Cooper's seventy-nine.

The defending champion, Jones, had been defeated and his eleventh place finish was the worst of his career in the Open. He was very disappointed in his showing and because of this, plus the fact that he was defending champion, he decided to enter the British Open, which he had not planned to do previously. He usually only played in the British tournaments every four years when the Walker Cup Matches were played there, but this was a different situation, and the tournament was being played at his favorite course, St. Andrews.

Jones arrived in Scotland just five days prior to the qualifying rounds for the championship. He played poorly in practice, as well as in the first qualifying round shooting a seventy-six. But in the second qualifying round he found his game again and tied the course record with a seventy-one, qualifying him for the tournament proper.

In the opening round of the tournament, Jones played one of his greatest rounds, shooting a sixty-eight, five under St. Andrews' mythical par of seventy-three, breaking his own course record set the day before. The round was one in which "Calamity Jane" was working well as he used only twenty-eight putts, not missing a putt under twelve feet and holing a putt for an eagle on the fifth hole which measured
120 feet. This was a spectacular putting round, but he had not played the other shots very well. His comments regarding the round were:

Did you ever in all your life see so absolutely crazy a round? It was the hardest decent score I ever shot. I have played harder rounds, scoring worse, but I have never scored so well in so hard a round. Kiltie was right. He said if I ever got to missing my big shots, I might sink some putts. I sank some today. It seems you can't play the other shots and putt all at once. At least, I can't."

His sixty-eight had placed him well in front of the field and when he added his second sub par round of seventy-two in the second round totaling 1140, he found himself six strokes better than St. Andrews' par of 116 giving him a two stroke lead over his nearest competitor, B. Hodson, a relatively unknown British professional.

In the third round, Jones had his worst score of the tournament, a seventy-three, but he still maintained his lead by four strokes. As he started the final round the strain began to tell as he played the first five holes in two over par. But at this point he settled down. He made a birdie three at the sixth hole and another at the 303 yard ninth making him even par on the front nine. He drove the green on the 312 yard tenth and two-putted for another birdie. His birdie putt just missed at the eleventh, but he made a birdie on the twelfth, finishing the round with a seventy-two for a 285 total, seven under par, and giving Jones the lowest total ever in the British Open Championship to that time. Bobby Jones had won his second consecutive British Open and had conquered the St. Andrews course in the process. He had redeemed himself for his childish act in the 1921 Open of "picking up" and disqualifying himself and through this victory had made thousands of

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1Rice, op. cit., p. 208.
friends and admirers in the birthplace of golf. Andra Kirkbaldy, famous old Scot professional, described Jones following his victory:

"Mon, he's nae gowfer at all. He's just a machine. In all my sixty-seven years I hae never-r-r-r seen such gowf."

At the presentation ceremony following the tournament Jones did something which endeared him to the Scots even more. When they presented the cup to him, he said, "I have one request to make and I hope I will be pardoned since I have asked so much from the St. Andrews people. I would take it as a great honor if they would mind the cup for me at St. Andrews." This gracious act of courtesy and character was just perfect as far as the Scottish crowd was concerned. One writer described the scene:

It started the second great ovation of the day for Jones. Hats went soaring in the air and fathers hoisted children to their shoulders, to see the young man who is hailed as the greatest exponent of a classic pastime. Stolid old Scots who have not danced a step for decades threw themselves into the Highland fling with the utmost abandon as they danced about the smiling modest young American.

Jones had not only won the British Open with his skill, but also the hearts of the Scottish people with his courtesy and humility. Another writer said it this way:

Such is the spirit of St. Andrews. In no other city in the world, perhaps, are character and skill so universally recognized as the standards of measurement of the worth of a man. It is because Bobby Jones measures up to these standards in a singular degree, because he is "judicious" and honorable as well as skillful, that his victory was

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3"Bobby Jones Conquers the Golf World," _The Literary Digest_, July 30, 1927, p. 52.
acclaimed at St. Andrews with as much enthusiasm and
generosity as if he had been a born Scotsman.\footnote{1}

Jones's trip to Scotland had been worthwhile both from the golfing
and public relations standpoints. He was most definitely America's
goodwill ambassador to the British Isles.

The final tournament of the year was the United States Amateur
Championship which this year was held at the Minikahda Club in Minneap-
olis. As had been the case so many times before, Jones's golf game was
not very good during the practice rounds. His erratic play carried over
into the first qualifying round and he shot a seventy-five. This score
worried him somewhat for he feared that another similar round would not
allow him to qualify for the match play and he had never failed to
qualify in any tournament so far. His superstition against winning the
qualifying medal still prevailed, but he felt that an all out effort to
win would be necessary maybe even to qualify. Jones needed to have his
confidence raised at this point to prepare him for his effort. He
described his feelings as follows:

The ebb and flow of a player's confidence is one of the
strange phenomena of competitive golf. I have discussed this
angle with all the great players of my own and later eras, and
none deny or can explain the periods of uncertainty that oc-
casionally come in the midst of the most complete assurance.\footnote{2}

It is during these periods of adversity and loneliness that one needs
someone in whom he has confidence to buoy his spirits. O. B. Keeler
was this person for Bobby Jones. In this situation in 1927, Jones
found Keeler and said to him:

O. B., the only way for me to get out of this thing is

\footnote{1}{The Grand Old Man of St. Andrews, op. cit., pp. 404-405.}
\footnote{2}{Jones, op. cit., pp. 92-93.}
to go out this afternoon and try to win the medal, and I need you to walk with me for a few holes until I get calmed down. This he did and after five holes, Jones's confidence had returned and he went on to shoot a sixty-seven which set a new course record and coupled with his seventy-five gave him a 142 total which won the qualifying medal and tied the record set by Ducky Corkran in 1924.

Jones's first eighteen hole match was with Maurice McCarthy and it turned out to be his closest match of the tournament. Neither player had played very well through the first twelve holes, and as they prepared to play the thirteenth Jones was one down. On the thirteenth, a 547 yard par five, McCarthy was on the green in three and Jones was to the left of the green in the high grass in three. Jones chipped twelve feet short and to the left of the hole. McCarthy putted up very close and made his five so Jones was left with a long side-hill putt to keep from going two down. He made the very crucial putt and with renewed confidence went on to par the remaining holes and win the match two up. In the afternoon match, Jones defeated Gene Homans three and two, placing him in the thirty-six hole matches.

In the first two thirty-six hole matches, Jones had no difficulty in defeating Harrison Johnson ten and nine and his old friend, Francis Ouimet, eleven and ten which put him into the finals against his old adversary, Chick Evans. Evans had defeated Jones in the 1920 Western Amateur, and Jones had defeated Evans in the 1926 National Amateur, therefore this was the rubber match between these two fine players. In addition to this natural rivalry, they were both seeking their third National Amateur Championship.

1Ibid.
Jones never started better in a match than he did in this one. He birdied the second and fourth holes and won the third and eighth holes with pars and capped the outgoing nine with an eagle three on the long and difficult 512 yard par five ninth hole. He hit a spoon second shot 230 yards uphill which stopped just twenty inches short of the hole giving him the only eagle ever scored on that hole. This flourish of outstanding golf produced a score of thirty-one on the first nine and a five up margin in the match for Jones. Evans was never able to recover from it and the match ended at the twenty-ninth hole giving Jones a victory by the score of eight and seven.

The season of 1927 ended with two more major victories having been added to the growing total which had now reached seven and Jones's secret desire of being champion of the United States for six years in a row was one year closer to being achieved as the 1927 Amateur Championship made it five.

1928 - A LAW DEGREE AND THE FOURTH AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

In January, 1928, Bobby Jones successfully passed the state and federal law examinations and was admitted to the bar. He was taken into the law firm of Jones, Evins, Powers and Jones as the junior partner. The preparation for the examination and his new position greatly curtailed his tournament preparation; so much in fact, that he played golf only about ten times in the six months prior to the United States Open Championship of 1928.¹

The Open was played at the Olympia Fields Country Club in Chicago. Jones had taken the week prior to the tournament to prepare

¹Keeler, op. cit., p. 250.
by playing himself into condition, which was his usual procedure. The most important facet to him was the mental conditioning which was attained by playing a great amount of golf for a week and thinking of nothing but golf.¹

Jones's attempt for his third Open championship began with a seventy-three which left him three strokes behind the leaders, Frank Ball and Henry Cinci. During the second day, rain marred the play in the afternoon but Jones, fortunately, had played in the morning in good weather and compiled a score of seventy-one for a 171, which gave him the lead after thirty-six holes.

During the third round, Jones's drives were going astray and he struggled his way around playing many of his second shots from the rough and managed to shoot a seventy-three which still allowed him to maintain a two stroke lead going into the final round. Jones had 217, Cinci 219, Hagen 220 and Farrell and Von Elm 222.

Jones started his final round with a birdie and made another at the fifth hole which increased his lead to five strokes. But at this point something happened. It looked as if he had the championship well in hand, but he lost his concentration and lost seven strokes to par in the next five holes. What appeared to be a comfortable lead had vanished in those five holes and Jones struggled in with a seventy-seven and a 294 total to await the finish of the remaining players. Farrell was the only player to take advantage of Jones's collapse, as he shot a seventy-two making up the necessary five strokes to tie for the championship. Jones's collapse had cost him the outright championship.

¹Interview with R. T. Jones, August 5, 1965, Atlanta, Georgia.
His collapse was due to a change of mental attitude when he was leading by several strokes. As he explained it:

Having reached a stage where I suddenly knew that I should certainly win with any sort of ordinary finish, I became fearful of making myself look ridiculous by kicking the thing away. At this point, I think I began to be conscious of my swing and began trying to make too certain of avoiding a disastrous mistake. I was no longer playing the shots for definite objectives, but was rather trying to keep away from hazardous places.1

Because of this tie between Farrell and Jones, the first scheduled thirty-six hole play-off began. Jones still had a chance to retrieve the elusive title which he had given away the day before. He began with a birdie giving him a one stroke lead which Farrell soon regained and by the end of the first eighteen holes had increased to three strokes, Farrell shooting a seventy to Jones's seventy-three.

In the afternoon round, Jones quickly gained back the three strokes deficit by beginning with two fours while Farrell was having trouble taking a six and a five. At the third hole, Jones needed six strokes as he had in the morning round and fell two strokes behind. He soon regained these, however, and going to the twenty-seventh hole, they were even again. On this hole, Jones again lost two strokes to Farrell and therefore was two behind with only nine holes to play.

Jones began the final nine by making three consecutive fours while Farrell made three fives, producing a one stroke lead for Jones. But Farrell birdied the next hole and they were even again. They halved the next two holes and then Farrell went one stroke ahead on the thirty-fourth hole. On the thirty-fifth hole, Jones made a thirty foot putt for a birdie only to have Farrell match his birdie with a five

1Jones, op. cit., p. 168.
foot putt of his own, therefore, with one hole to go Farrell led by one stroke. On the par five thirty-sixth hole, Jones put his second shot very close to the green while Farrell was sixty yards short in the rough with his second. But Farrell's pitch shot was excellent, stopping ten feet away. Jones's chip shot rolled up very close for a birdie. Farrell calmly made his putt for a birdie and the championship. The scores for the play-off showed Jones shooting a final seventy-one to go with his first round of seventy-three for a 144 total, while Farrell had a seventy and a seventy-three for a 143 total. Jones was second for the fourth time in the last seven years. The newspaper reports following the play-off seemed to indicate that the real news was Jones's losing rather than Farrell's winning.

The Walker Cup Matches were next and were played in the United States at the end of August at the Chicago Golf Club. Bobby Jones had been named captain of the team and he, therefore, felt a great responsibility for the American team. The Americans had not lost any of the previous four matches and they didn't want to lose this one.

Jones went to the Chicago area for practice prior to the matches and contrary to his usual procedure, this practice produced some of the best golf he ever played. His first four rounds were played at the Biltmore Forest Country Club in Asheville. These rounds were 69-71-69-68. He then moved over to the Old Elm Club and set a new course record of sixty-eight. The next day he set a new course record at the Chicago Golf Club shooting a sixty-eight which lasted only until the next day, when he broke it once again, shooting a sixty-seven. He followed this round with a sixty-eight, then in the round at Flossmoor for the Warren K. Wood Memorial Trophy, Jones produced one of his greatest
rounds ever. He started the round poorly by being two over par for the 
first seven holes, but then he made seven consecutive threes and fin-
ished the round with a total of sixty-seven breaking the Flossmoor 
record and winning the trophy by four strokes. He shot a seventy 
against Phil Perkins, the current British Amateur Champion, defeating 
him thirteen and twelve in the singles match of the Walker Cup com-
petition. In an exhibition match at the Woodland course near Boston, 
he shot a sixty-nine and a sixty-seven giving him twelve consecutive 
rounds of seventy-one or under, which averaged out to just over sixty-
eight strokes per round on some of the most difficult courses in the 
United States. The United States team won the Walker Cup Matches 
eleven to one which was the largest margin up to that time in the 
international competition.

The United States Amateur Championship was played at the Brae 
Burn Country Club in Boston. Jones qualified comfortably with a 
seventy-seven and a seventy-four which placed him fifth behind the 143 
total of George Voigt. Jones won his first eighteen hole match easily 
over J. W. Brown four and three, but in the second match, he had a very 

close call while playing Ray Gorton, a Brae Burn member. Both players 
played the first nine poorly as they each shot forty-two. On the tenth 
hole, Gorton made an eagle three while Jones had a birdie. On the 
eleventh hole, a 463 yard par four, Gorton was on in two, while Jones 
was in the rough some 200 yards from the green with tall trees between 
his ball and the green. This situation produced one of his best shots 
ever as he took a four iron and hit it up and over the trees and onto 
the green some fifteen feet from the hole, saving what looked to be a 
lost hole as both players made their putts for birdies. Jones won the
twelfth, but Gorton won the thirteenth. They halved the fourteenth and Jones won the fifteenth, to be even again. They halved the sixteenth and prepared to play the very difficult 255 yard par three seventeenth. Jones's shot caught the bunker, but Gorton missed the green also. Gorton chipped close for a par, but Jones's bunker shot left him a very difficult seven foot putt for his par. Jones made it and after they halved the eighteenth with pars, the match went to the first extra hole. Jones drove well down the middle while Gorton drove into the woods, from where he had to chip out in two and Jones put his second shot on the green. Gorton put his third shot on, but missed his putt for a par, after which Jones made his par and won the match.

This match was the turning point of the tournament for Jones, for in the thirty-six hole matches he defeated John Beck fourteen and thirteen, Phil Finlay thirteen and twelve, and Phil Perkins, the British champion, in the finals ten and nine. Bobby had won his fourth Amateur Championship and with it had realized his ambition of being either the Open or Amateur Champion of the United States for six consecutive years.

1929 - ANOTHER OPEN VICTORY AND A STARTLING DEFEAT

The spring of 1929 found the United States in a vast economic turmoil. The "Bull Market" was in force and fluctuating greatly from day to day and the "get rich quick" philosophy prevailed. The people realized the possibility of a great fall in the market, but their eternal optimism would not let them believe that it could happen. One historian wrote: "More important were the sense of optimism which permeated the decade and the conviction that, especially in the economic
world, anything was possible.\textsuperscript{1} Bobby Jones was in the first full year of his new work as a lawyer, and, therefore, had not played very much golf prior to the opening of the tournament season. Even with all of his success in golf, it still was secondary to his law work.

The United States Open was played at the Winged Foot Golf Club in Mamaroneck, New York. This was Jones's tenth attempt at the championship, having won two. Even though his golf had been sparse since the 1928 Amateur, he was obviously mentally prepared for he went out on the first day and shot a sixty-nine, which was the first round under seventy he ever had in a United States Open. His method of compiling this fine score was almost unbelievable. He started with a double-bogey six on the first hole and had another double-bogey five on the third hole, but an eagle three on the par five fifth hole, allowed him to reach the turn in thirty-eight strokes. He started the back nine with five consecutive threes and finished with four fours for a thirty-one, tying the record for lowest nine holes in Open history. This sixty-nine gave Jones a one stroke lead over Al Espinosa and a two stroke advantage over Gene Sarazen.

The second day's play was marred by rain in the afternoon. Espinosa and Sarazen had played in the morning prior to the rain and had finished in a tie after two rounds with $\frac{11}{2}$ totals. Jones, having a late starting time, played in the rain and shot a seventy-five which gave him a $\frac{11}{4}$ total and a tie with Denny Shute, two strokes behind the leaders.

Jones started the third day and the final thirty-six holes by shooting a seventy-one in the third round over the long, rain-drenched course giving him a 215 total and a lead of three strokes over Sarazen who was at 218 and four over Espinosa's 219. In the fourth round, Jones had a thirty-eight on the front nine after taking seven strokes at the eighth hole from being in the same bunker twice and the one on the opposite side of the green once. He rallied for a birdie at the ninth, however, to realize his thirty-eight. Espinosa, playing ahead of Jones, had a thirty-six and Sarazen a forty-one. By the time Jones reached the twelfth hole, he had a lead of six strokes over Espinosa, who had taken a triple-bogey eight on the twelfth hole.

At this point, the same sensation which he had experienced at Olympia Fields the year before came over him. He had a lead which he tried to protect by trying to stay out of trouble, but in the process, he lost the lead which he had worked so hard to acquire. He bogeyed the thirteenth, parred the fourteenth, but at the fifteenth, he took another disastrous seven and his lead was gone. Jones needed to finish with three fours to beat Espinosa who had played brilliantly after his eight on the twelfth hole. Jones put the ball on the par five sixteenth in two shots, but needed three putts. He now needed two fours to tie. The first of these he attained at the seventeenth and he came to the final hole needing a three to win and a four to tie. He hit a good drive, but pulled his pitch shot to the left and his ball ended in a deep bunker to the left of the green. His shot from the sand left him twelve feet from the hole over a curving surface. He needed to make this putt to tie for the championship. Al Watrous, Jones's playing partner, described the putt: "Bob hit a perfect putt that had
Fig. 9.—The Deciding Putt on the Final Hole at Winged Foot, 1929
just the right speed as it hung on the upper edge of the hole for a fraction and then dropped into the hole.\footnote{Questionnaire reply from Al Watrous, February 3, 1967.} This putt gave Jones a seventy-nine for the day and a 249 total. He had collapsed again, but he had made the great putt under pressure and therefore gained a reprieve from his near catastrophic blow-up. Keeler's comment concerning this putt was: "I'll always believe that the remainder of Bobby's career hung on that putt and that from this, stemmed the Grand Slam of 1930.\footnote{Rice, \textit{op. cit.}, p. 242.}

The play-off was scheduled for the next day, Sunday, over thirty-six holes. Because of the time necessary to play that many holes, the tee off time was scheduled for early Sunday morning. Jones, realizing that Espinosa was of the Catholic faith and would surely want to go to Mass, went to the tournament officials and asked whether the time could be delayed for an hour to allow Espinosa to attend Mass. This was done without Espinosa's knowledge and was not publicized. It was done as a gesture of sportsmanship or more specifically as respect of one man for another. The request was granted and the match was delayed for an hour.\footnote{Price, \textit{op. cit.}, p. 196.}

The play-off was completely dominated by Jones as he shot a par seventy-two in the morning and three under par, sixty-nine, in the afternoon. Espinosa had spent himself during the regular play and could do no better than eighty-four and eighty. Bobby Jones was the
Open Champion for the third time and had extended his championship streak to seven years.

The story of the United States Amateur Championship of 1929 at Pebble Beach was one of disbelief. Bobby Jones was seeking his fifth championship and his third in a row. He also was seeking his tenth major championship which would allow him to stand alone as the winning-est golfer ever. He was playing great golf and it appeared that nothing could stop him in his numerous ambitions. His practice rounds prior to the tournament were mostly exhibitions which thousands followed to watch the great amateur play. His golf was extraordinary during all of these rounds.

In the qualifying rounds Jones played exceptionally well, tying with Gene Homans for the medal with a score of 145, which went against his superstition concerning qualifying medals. But it turned out that way nevertheless, and he was scheduled to play a young unknown amateur from Omaha, Johnny Goodman, in the first eighteen hole match.

The match began with Jones losing the first three holes, which was not an enviable position in an eighteen hole match. He did come back however, and evened the match after twelve holes. They halved the thirteenth with pars, but on the par five fourteenth, Bobby tried to play his pitch shot too close to the bunker and the ball ended its flight in the sand after Goodman was on in four. Jones needed three more strokes to hole out and Goodman made his putt for a five and a win to be one up. Goodman played par golf from that point on and after Jones's try for a birdie on the final hole did not go in, Goodman two-putted for the victory, one up.
The crowd was stunned. The great Bobby Jones had lost in the first round. He would not be playing any more that week. It was the first time he had ever lost in the first round in twelve Amateur tournaments. According to Mrs. Eleanor Keeler, who attended the event, nearly half of the gallery left the next day because Jones had lost.¹

The feeling of the general public is revealed in the following periodical article:

The downfall of Bobby was greeted with terrific mourning in most segments of the golf circle, and several controversial points were brought once more to the fore. One of these was the advisability of outlawing the eighteen hole match, in favor of the thirty-six hole, in such tournaments, on the theory that the shorter course does not furnish a sufficient test.²

The younger Goodman's admiration for Jones is indicated in a quote following the match:

The crowd was fine, but the only thing I remember is Bobby Jones coming up with his hand outstretched. I can't tell you what it feels like. If you have ever wanted something real badly—and then found out you could have it just by trying hard, you will know how I felt when I beat Bobby Jones. I will never make the mistake of thinking I can ever beat him again. He didn't play very well, and I am sure he could beat me every time he tried, but I will say that if I ever again have the honor of meeting him, I will try just as hard. It is a wonderful honor, just to have played with him. But you can tell the world, Bobby Jones is the best golfer—and the finest gentleman in the world, and if it hadn't been that I wanted to win if I could, I would be awfully sorry that he didn't beat me, for I feel sure he could have won the National Amateur Championship.³

¹Interview with Mrs. O. B. Keeler, April 2, 1966, Atlanta, Georgia.

²"Is Bobby Jones Losing Interest in Golf?" The Literary Digest, September 21, 1929, p. 68.

³Ibid., p. 69.
The tournament was eventually won by Harrison Johnston, as he defeated Dr. O. F. Willing in the finals. The big story was not that Johnston had won but that Jones had lost.

The loss did not bother Jones so much personally, since he knew that in golf and particularly in eighteen hole matches, anyone could win, but what bothered him was that so many of his friends and admirers were so disappointed. This experience surely moved him somewhat closer to retirement.

He had won the Open, however, which kept his consecutive championship years intact at seven, but his fall at Pebble Beach was topped only by the stock market crash one month later.

1930 - THE GRAND SLAM YEAR

This year was, without question, the greatest golfing year in Bobby Jones's life. Even more inclusive, it was the greatest golf performance in history and as one golf historian said, "...which may well prove to be the supreme athletic achievement of this century."1 During 1930 Jones won all four of the major golf championships; the British Amateur, British Open, United States Open and United States Amateur. This feat had never been done before nor has it been done since.

The great accomplishment was actually mentally conceived by Jones during the 1926 campaign when he competed in all four tournaments, losing in the fifth round of the British Amateur due to a physical ailment, winning both the British and United States Opens and losing in the finals of the United States Amateur. Bobby later revealed that at the close of that year, he believed that the feat was possible. He

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1Price, op. cit., p. 8.
said, "Actually, I did make my plans for that golfing year with precisely this end in view, and so prepared myself more carefully than I had ever done before. I first got the idea that the Grand Slam might be made during the campaign of 1926."¹

Jones did many things differently prior to this tournament year than he had done in any other year. Whereas before, his golf had ceased following the Amateur Championship in September and did not resume again until late April or early May, in 1930, he began a conditioning program in the winter utilizing a game similar to badminton which he had learned from Douglas Fairbanks while in California the year before. The game was called "Doug" after Mr. Fairbanks and was played with paddles and a shuttlecock. Jones played it religiously nearly every day after work on the stage of the Old Atlanta Theatre which a friend generously allowed him to use.

Ordinarily Jones had dismissed golf from his mind during the winter, but by his own admission, golf dominated his thinking during the winter of 1929-30. Concerning this point he said, "Throughout all of this period, although I was not playing golf, golf was my paramount concern."²

Another happening of 1929 which helped bring about the Grand Slam was Jones's defeat by Johnny Goodman in the 1929 Amateur. He had always feared the possibility of defeat in an eighteen hole match because he felt that the match was too short and there was no time to recover mistakes and that the best player might not always win in so

¹Jones, op. cit., p. 102.
²Ibid., p. 107.
short a match. But after it happened to him, he discovered that it was not so very bad after all and his attitude toward eighteen hole matches, the major format of the British Amateur, changed. Concerning this he said:

Also from this Goodman match, I think I had come to the realization that even though eighteen holes did not provide as long a run as thirty-six, at the same time eighteen holes constituted a round of golf, and there was still ample time within that round for the assertion of any superiority a player might possess.¹

The major tournament action was to begin earlier than usual this year in Britain with the Walker Cup Matches in May followed closely by the British Amateur and then the British Open. Since the important tournaments were starting earlier, Jones made another change from his regular routine and entered two tournaments during the winter season.

The first of these was the Savannah Open which was held in February. The tournament developed into a personal duel between a very successful young professional, Horton Smith, and Bobby Jones. Ironically, these two young golfers were rooming together during the tournament.

Jones began the tournament by shooting a sixty-seven the first day, which was the course record, while Smith had a seventy-one. Smith came back the next day to lower the course record to sixty-six and Jones shot a seventy-five. The second day's scores left Smith with a five stroke lead. The final thirty-six holes were played the next day and in the morning round, Jones made up the five strokes as he lowered the course record again, shooting a sixty-five to Smith's seventy and they were all even going to the final eighteen holes.

¹Ibid., p. 105.
In the final round Jones played ahead of Smith and went along very well until the seventeenth hole where he, in attempting to reach the green with his second shot on the par five hole, hooked the ball out of bounds. He did manage to salvage a six on the hole and birdied the final hole for a seventy-two and a 279 total. On the same two holes, Smith played in one stroke less making a four on seventeen and a four on eighteen to shoot a seventy-one for a 278 and a one stroke victory over Jones. This was the last defeat that Bobby Jones ever experienced in competitive golf.

The other tournament in which he took part prior to the British trip was the Southern Open which was held in March on two courses in Augusta; the Hill Course of the Augusta Country Club and the Forrest Hills-Ricker hotel course. When the Tournament sponsors found that Smith had not entered due to his professional duties in Washington, D.C., they persuaded him to enter and provided air transportation for him back and forth to Washington during the tournament. This, of course, was to continue the Smith-Jones duel which had begun in the previous tournament.

Jones and Smith were paired together in the first two rounds, but Smith's game was not very good while Jones played exactly even par golf to take a comfortable lead. In the third round, Bobby shot a sixty-nine to increase his lead. Smith had finished with a 297 total when Jones arrived at the course for his final round. Therefore, Jones knew what he had to do in the final round. He needed to shoot eighty-three or better to beat Smith's total. Jones started the final round with a birdie, then added an eagle and another birdie and finished the first nine with a thirty-two. At this point, the question was not
who was going to win but by how many strokes Jones would win. He
birdied both the tenth and twelfth holes and came to the sixteenth, a
par three, needing three pars for a sixty-six and a winning margin of
eighteen strokes.

At this hole, however, there was a long wait since it was a
difficult hole where players were getting themselves into a lot of
trouble. Jones, with an unbeatable lead, relaxed for about half an
hour, lying around on the ground talking with friends including Ty
Cobb, the professional baseball player from Georgia. Cobb kept reminding
Jones to swing a club and to keep loose, which advice Jones did not
heed. When it came time for him to hit, he promptly hooked the ball
into trouble and then knocked it into a bunker and finished with a five
on the hole. He parred the seventeenth, but hooked once again on the
eighteenth and needed six to get down. So instead of winning by
eighteen strokes, he only won by thirteen, due to his terrible finish.
Following the tournament Jones received a severe reprimand from his
good friend and fellow-athlete, Ty Cobb. Jones said:

    It was not Ty's idea just to win, but to win by the most
you could. That's what had made him such a great baseball
player. He was wrong this time, though. My trouble had not
come from a muscular chill, but mental complacency.\footnote{Ibid., p. 110.}

From Horton Smith, Jones had learned a very important bit of
information about playing the short pitch shot. Smith had told him to
give his wrists a little extra cock just as the downswing begins. This
point helped Jones to play the one weak shot in his game better than he
had ever played it before and this was a key factor in the achievement
of the Grand Slam. According to Jones, "It is a fact that from Augusta
onward during the 1930 season, my pitching was better than it ever had been before. Following this Augusta tournament, Keeler reported that Bobby Cruickshank had prophesied the Grand Slam when he said:

...Bobby is just too good. He's going to Britain, and he's going to win the British Amateur and the British Open, and then he's coming back here and win the National Open and National Amateur. They'll never stop him this year.2

Jones was playing well, but it was doubtful whether any man could play well enough and be fortunate enough to win all four. It didn't seem possible to anyone except Bobby Cruickshank and Jones, himself.

With this in mind, Bobby Jones sailed for Britain for the Walker Cup Matches. As captain of the team, Jones felt a responsibility for the success of the American team. It was his responsibility to make the pairings for the foursome play and his contemplation was intense in regard to this duty. He eventually decided upon George Von Elm and George Voigt as the number one team, the Amateur Champion Harrison Johnston and Francis Ouimet as number two, himself and Dr. O. F. Willing as number three and Don Moe and Roland McKenzie as number four. Only the number one team lost and Francis Ouimet was the only loser in singles as the American team won again ten to two. Jones defeated Roger Wethered in his singles match nine and eight even though his iron play was far from what he desired.

St. Andrews and the British Amateur were next and regarding this Jones wrote: "So to St. Andrews to begin in earnest the quest for the Grand Slam. ...I have soberly concluded that this was the most

1Ibid.
2Keeler, op. cit., p. 274.
important tournament of my life."\(^1\) Jones went into this tournament with much confidence, since he had great love and admiration for St. Andrews, plus the fact that he felt his knowledge of the course was superior to any other player's in the field. In regard to this, he said:

I had taken great pains to learn the location of all the little pot bunkers and felt that I had a complete familiarity with all the devious little slopes and swales which could deflect well-intended shots in such exasperating ways. I may have been flattering myself, yet I felt very confident that I should encounter no opponent having an advantage over me on the score of local knowledge. Truly, if I had to select one course upon which to play the match of my life, I should have selected the Old Course. Whether or not this confidence was justified was really beside the point; it was unquestionably good for my morale.\(^2\)

The tournament involved seven eighteen hole matches with the finals played over thirty-six holes. Jones had four difficult matches and three were not so difficult on his way to the finals. The first match was one of the difficult ones. His opponent was an unknown player named Sid Roper. Jones knew nothing about Roper except what a friend had told him; "...he would most likely not play any hole better than five."\(^3\) This was actually a very poor appraisal of Roper's ability for as it turned out, Roper had fifteen fours and only one five, which would have been good enough to beat nearly everyone else in the field that day except Bobby Jones.

Jones's magnificent beginning in this match was too much for Roper. Jones's scores for the first five holes were 3, 4, 3, 2, 4,

\(^1\)Jones, op. cit., p. 114.
\(^2\)Ibid.
\(^3\)Ibid., p. 115.
against a par of $h, h, h, h, 5$. He was five under par, but only three up as Roper played the same holes in five consecutive fours. Jones's eagle two on the fourth hole was one of the most discussed shots of the tournament. He drove the ball into a bunker some 300 yards from the tee and 140 yards from the green. He played the bunker shot perfectly and it rolled into the hole. According to Keeler, who witnessed the shot, one spectator's comment following this shot was, "I have traveled eight thousand miles to see this tournament and that shot is worth it all, and twice over!" Jones was able to win this match on the sixteenth hole two and one and he stood five under par at the time. Concerning this match, Jones said, "On the basis of comparative scores I think he would have won from any other player in the field that round. I know he would have beaten me on any other day of the tournament, except possibly on the morning of the final match." But this is how golf tournaments are won by rising to the occasion and playing the kind of golf necessary to win on a given day.

Jones won his match with Cowan Shankland five and three, but in the third round he met Cyril Tolley, the defending champion, and one of the most fearsome competitors in Britain. Concerning Tolley, Jones said, "He was a big, powerful player with an exquisite touch in the short game, and in my opinion the most dangerous man I could possibly meet in an eighteen hole match at St. Andrews."
Fig. 10.—The Bunker Shot From 140 Yards Which Jones Holed in His Match With Roper
On the day of the match, the winds were blowing very hard and the total course was hard and fast. Jones said later, "St. Andrews was in real truth St. Andrews on such a day, and the test was more of resourcefulness in maneuvering than of regularity in playing standard golf shots."\(^1\)

The match began and the adversaries traded holes with Jones winning the first when Tolley topped his opening tee shot. Bernard Darwin described the opening of the match as follows:

"...Never was there more perceptible the silence of expectation, that lull before the storm in which men speak instinctively in whispers, and Cyril gave it, if possible, a more thrilling emphasis, since he began with a full-blooded top from the first tee.\(^2\)"

Tolley came back to win the second and the fourth holes, but Jones won the seventh and eighth and Tolley the ninth, to make them all even after the first nine. Jones shot a thirty-nine and Tolley a thirty-eight the stroke difference came on the ninth hole where Tolley had a three to Jones's five.

They alternated the winning of holes on the back nine beginning with Jones's win on the eleventh. They were even going to the seventeenth which is the famous Road Hole, a 466 yard dogleg par five. Their drives were about the same length with Tolley's being slightly longer making Jones play his second shot first. His line to the pin was completely shut off by a large bunker; therefore, he decided to play to the left of the bunker hoping to have a chip and a putt for his birdie. Jones motioned for the gallery to move back on the left, which they

\(^1\)Ibid., p. 118.

\(^2\)Ibid.
were reluctant to do. He hit the shot rather strongly and it struck a spectator and stopped immediately on the apron of the green a few feet from the putting surface. There was some speculation to the effect that Jones had played deliberately to hit into the gallery but he denied this when he said:

At least one observer thought that I had played directly into the crowd, knowing that they were packed so densely that the human barricade must stop the ball. This was very definitely not the case. I should never have been so heedless of the possibility of inflicting injury upon a spectator. ... I attempted to play a soft shot with a number four iron, designed, as I have said, barely to pass the bunker. I have a very distinct recollection that as I swung the club I was acutely aware of the prime necessity that the ball should pass the bunker. If it did not, my situation would be hopeless. I know that I gave the shot a little extra nudge. I saw the ball land about even with the bunker and take a bound forward. I know it was strong, but I didn't know how much. Yet, I did see it strike a spectator and drop near the green.¹

Jones's stroke of luck placed a different outlook upon Tolley's shot. Tolley now had to go for the pin which he did, but the shot ended short of the green leaving the bunker between his ball and the pin which was out very close to the bunker. Jones's approach shot stopped eight feet from the hole and it was now Tolley's turn to try to stop his ball close to the hole over a bunker and onto a green which was sloping away from him. Tolley struck the shot perfectly and it rolled dead to the pin.

This shot was described by Jones:

It cannot be stated as a fact, but it is nevertheless my conviction that Tolley's third shot on this hole has never been surpassed for exquisitely beautiful execution. I shall carry to my grave the impression of the lovely little stroke with which he dropped the ball so softly in exactly the right spot, so that in the only possible way it finished dead to the hole.²

¹Ibid., pp. 122-123.
²Ibid.
This made Jones's putt a must now. If he missed, Tolley would be dormie one. But Jones did not miss, and they went to the eighteenth hole even. Both players drove well and Jones placed his second shot twenty-five feet past the hole. Tolley played his second to within fifteen feet. Jones putted up close and made his four and watched with consternation as Tolley prepared to putt. He missed, and the match went to extra holes. On the first hole Jones's second shot made the green while Tolley missed the green with his second and left his chip shot several feet away and open for a stymie, which Jones laid him on his first putt, leaving Tolley no chance to sink. The match had ended. Jones described his reaction, "I was neither exultant nor elated, just very, very tired. I suspected Cyril felt the same way."¹ This great battle which had been fought to the end by two tenacious competitors had left its mark on both. Jones later described the match's effect as follows: "I have graven on my soul, I think, the completely brutal ferocity of that man-to-man contest."²

Jones was extricated temporarily from his difficult matches as he had no difficulty defeating G. O. Watt, seven and six the next morning. However, the afternoon match was a different proposition as he met Jimmy Johnston, the United States Amateur Champion. Jones knew Johnston's potential well, for he, as captain of the Walker Cup team, had awarded Johnston the number one position on the team. Jones said,

¹Ibid., p. 124.
²Ibid., p. 119.
"I was, in truth, looking for another bout like the one the day before."\(^1\)

As the match began, Jones played even par for the first nine holes and was only one up. He won the tenth with a birdie and proceeded to win two more of the next three holes and he stood four up with five holes to play. At this point Johnston pulled himself together and birdied the fourteenth and also won the fifteenth when Jones bunkered his second shot. They halved the sixteenth as Johnston made a twelve foot putt. Johnston maintained his momentum and made a birdie on the Road Hole and they went to the eighteenth hole with Jones one up. They both drove well on the final hole and both made the green with their second shots, but both balls were some one hundred feet from the pin. Johnston putted first and put his ball within thirty inches of the hole. Jones, then, through miscalculation, left his ball some eight feet away. He now faced an eight foot, curling putt for his par and victory in the match. He calmly addressed the putt and knocked it in for the victory. He was one step closer to his first British Amateur.

The next and final day of the eighteen hole matches, Jones played Eric Fiddian, a young Englishman. He did not have much difficulty in this match as he played one under par golf and eventually won on the fifteenth hole four and three. It was between this match and the afternoon match with George Voigt that Jones made a bad mistake. He went to his room to await the outcome of the other matches and decided to have a glass of sherry with his wife, Mary, to attempt to calm his nerves. He had never had any alcoholic beverage while competing before and in

\(^1\)Ibid., p. 128.
his nervous, tired condition, it affected him very adversely. His face became flushed and his eyes would not focus properly. As the time for his match with Voigt approached the condition had not improved at all. Jones described the situation:

I honestly and solemnly declare that I could not get that sherry out of my eyes until more than half the round had been played.... I played well enough from tee to green, but I kept missing putts all over the place and finally fluffed a short pitch at the thirteenth hole. When George holed a good putt there to win the hole, I found myself two down with five to play.¹

On the next hole as Bobby's chances appeared very bleak, Voigt drove his ball directly out of bounds. This allowed Jones to win the hole and be only one down with four to play. They halved the fifteenth, but on the sixteenth, Voigt's drive was bunkered and Jones won the hole. They were now all even going to the seventeenth, where so many of Jones's matches had turned during the week. They both drove well and both played their second shots well, Jones being five yards short and Voigt on the edge of the green, but a long distance from the hole. Jones played his approach shot to within twelve feet of the hole, but Voigt played his third shot up only two feet away. Jones was confronted with the necessity of making this twelve foot putt to keep from going one down with only one hole to play. He described his feelings: "As I looked over the putt, I could see the line as well as if it had been marked with a piece of chalk. I knew the putt was going to go in no matter how I hit it."² His supreme confidence helped him make the putt and the match went to the eighteenth hole even. The drives were good

¹Ibid., p. 129.

²Interview with R. T. Jones, August 5, 1965, Atlanta, Georgia.
and straight, but Voigt's second shot was short of the green. Jones's second made the green and stopped six feet away. Voigt's chip shot rolled up inside Jones's ball. Jones missed his birdie putt, but made his par and so it was up to Voigt to make his putt for a tie. He missed and Jones was the winner. He had made the finals, surviving the treacherous eighteen hole matches. He was now scheduled to play Roger Wethered over thirty-six holes for the British Amateur Championship.

Jones went into the final match with much confidence since he felt so elated over surviving the eighteen hole matches. He also had the physical and psychological advantage on his side. He was in good condition and he had the reputation of being unbeatable over thirty-six holes. His opponent, Wethered, was a typical Englishman in that he played well but was not overly excited about the situation and winning did not mean nearly so much to him. For example, in 1921 he had tied with Jock Hutchinson for the British Open title and he was not sure he would stay for the play-off since he had a cricket match the next day.\(^1\)

Jones's plan was to apply the steady pressure of par golf to his opponent and hope that he would crack under the strain. Jones had eight fours and one three for the first nine which was one under par golf, but the match remained even. Wethered missed a short putt at the tenth hole giving Jones a one up advantage. They halved the eleventh and twelfth holes, but then Jones won four consecutive holes with fours, putting him five up after eighteen holes.

In the afternoon round, Jones faltered on two holes on the first nine, but he gained one back with a birdie and stood five up with nine

\(^1\)Jones, op. cit., p. 131.
Fig. 11.—Jones Driving During His Final Match With Roger Wethered, 1930 British Amateur
to go. He birdied the first hole of the back nine to be six up and then parred the next two holes and closed Wethered out on the thirtieth hole by the score of seven and six. Jones's plan of relentless pressure had worked. His card showed five threes, three fives and twenty-two fours. As Jones said, "I was quite well satisfied with my play in the final. Although my golf had not been devastating, to play thirty holes at St. Andrews in two under fours could certainly be regarded as satisfactory."\(^1\) Bobby Jones had won his first and only British Amateur Championship on his third attempt. It was a great relief for him to win this tournament for due to the number of eighteen hole matches, it was the most difficult. With that win, he had finally acquired the one championship which had eluded him. This victory placed him one-fourth of the way along toward his goal. The tournament had been a grueling one for Jones, so he and Mrs. Jones went to Paris for two weeks of rest prior to the British Open.

The second leg of the difficult conquest was the British Open, which began on June 16th and was played on the Royal Liverpool Golf Club in Hoylake, England. Jones seemed well rested after his stay in Paris, but his golf game was not what he would have liked it to be going into this championship. Both his driving and putting were giving him problems and he was struggling as the qualifying rounds began. Nevertheless, he qualified shooting a two round total of 150, nine strokes behind the medalist, Archie Compston. When the tournament began the next day, Jones's championship mental conditioning brought his game together and he shot a two under par seventy and was in a tie for

\(^1\)Ibid., p. 133.
the lead with MacDonald Smith and Henry Cotton. In the second round, he shot a very respectable seventy-two for a 1h2 total and a one stroke lead over Fred Robson, a three stroke lead over Horton Smith and a five stroke lead over Archie Compston.

The third and fourth rounds were played on the same day, which makes a very hard day, particularly for the leaders who are under such great pressure. Jones began the third round by playing the first four holes in 4, 5, 6, 3 against a par of 4, 4, 5, 3. Approximately one-half hour later, Compston played the same series of holes in 4, 3, 4, 2 and by so doing gained five strokes on Jones and erased the advantage which Jones had taken two days to build. Jones settled down after his poor beginning and played the next ten holes two under par. He faltered, however, on the last five holes as he took fives on four of them to finish with a seventy-four and a total of 216. In the meantime, Compston, with his British compatriots cheering him on, continued his inspired play and finished with a sixty-eight to take the lead away from Jones with a 215 total.

As Compston was leaving the eighteenth green, Jones was just starting out to play his final round. The frenzied crowd was milling around their hero Compston. This scene must have given Jones inspiration for he played the first three holes in one under par which was three strokes better than any other time he had played them. He came to the eighth tee needing two fours for a thirty-five which would have been his best first nine of the entire tournament. The eighth hole is a h82 yard par five which was reachable in two well-played shots. Jones had been on or near the green in every round and this time was no different as his drive and second shot left him only some ten yards
short and slightly to the left. His ball was at the bottom of a slight slope with no trouble between it and the pin; however, there was a slope from the edge of the green down to the pin. Jones could have played the ball safely past the pin for a sure par, but in order to get down in two for his birdie it was necessary to play a delicate shot to land near the edge of the green so that it would roll gently down to the pin. Jones chose to play for the birdie and in so doing left the ball short of the green. Still wary of the swiftness of the green and the downhill shot, he played his chip shot much too softly and the ball stopped ten feet short of the pin. He missed the putt for a par and the ball slipped twelve inches past the hole. He tapped the putt much too hurriedly and it missed as well and a seven was the result. What had appeared to be a sure par and a potential birdie had become a disastrous seven. Concerning this erratic play Jones said, "Mr. Darwin said later that a nice old lady with a croquet mallet could have saved me two strokes from this point." Jones was crushed over this tragic turn of events. He described his feelings:

As I walked to the ninth tee, I was in a daze. I realized that in one brief span of only a moment or two, all the effort of the past three days had been just about washed out. I wasn't looking at any Grand Slam, only at the one championship. If ever a person could be made groggy by a blow entailing no physical consequences, I had been made so by that seven."

He further states:

My reaction was precisely this. I had been badly shaken and I knew it. I was even confused mentally. At this point I was completely incapable of making any calculation either of what score I might ultimately achieve or of what it would be necessary to do to stave off the challenge of others.

1Ibid., p. 138.
2Ibid., p. 139.
Since I could not think, I did what I think nine persons out of ten would have done under similar circumstances. I simply resolved to keep on hitting the ball as best I could, to finish the round in an orderly fashion, if possible, and let the result be what it would.\footnote{Ibid.}

Jones did exactly what he said. In the next four holes, he parred two and bogeyed two. He was then facing the five difficult finishing holes which he had played so well throughout the tournament. He made a four at the fourteenth and a five at the fifteenth. But at sixteen, a 532 yard par five dogleg, he made a shot which he said, "...was one of the best I ever made in my life."\footnote{Ibid.} He drove the ball beyond the 270 yard point where the hole turned and pulled his second shot into the bunker to the left of the green. The ball was lying very close to the edge away from the green which meant that the shot had to be struck with a sharp descending blow rather than the standard smooth sand shot.

Jones looked at the lie and decided that there was only one club in his bag with which he could execute the shot, a concave wedge which Horton Smith had given him earlier in the year, and which he had used only two other times in competition. He stood with one foot in the bunker and the other on the ground and struck the ball exactly as he had planned. It went onto the green, rolled toward the hole and stopped two inches beyond for an easy birdie. He parred both the seventeenth and eighteenth holes for a seventy-five and a 291 total.

Sometime later, Leo Diegel, who had become his nearest competitor, took a six on the sixteenth where Bobby had birdied and finished two strokes behind. MacDonald Smith also finished two strokes behind in a
tie with Diegel. Jones's sand shot at the sixteenth had been the difference in the closing holes and he had now won the second part of the Grand Slam.

As Jones and his friend, Keeler, had been awaiting the finish of the other players, Keeler had asked a very exhausted Jones when he was going to quit playing competitive golf. His answer was, "Pretty soon, I think--and hope. There's no game worth these last three days." Two more tournaments remained, however, as Jones sailed for the United States never again, and so regrettably for the British, to play a competitive round in the British Isles.

A hero's welcome awaited Bobby Jones in New York much the same as the one he had received upon his triumphant return in 1926. A large group of Atlanta admirers met him at the quarantine island and he was escorted through the harbor by fire boats spraying the sky and he was afforded another ticker-tape parade down Broadway. This was a wonderful welcome, and the modest young man was appreciative, but very much embarrassed as well.

Only two weeks remained before the beginning of the United States Open which was held that year at the Interlachen Golf Club in Minneapolis. The week long boat trip back from Britain had been relaxing for Jones, but it and the celebration had taken their toll as far as his golf game was concerned. Transportation was very slow in those days, and nearly half of the remaining two weeks would be used in travel. He said, "With only three or four days of practice available, my clubs had a strange feel, and I was finding it difficult

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indeed to get back into the habit of thinking about golf. I was not playing really badly in practice, but I was very definitely aware that the keenness was not present.\(^1\)

This lack of sharpness obviously disappeared as the tournament opened, since Jones's seventy-one was only one stroke behind the leaders, MacDonald Smith and Tommy Armour. This first round was played on one of the hottest days in history as the temperature was well over one hundred degrees and the air was so humid that it prompted Jones to say, "...it must have been only a very little shy of liquidity."\(^2\) Jones had perspired so heavily that his clothing was completely soaked and it was necessary to have his tie cut off because it could not be loosened. Several players, including Cyril Tolley, collapsed from the heat. Nevertheless, Jones went out in thirty-four and back in thirty-seven playing the last nine in an hour and a half.

Two of Jones's friends from Atlanta were walking with him. These two men, Chick Ridley and Charlie Cox, were carrying thermos bottles of water since the drinking fountains were in constant use and nearly impossible for the players to use. Mr. Cox at that time was the Adjutant-General of the state of Georgia, which brought out a comment by one of the militiamen working at the tournament in which he said, "I don't know what sort of golfer this fellow Jones is, but he's got the goldangest highest-ranking water boy I ever saw."\(^3\)

\(^1\)Jones, *op. cit.*, p. 145.
\(^2\)Ibid.
\(^3\)Ibid., p. 147.
On the second day the heat subsided somewhat but the race for the championship tightened considerably as no fewer than ten players were within five strokes ranging from Horton Smith's 1h2 to Walter Hagen's and Johnny Golden's 1h7's. Jones shot a seventy-three for an even par total and was in a very comfortable position to go into the final thirty-six holes. He much preferred to be two strokes behind rather than two ahead, since he had not had much success recently when leading a tournament in the final rounds.

The most discussed shot of the tournament occurred during the second round on the ninth hole, a 485 yard par five which could be reached in two shots if one could carry the second shot over a pond guarding the front of the green. Jones had hit a good drive and chose to go for the green with his second shot. The crowd had moved in very closely leaving a narrow lane of humanity through which to shoot. Just as he reached the top of his backswing, a sudden movement by two little girls in the gallery in front of him disturbed his concentration and he half-topped the shot. The ball careened toward the green on a very low trajectory, skipped several times on the water and ended between the pond and the green. Jones took advantage of this bit of luck by pitching the ball close and made a birdie on the hole. What could have so easily been a six became a four. The newspapers indicated that this shot, called the "Lily Pad Shot," was the one which won the tournament. Jones didn't think so, however, as he said:

That the stroke of luck actually decided the championship, I very much doubt. Everyone who has played in a competition of this kind knows that no one stroke can be removed with the assurance that everything else would have remained the same.
The problem of constructing a seventy-two hole total is itself altered by everything contributing to that total.\textsuperscript{1}

On the final day in the third round, Jones began to play well. He birdied the fourth, sixth and seventh holes and finished the first nine in thirty-three, three under par. He also made birdies on eleven, twelve and sixteen and needed only two pars for a sixty-six. He was unable to bring this about, however, as he had bogeys on the last two holes for a sixty-eight. His sixty-eight had provided him with a five stroke lead, however, with only eighteen holes to go.

As he started the final round the strain began to tell and he went three over par on the first three holes including a double bogey five on the par three third hole. He came back strongly on the par five fourth hole by hitting two fine wood shots just short of the green, pitching close and holing the putt for a birdie. He reached the end of the first nine in thirty-eight strokes and had lost four strokes to MacDonald Smith in the process, as Smith had a fine 3\textsuperscript{4}. Smith, who began the round seven strokes behind, was making a bid for the championship. At the thirteenth hole, a 192 yard par three, Jones took another double bogey five. But Jones regained his composure as he birdied the fourteenth, parred the fifteenth and birdied the sixteenth. Just when things seemed to be going well, the long par three seventeenth gave Jones his third double bogey of the day on the par threes.

As he stood on the eighteenth tee, the race for the championship had become very close. Jones needed to play this final hole well to assure himself of a chance, not only for this championship, but also

\textsuperscript{1}Ibid., p. 118.
for the opportunity of completing the Grand Slam for which he had worked and trained so hard. He drove the ball well and his second shot reached the front of the green some forty feet from the hole which was located on a small plateau over two slopes in the green. Jones described his feelings about this very intent situation:

The crowd was milling around in great excitement, and it was only with some difficulty that I myself was able to maintain some composure. More than for any other reason in order to settle my nerves a bit, I walked up to the flag and went through the motions of looking over the putt with great care. As I stepped up to the putt, I was quivering in every muscle. I confess that my most optimistic expectation was to get the thing dead. It is impossible to describe the sensation I felt when I saw my ball take a small break five or six feet from the cup, so that I knew it was in.¹

This putt under the greatest pressure imaginable had won the tournament for Bobby Jones. An hour later when MacDonald Smith, the nearest competitor, needed a two on the par four final hole to tie, Jones's long wait was at its end. His birdie on the final hole had made it impossible for Smith to tie. Smith parred the hole and finished two strokes behind Jones's winning total of 287. The third part of the Grand Slam had been achieved and its prospects of completion appeared highly probable now with only the United States Amateur remaining.

The Atlanta amateur had won but only after a very disconcerting final round which saw him lose nearly all of a five stroke lead only to gain it back with some superb play under severe pressure. Jones described his feelings following the tournament:

It had been a long two months of golf from Sandwich to Sunningdale to St. Andrews to Hoylake to Interlachen, and after another welcome celebration in Atlanta I was more than ready to get back to my office to do a little work and to my normal routine of playing three or four rounds

¹Ibid., p. 152.
a week for fun. There was left only the U.S. Amateur, and it was a long way off.¹

Keeler reported that following the tournament at Interlachen while waiting for the others to finish, Jones had told him that he had had enough and "...no matter what happened at Merion, he was through with competitive golf."²

Ironically, the last stop was to be at the Merion Cricket Club where the first stop had been back in 1916. Bobby Jones had played his first major tournament there as a fourteen year old youngster. He had also won his first United States Amateur title there in 1924 and it was here at Merion that he was to try for the final part of the Grand Slam and close his competitive career.

The intervening time between the Open and the Amateur was about eight weeks. Naturally, the pressure of the situation caused Jones many moments of anxiety, but there were two near fatal accidents during this time as well.

The first of these happened at the East Lake Club during a round of golf. Storm clouds began to build up as the foursome began the second nine, but they decided to play on. As they were on the twelfth green, the storm let loose with all of its fury. A bolt of lightning struck the ground in the tenth fairway which was very close to the twelfth green, so Jones and his friends set out for the clubhouse quickly. Just as they were approaching the locker room, another bolt of lightning struck the chimney of the clubhouse scattering bricks in all directions for a radius of one hundred yards. In the process

¹Ibid.
²Keeler, op. cit., p. 297.
Jones's shirt was torn and he received a severe abrasion on his shoulder, but was not seriously hurt. The seriousness of the situation was discovered later as they viewed the area through which they had run and found many bricks and chunks of mortar, any one of which could have killed a man.\(^1\)

Another brush with death happened in downtown Atlanta several weeks later, when a runaway, driverless car was bearing down on Jones as he walked along Carnegie Way. A pedestrian called to him and he turned just in time to leap out of the way and avoid being crushed between the auto and a building. Concerning these two incidents, he said: "By this time I was beginning to see that there might be many things other than missed putts to interfere with the completion of the Grand Slam."\(^2\) Jones was much more cautious during the last few weeks prior to the tournament.

In evaluating his chances in the upcoming tournament, Jones appeared confident of his own ability to win. He believed that this tournament should be easier than the other three because it was made up mainly of thirty-six hole matches, and the professionals were not in it. Another factor in his favor was the site, since he had been very successful at Merion.

He played well enough in the practice rounds, but he felt a certain uneasiness prompted by the nature of the situation and the importance of the tournament as the culmination of the Grand Slam. This feeling manifested itself in streaks of mediocrity in his golf and his

\(^2\)Ibid., p. 155.
inability to sleep, the latter being something which he had never experienced before. As he surmised, "There was just no way in which a build-up of pressure could be avoided."\(^1\)

Excitement was running rampant in Philadelphia prior to the Amateur. The possible culmination of this great golfing feat was at hand. Most people believed that Jones could surely do it, but apprehension existed in the minds of many until the feat was accomplished. One writer described the public feeling this way: "The hoping, the hoping against hope, and the general feeling of intense personal involvement which millions experienced all week long would have led some stranger visiting the United States to deduce that nearly every American was a relative or at least a close personal friend of Bobby Jones's."\(^2\)

The qualifying rounds began and Jones's game came forth brilliantly as he scored a sixty-nine the first day and a seventy-three the second to tie the record for the qualifying medal held jointly by Jones and Ducky Corkran. The outcome of the qualifying went against his superstition about winning the qualifying medal, but he took some consolation in that he had not had to work very hard in achieving these good scores.

His ability was to be tested immediately, however, as he was paired against Sandy Sommerville, the Canadian champion, who was to become the first Canadian to win the American championship two years hence. The match started with both players making fours on the first and second holes. Jones won the third with a par after which they

\(^1\)Ibid., p. 156.

halved the next three holes with pars. They played the seventh hole, a short par four, even up to the green where Jones's ball ended eight feet from the cup and Sommerville's was one foot closer. Jones's thoughts concerning this situation were revealed years later:

As I walked up the green to finish the hole, there was going through my mind a very well-remembered sequence of thoughts. "There is a chance right here," I was thinking, "for this match to swing one way or the other. Sandy has been hitting right along with me on every shot. On every hole it has been just a question of who would make a putt. I've got the first go at it this time. If I can get my ball into the hole, Sandy's putt will become a lot tougher; and if he should miss, it might mean the match. If I miss first, almost certainly he will hole and we will be even. If that happens, with Sandy in the mood he is in today, I will be playing for my life from here in."

Jones's putt went in and Sommerville missed and Jones went on to birdie two more holes on the first nine to be four up. Sommerville had played even par, but found himself four down. He was never able to recover and Jones won by the score of five and four.

In the second and final eighteen hole match Jones played Fred Hoblitzel and defeated him by the same five and four score. However, the quality of the golf was much different. In this match Jones had a forty-two on the front nine as compared to a thirty-three in the previous match, but he had won and in so doing advanced to the third round where the matches were played over thirty-six holes.

In the third round match he played Fay Coleman. In this match he did not play well, but Coleman played poorly also and after eighteen holes, Jones was two up. The strain seemed to be telling on Jones, but he played better in the afternoon and managed to defeat Coleman by the score of six and five which placed him in the semi-final round.

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1Jones, op. cit., p. 157.
against the man who had dealt him his worst defeat at Brookline in 1922, Jess Sweetser.

Jones started the match by making a birdie on the first hole and continued his dominance by winning the third, fourth and fifth holes to go four up. He lost this margin very quickly, however, through his unsteady play until he was only one up. But he built the margin back to four up as they finished the first eighteen.

In the afternoon round Jones was not to be denied as he stretched his margin to eight up after twenty seven holes and ended the match by making a birdie on the twenty-eighth hole to win nine and eight. By so doing, he dealt Sweetser a formidable defeat which was one hole worse than his eight and seven defeat of Jones in 1922.

Jones had reached the finals and was to meet Gene Homans for the championship the next day. Homans' position was not an enviable one. He, alone, stood between Bobby Jones and the Grand Slam. Jones would certainly be at his best and the role of the "spoiler" in this situation would not be looked upon with favor by the majority of the people.

The outcome of the match became apparent very soon. Jones's relentless pars combined with Homans' erratic play allowed Jones to build a seven up lead by the end of eighteen holes. It was just a matter of time until the end came for Homans. He hung on well, but eventually succumbed to the pressure on the eleventh green as Jones triumphed eight and seven. The dream of the Grand Slam had become a reality. Jones vividly described his feelings:

...I felt the wonderful feeling of release from tension and relaxation that I had wanted so badly for so long a time. I wasn't quite certain what had happened or what I had done. I only knew that I had completed a period of most strenuous effort and at this point, nothing more remained to be done,
and that on this particular project, at least, there could never at any time in the future be anything else to do. I am certain that many others have enjoyed this feeling—that the project, no matter what its importance, has been finished, and ahead, at least for a time, lies nothing but rest and cessation of worry.¹

The end was truly at hand. Bobby Jones had struck his final competitive shot ending a brilliant golf career. The lustre of his record was very bright. In the brief span of eight years, he had competed in twenty-one major championships and had won thirteen of them. In addition to these wins, he was second four times. All told, in twenty-one of the major golf tournaments of the world, he was either first or second seventeen times. During this time he won one of two British Amateur attempts, all three British Opens in which he competed, four out of eight United States Opens and was second three times, two of which he lost in play-offs and finally he won five of eight United States Amateurs and finished second in one. His closest competitor in major victories is professional Walter Hagen with eleven. However, Hagen's major tournament career covered twenty-two years which is seven years longer than Jones's. No other amateur's record even approaches that of Jones. His record of thirteen victories may be equaled or surpassed, but most likely not in a period of eight years or less. The Grand Slam, one of the greatest achievements in the history of sport, appropriately ended his golf career. For Bobby Jones, there were no more golf peaks to conquer. Historian Durant described Jones and his place in American sport as follows:

There has never been a championship golfer in his class or one so worshipped. In the glorious Golden Age, Jones

¹Ibid., p. 158.
stood alone as the finest sportsman, the model of the American athlete.¹

¹Durant and Bettman, op. cit., p. 197.
Fig. 12.—O. B. Keeler and Bobby Jones With the Grand Slam Trophies and the Walker Cup, 1930
CHAPTER IV

THE LATER YEARS - 1931-1966

The Grand Slam had culminated the active playing career of Bobby Jones. He had endured the constant pressures of competition long enough. He wanted to retire, but preferred to do so without a great amount of fanfare. However, this was impossible for a man of his public popularity.

THE RETIREMENT

After the completion of the Grand Slam, many people interested in golf wondered whether Jones would play again or whether he would retire. There was much speculation by newswriters as to what he would do because following the Amateur tournament at Merion he said:

I expect to continue to play golf, but just when and where I cannot say now. I have no definite plans either to retire or as to when and where I may continue in competition. I might play next year and lay off in 1932. I might stay out next season and feel like another tournament the following year. What I want most right now is to be free of any obligation, express or implied to continue playing each year in both major championships.¹

He had always played golf for fun, but during the last few years much of the fun had been neutralized by the severe mental and physical strain which major championship golf produces. He seemed to be going

¹Jones, op. cit., p. 164.
into semi-retirement by not obligating himself to play in every championship. He said:

I thought it would be nice to feel free to play in a tournament now and then if I felt like doing so at the time, but I thought it would also be nice if I could merely neglect to send in my entry for a championship and let it go at that. I never played golf with any idea of making a career of the game.¹

His intention, therefore, was to leave the scene gradually over a period of years and rid himself of the obligation, which seemed to exist, of playing in all major championships. He revealed later that Open championships were the ones which caused him the most difficulty when he said, "...I could escape from competition in the Open championships which had taken so much out of me. At this point, I truly thought that if I should ever play in another championship, it would be the Amateur."²

During the tournament at Merion, Jones had been approached about doing a series of motion pictures on golf, but he refused to discuss it. After his return to Atlanta, he was approached again on the same subject by Y. Frank Freeman, a friend of the family, and a representative of S. A. Lynch Enterprises. He wanted Jones to make a series of instruction movies to help those who were already playing to play better, as well as to introduce the game to more people. Jones liked the idea very much. He felt that in this way he might help people enjoy the game more; he would be contributing something to golf, and, of course,

¹Ibid., p. 163.
²Ibid., p. 171.
the money involved as he said, "...would not be inconsiderable,..."\(^1\)

The major problem here was the question of his amateur status. To him this was of utmost importance. As he said, "To give it up would be like giving up part of myself."\(^2\) Since 1927 he had been writing a syndicated newspaper column, for which he had received prior approval from the United States Golf Association. The approval had been granted with the stipulation that the writing actually be done by Jones and not by a ghostwriter. This was the only way he would have it and he wrote his columns strictly by himself.

The motion picture idea was appealing to Jones, but it caused him much mental anguish as well. He thought that there was not much difference between the written word, which was approved by the United States Golf Association, and a motion picture film, but conversely he also realized that there was very little difference between teaching golf this way and on the practice tee. Therefore, after much thought, he decided that he would go ahead with the pictures and rather than cause the United States Golf Association the difficulty and embarrassment of making a ruling on his status, he issued the following public statement:

Upon the close of the 1930 golfing season I determined immediately that I would withdraw entirely from golfing competition of a serious nature. Fourteen years of intensive tournament play in this country and abroad had given me about all I wanted in the way of hard work in the game. I had reached a point where I felt that my profession required more of my time and effort, leaving golf in its proper place, a means of obtaining recreation and enjoyment.

\(^1\)Ibid., p. 172.
\(^2\)The New York Times estimated approximately $250,000.00.

\(^2\)Ibid.
My intention at the time was to make no announcement of retirement, but merely to drop out quietly by neglecting to send in my entry to the Open Championship next Spring. There was at that time no reason to make a definite statement of any kind; but since then, after careful consideration, I have decided upon a step which I think ought to be explained to the golfers of this country, in order that they may have a clear understanding of what the thing is and why it is being done.

On November 13, 1930, I signed a contract with Warner Brothers Pictures to make a series of twelve one-reel pictures, devoted entirely to exhibiting and explaining the methods which I employ in playing the shots ordinarily required in playing a round of golf. These pictures are to be purely educational in that they will be of some value, first by improving the play and thereby increasing the enjoyment of the vast number of people already interested in the game, and, second, by creating an interest where none exists now among the many who may find enjoyment and beneficial exercise on the golf course.

The talking picture, with its combination of visual presentation and demonstration, with the possibility of detailed explanation, appeals to me as the ideal vehicle for an undertaking of this nature.

Of course, the matter of monetary compensation enters into the discussion at this point, and it is for numerous reasons that I wish to be perfectly understood on this score. The amateur status problem is one of the most serious with which the United States Golf Association has to deal for the good of the game as a whole.

I am not certain that the step I am taking is in a strict sense a violation of the amateur rule. I think a lot might be said on either side. But I am so far convinced that it is contrary to the spirit of amateurism that I am prepared to accept and even endorse a ruling that it is an infringement.

I have chosen to play as an amateur not because I have regarded professionalism as discreditable, but because I have had other ambitions in life. So long as I played as an amateur, there could be no question of subterfuge or concealment. The rules of the game, whatever they were, I have respected, sometimes even beyond the letter. I certainly shall never become a professional golfer. But, since I am no longer a competitor, I feel able to act entirely outside the amateur rule, as my judgment and conscience may decide.
When these pictures have been made, I expect to return to the practice of my profession, unhampered by the necessity of keeping my golf up to championship requirements.¹

With this statement Bobby Jones relinquished his amateur status and was through with competitive golf. The editorial comment of The New York Times was brief but aptly put: "With dignity he quits the memorable scene upon which he nothing common did or mean."²

The announcement brought about varying reactions concerning his decision, the majority of which praised him. One periodical said:

Whether this robs Bobby of his amateur status, in the strictest sense of the word, has not been settled. And it probably never will be, for Bobby refused to quibble and split hairs, showing the same spirit as when he declined the gift from his admirers of a house in Atlanta.³

The London Times said: "His decision to retire because he might infringe the spirit of the law stamps him as a sportsman as well, which we have always known him to be."⁴ An editorial in The London Times said:

By retiring from the arena of championships and so giving no occasion to the enemy he has shown his usual good taste and good sense.... As a player of games he had done all that mortal man can do, and more than any man has done before.⁵

¹The New York Times, November 18, 1930, pp. 1 and 33.
²Ibid., p. 24.
³"Will Bobby Jones Come Back?" The Literary Digest, December 6, 1930, p. 43.
⁴The London Times, November 18, 1930, p. 7.
⁵Ibid., November 19, 1930, p. 15.
The flamboyant, outspoken Walter Hagen made his position clear with this statement:

Do you want to know what I think? Well, I think Jones is just as much an amateur, in the sense that it is ethically interpreted, as he ever was, and I also think that it would be an outrage for the golfing officials to try to professionalize him simply because he has decided on an open and frank career in the films with golf as a background.

I don't claim to be a deep thinker, a moralist, or distinctionist, but it seems to me that if there is to be a caste system in sports, it ought to be founded on something higher than dollars and cents. Somewhere the matter of character ought to come in for consideration.¹

THE WARNER BROTHERS' FILMS

In January of 1931 the Jones family was anxiously awaiting the birth of their third child. On the twenty-ninth the event occurred as their third child, Mary Ellen, was born. In March, Jones went to Hollywood to prepare for the making of the instructional films. The series of twelve films was called "How I Play Golf." Because of his popularity at that time, many Warner Brothers' stars offered their services without pay, just to be in the pictures. Some of the stars who were in the series were Warner Oland, James Cagney, Richard Barthelmess, Joe E. Brown, Walter Huston, Leon Errol, Loretta Young and Guy Kibbee.

Upon completion, the films were distributed through the country to be shown as short subjects in movie theaters. They were so well accepted that Warner Brothers decided to do another series involving some slow motion photography of Jones' swing called "How to Break 90." This series of six films also enjoyed great success throughout the world.² These films are still being used today and are distributed

¹"Will Bobby Jones Come Back?" op cit., p. 45.
now by the United States Golf Association. Concerning the quality of the pictures, golf historian Price says, they "...rank even today as the most lucid of their type ever filmed."^1

A year later, when there was some speculation as to whether Jones would apply for reinstatement as an amateur, writer George Trevor made a point concerning Jones's amateur status: "It seems unlikely that Jones, a high-principled sportsman, would apply for reinstatement as an amateur after earning a king's ransom via radio and motion pictures. There must be some limit in the matter of eating your cake and having it, too."^2

The radio series of which Trevor spoke, came about after the motion pictures were completed. Jones decided to do a series of programs on golf instruction which appeared to him to be similar in nature to the films. Radio did not lend itself nearly so well to golf instruction, however, and Bobby was unable to do what he considered to be a good job of instruction through this medium. He said, "This has been one 'business,' or golf venture, which has caused me anguish over the years."^3

During this period immediately after retirement Bobby Jones received many offers requesting the use of his name in advertising products, but he would not accept these. He felt that anything which he did or gave his name to must be associated with and contribute to the game of golf to which he owed so much. For some time his thinking was confused on the whole issue of utilizing his abilities in golf for

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^1Price, op. cit., p. 199.


^3Jones, op. cit., p. 175.
practical and monetary purposes, but eventually he decided to go ahead with some projects. Concerning this, he said:

...I began to realize that golf was the only thing in the world I really knew very much about. And since all phases of the game had interested me, why should I make an effort to put it away from me? It was not necessary to play for money, or to teach, or to run a golf shop. I could serve the game in other ways and let it serve me.1

A. G. SPALDING AND CLUB DESIGNING

Jones had been interested in club design for many years. As a player he had been very particular about his own clubs and he had also been instrumental in designing many clubs which the Spalding Company had made up for him. His engineering background enhanced his understanding of the physics of clubhead design in relation to contact with the ball. It was natural that he should have an interest in designing a set of clubs. Jones was approached by M. B. Reach, vice president of Spalding, concerning this subject. They were able to reach an agreement and Jones began a relationship with the Spalding Company which still exists today.

Jones believed that the American made iron club was unsatisfactory. He felt that the face was too long and thin to produce a good "feel" even when struck in the center of the face. His idea was to make the head smaller with a heavier top line and also to put a flange sole on the back of the clubhead to bring the center of gravity closer to the center of the clubface. This design was based upon the British made, hand-forged, clubhead such as those made by Tom Stewart which Jones had used during most of his playing days. This design was

1Tbid., p. 176.
accomplished by Jones and Spalding's design engineer, Victor East, who had made several clubs for Jones during his playing days. This set of matched irons and woods with the new innovation of steel shafts went on the market in 1932 and, with slight alterations, are still being sold today. The Spalding Company manufactures a facsimile of Jones's famous putter, Calamity Jane, as well.

Another contribution which he made, somewhat indirectly, to the game was the registration of clubs by the manufacturer, which allows a person to duplicate a club in case of loss or breakage. This method of registration came about primarily because of an incident which occurred prior to the Open Championship at Winged Foot in 1929. Jones was in New York and had played a round of golf in New Jersey. He and his friends went to dinner at a New York restaurant and when he returned to his car his clubs were gone. Since it was the only set he had, it was a major catastrophe with the Open coming up soon. Fortunately, the clubs were recovered, but this incident had much to do with golf club manufacturers' devising a system of registering their clubs and all their specifications so that they might be duplicated very easily.

Bobby Jones has contributed greatly to the perfection of modern golf clubs and through his position as vice president of The Spalding Sales Corporation, he will continue to influence golf equipment design.

THE AUGUSTA NATIONAL GOLF CLUB AND THE MASTERS TOURNAMENT

The building of the course and the organization of The Augusta National Golf Club were Jones's most challenging projects of the many which he undertook following his retirement from active competition. It presented an opportunity for him to actively participate in the
designing and building of a golf course to meet his exacting standards of excellence based on his years of playing experience. The construction of this championship course in Georgia gave to the South the chance to host a national tournament which it had never had before. Jones said, "I had always had an ambition, a sort of feeling that I'd like to see some of my ideas incorporated in a golf course. I hadn't suspected that the opportunity to do one so close to home would develop." Not only did the project give him personal satisfaction, but it allowed Jones to feel that by helping build this course and golf club, he could partially repay the people of his native Southland for their support during his golf career.

The original idea for the formation of this club did not actually come from Jones, but from Clifford Roberts, a New York financier and investment counselor, who had been a frequent visitor to the winter colony of Augusta and was a good friend of Jones's. Roberts came to Atlanta in the fall of 1930 and presented the idea to Jones.

The general purpose was to build a course and form a club with a membership made up of people from all parts of the country; hence the name Augusta National Golf Club. They planned to have only enough local members to handle the daily affairs of the club the year round. It was to be a place where men could come during the winter months to rest and play golf. Naturally, the membership had to come from men with means. Invitations were sent to people throughout the country and mainly because Bobby Jones's name was associated with the club, some two hundred

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1Interview with R. T. Jones, April 4, 1966.
memberships were sold immediately and the Augusta National Golf Club was underway with Bobby Jones as president.

Roberts knew of a 365 acre plot of ground for sale in Augusta which had formerly been Berckmans' Nursery. The site had been bought for a hotel, but due to the depression, the idea was abandoned; therefore, Roberts and Jones were able to buy it very reasonably. The grounds were full of various imported plants as well as all of the local flowering trees and plants and, of course, it was full of the famous Georgia pines. Roberts took Jones to visit the proposed site for the club. Any misgivings which Jones had held about the project were dispelled as soon as he viewed the property. He described it:

The long lane of magnolias through which we approached was beautiful... The old manor house with its cupola and walls of masonry two feet thick was charming. The rare trees and shrubs of the old nursery were enchanting. But when I walked out on the grass terrace under the big trees behind the house and looked down over the property, the experience was unforgettable. It seemed that this land had been lying here for years just waiting for someone to lay a golf course upon it.1

They hired the man reputed to be the best golf architect in the world at that time, Dr. Alister MacKenzie, to design the course, with Jones as his adviser and consultant. Jones said, "Dr. MacKenzie was the architect. I criticized his design and checked it as we went along and made some suggestions and some alterations."2 MacKenzie took this assignment as a great challenge. His philosophy of golf course design was to build a course for the most enjoyment for the greatest number of people. In all courses designed by MacKenzie, the duffer and the

1Jones, op. cit., p. 194.
expert are challenged equally but in different ways. Jones explained it this way:

With respect to the employment of hazards off the tee and through the green, the doctor and I agreed that two things were essential. First, there must be a way around for those unwilling to attempt the carry; and second, there must be a definite reward awaiting the man who makes it. Without the alternative route the situation is unfair. Without the reward it is meaningless.\(^1\)

Both men were admirers of the Old Course at St. Andrews because it provides the challenge set forth in this philosophy. So they set forth on the task of designing and building a course based on these ideas and attempted to pattern it after a seaside course, "...as much as possible...insofar as the differences in turf and terrain would allow."\(^2\)

At the presentation ceremonies following the 1966 Masters Tournament in which the winds blew, and the greens played fast, Jones said: "Our course this week played as nearly as possible to the way we designed it. With the high winds and the slick greens, it played similar to a British seaside links."\(^3\)

Dr. MacKenzie and Bobby Jones completed their task and after it was finished, MacKenzie, who had designed over five hundred courses, proclaimed the Augusta Nationalas, "My best opportunity and I believe, my finest achievement."\(^4\)

After completion of the course, some of the board members expressed interest in attempting to play host to the National Open Championship, which had never been played in the South. There was much

\(^{1}\) Jones, op. cit., p. 195.

\(^{2}\) Ibid., p. 194.


support for the idea but the late June date of the tournament did not fit into their plans very well because the peak condition of the course comes earlier in the spring, usually during April.

The idea of the Open was abandoned, but from the discussion Clifford Roberts presented the idea of staging a tournament of their own during April. His idea was to have an invitational in which Bobby Jones would be the playing host and would have the freedom and privilege of inviting the great players of the past, present and those who showed promise for the future. The tournament, it appeared, would have great appeal since it would be unique in at least two ways: Bobby Jones would be playing and the players would come from several eras.

Roberts said later: "When we first decided to have our tournament, though, we knew it would be a success. We had one thing that no one else had. And that was Bob Jones."¹

Jones was reluctant, at first, to play. He had not played competitively since 1930 and to Jones four years seemed to be a long time to be idle. It was Roberts' task to convince Jones that he should play. Roberts said:

I don't think anyone except myself could have prevailed upon him to do it. I couldn't have done it except that I was able to convince him the only way the tournament could be sure of success was by his participation.

I pointed out to him that as the host, who planned to invite all his tournament pals to come here and play his golf course, he couldn't very well invite them and then refuse to play with them.

So from all angles, Bob was in a position where he had little or no choice except to play—at least for a few years until the tournament became established.\textsuperscript{1}

Jones's thinking about his participation is revealed in this passage:

I had continued to play reasonably well in friendly golf since my retirement, and I entertained no doubt of my ability still to do reasonably well, even though playing in one tournament a year.... I could even produce arguments to the effect that it was an advantage to be able to point for one tournament without having to play in one every week.

I think things might very well have worked out this way, for a while at least, had the Augusta tournament been played on any ordinary golf course.... It was one thing to drive and play iron shots as well as before, but quite another to reacquire the delicate touch and confidence around the green which was so necessary on this course.\textsuperscript{2}

He played in the tournament in 1934, but did not play well. He shot 76-74-72-72 for a 294, which placed him in thirteenth place ten strokes behind Horton Smith's winning total. In a recent interview Jones was asked about his play in the tournament and he said:

I played in the tournament and did the best I could, but I have to admit that I expected to do better than I had any right to. It isn't so much the question of playing in a golf tournament every week, it's a question of mental conditioning. You just don't think in the same terms when you are no longer a competitor. My putting left me and it just happens that Augusta is probably the trickiest putting course in the world. The putting is very intricate and delicate and my touch just wasn't there like it was when I was conditioning myself as a competitor.\textsuperscript{3}

Much to the happiness of the Augusta National Club, the first tournament was a success, mainly because Bobby Jones had participated.

From the very beginning of the Augusta National Invitation Tournament, Clifford Roberts had wanted to call it The Masters. Jones

\textsuperscript{1}bid.

\textsuperscript{2}Jones, \textit{op. cit.}, p. 198.

\textsuperscript{3}Interview with R. T. Jones, April 4, 1966.
disagreed with him on the grounds that the title was too presumptuous. He said, "...although we must admit that the name was born of a touch of immodesty on the part of Cliff, yet it has only attached itself to the tournament because of the approval and adoption of the name by the newspaper boys who have followed it." He further states, "I think the tournament is now quite well entitled to be called The Masters, because it has continued to assemble those who are entitled to be called masters of the game...." 

Since its inception in 1934, the tournament has grown in many ways. It has become one of the most prestigious tournaments on the tour. All active players consider it a great honor to be invited to participate. It has long since outgrown its original method of invitation. Jones described the problem as follows:

We have ever since retained the invitational character of the tournament, but it took no time at all for us to discover that on the original basis, I and others in the club's official family had let ourselves in for a considerable amount of embarrassment so long as we should construct the invitation list on any such free and easy basis. Our club's facilities, which are still not spacious, were at that time stringent indeed. It was an utter impossibility to include everyone whom I might wish to invite for any reason, and still keep the field down to manageable numbers. It became obvious that the only possible solution was the one which we followed, namely to adopt a definite set of qualifications which a player must meet in order to be considered for an invitation. And, obviously, too, this set of qualifications, after its adoption for any one tournament, had to be so rigid that even I was not able to deviate from it. 

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1Jones, op. cit., pp. 197-198.

2Tbid.

3Tbid.
In order to qualify for an invitation, a player must meet at least one of the following qualifications:

1. Masters Tournament Champions.
   (lifetime)
   (Honorary, non-competing after 10 years.)
   (Honorary, non-competing after 10 years.)
   (Honorary, non-competing after 10 years.)
5. British Amateur Champions.
   (Honorary, non-competing after 10 years.)
   (Honorary, non-competing after 10 years.)
7. (Preceding year's) Ryder Cup Team.
8. (Preceding year's) Walker Cup Team.
   (Alternates not included.)
9. The first twenty-four players in the preceding Masters Tournament.
10. The first sixteen players in the preceding U.S. Open Championship.
11. The first eight players in the preceding Amateur Championship.
12. The first eight players in the preceding P.G.A. Championship.
13. One player (either Amateur or Professional) not on the Invitation List selected by ballot by the Masters Tournament Champions.
14. One Amateur not on the Invitation List selected by ballot by the U.S. Open Champions.
15. One Professional not on the Invitation List selected by ballot by the U.S. Open Champions.
16. Two Professionals on P.G.A. Fall Circuit and two Professionals on Winter Circuit, not on Invitation List, who establish best showing.\(^1\)

The feeling of the players concerning the Masters is typified by a letter to the tournament officials from one of the great players of golf and a three-time Masters winner, Sam Snead:

I get a wonderful feeling being at the Masters Tournament year after year, and I think that everybody, golfer and would-be golfer alike, has that same feeling.

\(^{*}\)Preceding or preceding year was used in place of a specific year.
\(^{1}\)Spectator Suggestions for the Masters Tournament, April 1966, p. 28.
I know as well as anybody that there is always a lot of pressure in a Masters Tournament but, making full allowance for the tension, this is by far the most enjoyable competition in big-time golf.

A lot of things figure into that. First, the course is so arranged that the paying customers and the golfers both get every possible break in having the show go off smoothly and without interruptions or unnecessary delay. Then, it is a beautiful course and one that a fellow enjoys playing even when Ole Man Par is giving you a going over.

For myself, I think the most enjoyable part of the Masters is the way everybody in and around the Club makes me feel at home, and I know that this hospitality, in the sense of "I'm wanted at the Masters," goes out to all players, particularly the past greats of golf. I hope I'll never be too old to want to take part in this event, and I don't think I ever will age quite that much.1

With the enthusiasm and presence of Bob Jones and the ingenuity, initiative and hard work of Clifford Roberts, the Masters Tournament in thirty-two years has grown into one of the four great tournaments in the world. It is the first segment of the Modern Grand Slam which includes the British and U.S. Opens and the P.G.A. as well. More people attend this tournament than any other. Although Masters' officials never announce the attendance, final day crowds have been estimated to be over fifty thousand. It is ranked at the top as far as efficiency of organization and operation. The galleries are the most knowledgeable and therefore, the best behaved of any tournament. It is unique in that it is a major tournament in a small town atmosphere. The vastness and beauty of this tournament cannot be appreciated properly without actually seeing it. The combination of tournament excitement, the beauty of the course, the Southern hospitality and

friendliness and the greatest players of several decades create an atmosphere which could not be duplicated anywhere else.

The tournament has become a year round job for Jones, Roberts and their staff. In answer to a question as to whether the tournament had become what they had envisioned in 1934, Jones said:

It's gone so much beyond anything we ever envisioned for it that I'm afraid if we had realized where we were likely to wind up that we never would have started it because it's gotten to where it's nearly a twelve month job, especially for Cliff. I'm just lucky to have him to do all the work.¹

This modest reply is typical of Jones, but without him neither the tournament nor the Augusta National Club would ever have been. One newsman said, "Jones never won the Masters, but he is the man who made it."²

HIS RETURN TO ST. ANDREWS - 1936

In 1936, Bobby and Mrs. Jones and Mr. and Mrs. Grantland Rice were on their way to Berlin for the Olympic Games. On the ship they met some friends whose destination was Berlin, also, but their plans included a few days of golf at Gleneagles in Scotland. The Joneses and Rices decided to accept the invitation to go along.

At dinner on the day before they were scheduled to leave Gleneagles, Jones began to feel badly about being so close to his beloved course, St. Andrews, and not having played golf there. He described the situation recently:

At dinner that evening, I just happened to say, 'it seems a shame to get this close to St. Andrews without at least playing one round.' So Gordon Lockhart, the professional at

¹Interview with R. T. Jones, April 1, 1966.
Gleneagles, telephoned over and arranged a starting time for us. That is the way the word got out that we were going to play there.¹

They decided to go to St. Andrews, some forty miles away, have lunch, play golf and return to London for their trip to Berlin. When Jones arrived at the first tee for what he had thought was to be a casual round, at least two thousand Scots were waiting to greet him. He had not been playing much golf and had not really expected to play on this trip, but had brought his clubs along from force of habit. He said, "What golf I had played had been very bad, and I was certainly not pleased with the prospect of exhibiting my game in its present state, especially to the people of St. Andrews."²

Because of the crowd, it was decided, without Jones's knowledge, that he should play with two professionals, Willie Auchterlonie of St. Andrews and Gordon Lockhart of Gleneagles. The crowd and his favorite course must have inspired Jones, for he played like the Jones of old. He birdied the second, fifth, sixth and eighth holes for a thirty-two on the first nine. He parred the tenth, but on the eleventh his touch left him as he took a double-bogey five. He finished the second nine by holing a ten-foot putt for a birdie and a forty for a total of seventy-two, one under St. Andrews' par. Concerning the round, Jones said:

I shall never forget that round. It was not anything like a serious golf match, but it was a wonderful experience. There was sort of a holiday mood in the crowd. It seemed, or they made it appear at least, that they were just glad to see me back, and however I chose to play golf was all right with them, only they wanted to see it.

¹Interview with R. T. Jones, April 4, 1966.
²Jones, op. cit., p. 249.
I have ever been thankful that for at least part of what was to be my last golfing at St. Andrews I was permitted to play so well.¹

So six years after his retirement, Jones had unexpectedly returned to the birthplace of golf and had responded to the situation as a true champion should. As he wrote many years later, "It had been one of the great days of my life."²

**THE WAR YEARS**

When the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor in December, 1941, Bobby Jones was thirty-nine. He had a wife and three children, but as did most American men at that time, he wanted to do something to help his country.

Jones had held an Army Reserve Commission as a specialist for about fifteen years, so he went to the commanding officer of the reserve unit in his district and asked what he could do. He told the colonel that he didn't want to be what he termed, "hoopty-da officer of some camp"³ and entertain the troops as so many famous athletes did during this time, but rather to make some other contribution which would be more valid. The colonel discouraged him on the basis of his age and responsibilities, but Jones was persistent.

He finally talked with some friends of his who were in the Fighter Command, which had the responsibility for the air defense of the Eastern seaboard of the United States. They encouraged him, so he asked to be placed on active duty and the head of the command requested

¹Ibid., p. 250.
²Ibid., p. 251.
that Jones be assigned to the unit. This was accomplished and he was commissioned a captain and was assigned to Jacksonville as Aircraft Warning Service Officer of the Jacksonville Air Defense Region. His main job was to organize ground observer posts in the southeastern part of the United States to guard against possible attack by the Germans. At this time it appeared as if the Germans might take Dakar, which would have made this area vulnerable to attack by air.

This did not happen, however, and Jones was eventually sent back to Mitchell Field where he was put in charge of all the women volunteers in the filter and information centers in the First Fighter Command, which covered the territory from Maine to Florida. As Jones said recently, "There were thirty thousand women in this organization and it was my job to recruit them and to keep them happy and interested when the need for their services was becoming more and more remote every day."¹

Jones did this job to the best of his ability for several months, but eventually he went to his commanding general and requested a transfer to Leavenworth for command and general staff school. This request was denied, however, due to his age and the fact that he was a reserve rather than a regular officer. However, he was assigned to Air Force Intelligence School and was relieved of his command of thirty thousand restless women.

Upon completion of his schooling, he was assigned to the 84th Fighter Wing of the Ninth Tactical Air Command of the Ninth Air Force which was going overseas. He was a staff intelligence officer with the

¹Ibid.
Fig. 13.—Lt. Colonel Jones During World War II
group whose job it was to bomb the bridges over the Seine attempting to isolate the Normandy coast in preparation for the invasion which was to come. His unit was involved also with the bombing of rocket launching sites on the French coast. Jones had been promoted from Captain to Major and eventually to Lieutenant Colonel during his two and one-half years, and when his father became ill in 1944, he applied for discharge and received it. He said, "The army was overrun with over-aged officers. I couldn't see where I was contributing anything to the war effort, and my father needed me more than the army." He returned to Atlanta to continue his law practice.

**THE DISABILITY**

The next major event in Jones's life took place in 1948 when one day he discovered that he could not maneuver his little finger well enough to knock the ash from his cigarette nor could he feel the heat of the cigarette. Although he did not suspect it at that time, these were the first symptoms of a condition diagnosed later as syringomyelia.

Syringomyelia is a very rare condition involving the spinal cord, the spinal fluid and the central nervous system. It is a condition described as a "...rare disease of the earlier part of life depending on a perversion of development." The condition lies dormant then becomes active, "usually in the second or third decade of life, rarely after

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2 Interview with Mrs. Jean Marshall, April 11, 1966.

the age of thirty years...."¹ However, Jones was forty-six when his condition erupted. "The primary pathological factor in syringomyelia is a proliferation of glial cells in the central region about the central canal."² The abnormal growth of these cells produces finger-like projections which restrict and eventually terminate the functioning of both the sensory and motor nerves of the area of the cord involved.

Boyd explains the symptoms of the condition as follows: "The outstanding symptoms are dissociated anesthesia (loss of sensibility to pain and temperature with preservation of touch), muscular atrophy in the arms, a spastic condition of the legs, and certain so-called trophic lesions."³ Grinker says, "Pain and temperature sense are lost, while touch and deep pressure sensibility are preserved. The area usually involved in this process is the lower cervical and upper dorsal segments, producing symptoms in the arms and upper chest."⁴ Because of these symptoms, the person may burn himself with anything which comes in contact with the skin and is hot enough to burn. As the condition progresses, other symptoms appear. "Atrophy, weakness and paralysis, loss of reflexes and electrical reactions of degeneration occur in the affected muscles."⁵ "Stiffness of the neck and deep boring pain are common."⁶ The condition progresses rapidly at first but then

²Ibid., p. 679.
³William Boyd, loc. cit.
⁴Grinker and Bucy, loc. cit.
⁵Ibid.
⁶Ibid., p. 683.
subsides and progresses slowly or may even reach a stationary stage, but in the fifth decade of life it may suddenly begin to progress again. "Occasionally, the disease rapidly forces the patient to bed, but the usual case remains ambulatory for a long time because pyramidal tract damage does not occur early."¹

There is very little that can be done for the patient except to relieve the pain. Some authorities say:

Treatment is of little benefit to the syringomyelic patient. Operation to evacuate and obliterate the cystic cavities may improve the symptoms although the results are usually only temporary. Most neurologists and neurological surgeons have found all forms of treatment very disappointing.²

This was the condition and the prognosis which Bobby Jones faced. He would never play golf again. His once robust, strong body would degenerate into a weak, uncontrollable one. He would eventually lose control of both his legs and his arms. He had to learn to bear deep pain. His mode of living was destined to change greatly in the years to come. Fortunately, his thinking process was not affected which left great potential for him.

He accepted the condition much the same as he had learned to accept misfortune in golf, his philosophy toward both being: "The main idea in golf, as in life, I suppose, is to learn to accept what cannot be altered, and to keep on doing one's own reasoned and resolute best whether the prospect be bleak or rosy."³

¹Ibid., p. 685.
²Ibid., p. 686.
³Jones, op. cit., p. 68.
There was speculation concerning a relationship between Jones's vigorous pivot and the spinal condition which developed. There could possibly be a relationship, but in Jones's mind there is none. He said, "I know that my physical affliction was not derived in any sense from playing the game, and I doubt that without this playing I should ever have lived to see a full maturity." He also said, "With all the odds on the health side against me from the beginning, I know that I can thank golf for having given me forty years of active life filled with exciting experiences and warm human contacts."^1

He could have stopped living but he didn't. He kept going and doing and producing and living to the best of his ability. He found other recreational outlets such as fishing and bridge which did not require as much physical skill as golf. He still attended golf tournaments and rode a cart around the course. His life becomes somewhat more restricted each day, but this he has accepted. Even though the condition has taken away a large portion of his normal life and it has caused him much pain and anguish, he shows no self-pity, but rather he continues to live. It is ironic that the man whose physical coordination was the ultimate, should become nearly completely incapacitated physically. As Tolstoy said, "It is by those who have suffered that the whole world is most advanced."^3

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^1Ibid., p. 17.

^2Ibid.

THE FREEDOM OF THE CITY AWARD - ST. ANDREWS, 1958

In October, 1958, the first World Amateur Golf Team Championship was held on the Old Course at St. Andrews, Scotland. When this competition was announced, Bobby Jones decided that he would attend. He felt that it was a wonderful opportunity for him to return to St. Andrews for what quite possibly might be the last time since his disability was making it more and more difficult to travel. When he was named non-playing captain of the American team, it became mandatory that he attend.

Approximately one month prior to the tournament in early September, he received a cable from the town clerk of St. Andrews asking if he would accept the Freedom of the City while he was there. Jones had no idea what this meant, but he assumed that it was a ceremony similar to the awarding of a key to a city. He was very happy about it, however, and promptly replied saying he would be glad to accept. Soon thereafter he received another cable advising him that preparations were in progress for the ceremony and that plans could be completed when he arrived in Scotland.

Upon his arrival, the Town Clerk make an appointment with Jones for the purpose of discussing the award ceremonies. During this discussion he discovered that the award was very meaningful, was given very rarely and that Dr. Benjamin Franklin was the last American to receive it nearly two hundred years ago. At this point he became quite anxious about the whole idea. He said, "It was by no means a thing to be taken lightly, a fact that was further emphasized by the very earnest request of the Town Clerk that I give him my speech in writing in advance. I must confess that at this point the matter was assuming
One of the major reasons for his anxiety was that he had very little confidence in his ability as a public speaker and his speech at the ceremony was expected to be the highlight of the whole affair. He tried several times to write the speech as he was requested to do but was unsuccessful. On the day of the ceremony when the town clerk requested the prepared speech, Jones had to tell him that he did not have it. He was quick to assure him, however, that he knew he could respond at the ceremony without a prepared speech. Concerning this Jones said, "I tried to speak as though I had no doubt that the proper words would come to my mind, but this only to reassure the clerk. In my heart I felt the gnawing fear that I might get up before the audience and draw a complete blank."\(^2\)

The ceremony was held on October 9, 1958 in the Younger Graduation Hall which seated 1700 people. All members of the various World Cup Teams received tickets and the remaining tickets were quietly taken by the townspeople. Many people stood outside the hall during the ceremony just waiting for a glimpse of Jones. The ceremony began with a prayer, the Town Clerk read the citation and then the Provost in his crimson gown and ermine collar gave his speech.

He began by giving some history of St. Andrews relating how it had come to be recognized as the "metropolis of the golfing world..."\(^3\) He also called Bobby Jones "...the most distinguished golfer

\(^{1}\)Jones, op. cit., p. 243.

\(^{2}\)Tbid.

\(^{3}\)Provost's Address, Freedom Award Ceremony, St. Andrews, Scotland, October 9, 1958.
of this age...."^1 He felt that it was appropriate that St. Andrews and Bobby Jones should be linked together through the Freedom Award prior to the playing of the first World Cup competition. He spoke of Jones's love for St. Andrews and for the St. Andreans' love for Jones. He also told of Jones's first visit in 1921 which ended so tragically when he withdrew in disgust from the tournament and how he had returned to redeem himself by winning the British Open in 1927 and the British Amateur in 1930.

The Provost mentioned all of his major golfing accomplishments but he made a specific point that the award was being conferred not because of his golf alone, but because he is "...a man of outstanding character, courage and accomplishment well worthy to adorn the Roll of our Honorary Burgesses...."^2 He detailed the specific privileges of the honor as the right "...to cart shells, to take divots, and to dry one's washing upon the first and last fairways of the Old Course...,"^3 but that in reality the honor meant "...that he is free to feel at home in St. Andrews as truly as in his own first home of Atlanta...."^4

The address was enthusiastically received by those in attendance who showed their enthusiasm and agreement by stamping and shouting throughout.^5 Bobby was deeply moved and as he made his way toward the

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^1Ibid.
^2Ibid.
^3Ibid.
^4Ibid.
^5Herbert Wind, "Will Ye No' Come Back Again?" Sports Illustrated (October 27, 1958), p. 6h.
lectern for his acceptance speech, he knew that the words would come easily.

The note cards which he had prepared were not needed as he began by reminiscing about his trips to Britain and about the Old Course which he described as "...a wise old lady, whimsically tolerant of my impatience, but all the while ready to reveal to me the secrets of her complex being, if I would only take the trouble to study and to learn... The more I studied the Old Course, the more I loved it, and the more I loved it, the more I studied it—so that I came to feel that it was for me the most favorable meeting ground possible for an important contest."

He spoke of friendship and of his interpretation of its meeting. He said:

When I say, with due regard for the meaning of the word, that I am your friend, I have pledged to you the ultimate in loyalty and devotion. In some respects friendship may even transcend love, for in true friendship there is no place for jealousy. When, without more, I say that you are my friends, it is possible that I may be imposing upon you a greater burden than you are willing to assume. But when you have made me aware on many occasions that you have a kindly feeling toward me, and when you have honored me by every means at your command, then when I call you my friend, I am at once affirming my high regard and affection for you and declaring my complete faith in you and trust in the sincerity of your expressions. And so, my fellow citizens of St. Andrews, it is with this appreciation of the full sense of the word that I salute you as my friends."

He spoke of the World Cup competition and of its friendships and its potential as an instrument of peace. He said, "For the fostering of friendship and understanding on an international scale is also the

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1Jones, op. cit., p. 248.

2Ibid., p. 252.
keynote of this event. We shall all be trying our very best to win in the golf competition.... But all of us have come here with the hope that attachments will be formed here and reports will emanate from here which will provide an impetus toward growing friendship among nations of the world."¹ In his closing remarks Jones said, "I could take out of my life everything except my experiences at St. Andrews and I'd still have a rich, full life."²

After he concluded his speech Jones and the Provost climbed into an electric golf cart, rode down the center aisle of the hall and out the main door. As they did, the audience and the crowd of Scots waiting outside broke into the old Scottish song, "Will Ye No' Come Back Again?"³ To this day, due to his disability, Jones has not returned, but the kinship between him and the people of St. Andrews will live on forever.

BOBBY JONES TODAY

The Bobby Jones of today is physically a mere shell of the robust, highly coordinated athlete of forty years ago. Syringomyelia has atrophied his muscles into uselessness, gnarled his hands to the point where any task is difficult, robbed him of his coordination and made living extremely difficult. Intellectually he is alive. He is well read, alert to world problems and as active as his condition will allow in all of his business and professional endeavors. He is confined to a wheelchair at all times.

¹Ibid.
²Ibid.
³Ibid.
He lives a quiet, secluded home life, with Mrs. Jones in a large Italian provincial home in the northwest section of Atlanta. Most of his time at home is spent reading or watching television programs. His condition prevents any social activity and their only visitors are the Jones children and their families and on rare occasions some close friends.

Jones's office life is very different, however. He maintains his office in the downtown section of Atlanta, where he keeps a five day schedule. He arrives at approximately 10:30 a.m. and leaves at 4:30 p.m. His private secretary, Mrs. Jean Marshall, and he work steadily during this time on all of his various projects. He is a partner in the law firm of Jones, Bird and Howell, vice president of the Spalding Sales Corporation and an owner of Coca-Cola plants in Massachusetts and Vermont. He serves on the boards of the family owned Canton Textile Mills, Inc., and the Jones Mercantile Company in Canton, Georgia, as well as on the board of The Southern Company, an electric utility holding company. He spends a great amount of his time with the Masters Tournament business, which is a full time job for all concerned. He has recently completed a new book of golf instruction called Bobby Jones On Golf. His mail each day is very heavy. He still receives letters from people asking about the Grand Slam. Many of these are written as if it took place only yesterday instead of thirty-six years ago. He receives letters asking for advice on golf and many requests for autographs. His office days are busy but delightful as well, for an active
man is usually a happy man. Bobby Jones today is as active and as happy as he possibly can be.\footnote{Interview with Mrs. Jean Marshall, April 11, 1966, Augusta, Georgia.}
Fig. 111.--Jones The Man
CHAPTER V

JONES THE MAN AND HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GAME

THE CHARACTER OF THE MAN

The character and personality of a man are determined by his heredity and environment and are discernible in his beliefs and behavior. His personality is visible through his actions and his relationships with other people while his character is measured by his integrity, fidelity, courage and humanitarianism.

Bobby Jones was a fortunate young man in that he was blessed with parents who were not only interested in his golf but were financially able to support it. They provided the opportunity for him to play and he took advantage of it. In his early years, he was an impetuous perfectionist burdened with a temper which erupted at the slightest suggestion of imperfection. In his childhood and adolescence these personality traits manifested themselves in temper tantrums and club throwing exhibitions. Jones himself said, "In my early years I think I must have been completely intolerant of anything less than absolute perfection in the playing of any shot."¹ On more than one occasion, he either threw or broke his club when a shot which ended only a few feet from the pin was not hit exactly as he intended.

The personality of a perfectionist with a short temper made him a

¹Jones, op. cit., p. 68.
miserable young man when his desire for excellence in golf was temporarily thwarted. At about age nineteen he learned to control his temper, at least during his public competition, and soon thereafter he was able to win at the national level. Golf requires patience and calmness rather than violence and it helped Jones learn that self-control is mandatory if perfection is to be achieved. He went through many tantrums before discovering that these outbursts were both detrimental to his game and to his public acceptance. Once he conquered himself and learned to control his emotions, he began to win. Self control was one of the many things which Jones gained through playing golf.

Skillfully combined in his character is an intense power of concentration as well as determined perseverance. As a youngster he hit shots by the hour until he was satisfied with the stroke. Because of these traits, he once casually analyzed several rounds of golf to determine how many perfect shots he played in each round. Much to his amazement, he found that in what he considered to be a good round, he hit only about six shots, other than putts, precisely as he intended. This discovery helped him readjust his thinking to more tolerable limits. This kind of perseverance apparently assisted Jones to become the great player that he was.

His power of concentration is professed to be a gift from his grandfather for whom he was named. This attribute allowed him to shut out both physical and mental distractions while playing a shot. For instance, during the Open play-off with Bobby Cruickshank at Inwood in 1923, they came to the final hole all even. Cruickshank pulled his

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drive under a tree and had to play safely short of the water in front of the green. Jones's ball was in the rough some two hundred yards from the green. He was concentrating upon getting the ball onto the green for a sure four. His concentration was so intense upon the objective of hitting the ball onto the green, that he had to ask later about the mechanics of the swing on the shot. On another occasion, Jones looked directly at his father during competition and didn't even recognize him. He was able to shut from his mind the thought of championship, the scurrying of the gallery and other distractions while directing his attention upon hitting the ball.

Artistically blended into this character are the admirable qualities of modesty and humility. In his boyhood he had a normal amount of self interest but as he grew older and his golfing fame grew, he was probably the least impressed with his accomplishments. At the height of Jones's career, one writer said, "He's a famous golfer and an international figure in about everybody's eyes but his own." This lack of egoism tended to work as a deterrent factor in his early life. The fact that he did not believe in his own ability kept him from becoming a winner earlier in his career. It was not until he began to believe in himself and his ability that he began to win. The confidence which he developed was of a quiet nature. He did not talk about his accomplishments. As a matter of fact he shunned discussions which centered upon himself. Concerning this characteristic, Jack Nicklaus said, "...I have never heard him talk about his own golf or about

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1Interview with R. T. Jones, Jr., October 31, 1966, Atlanta, Georgia.

2Joe Williams, The New York World Telegram-Sun, July 2, 1930.
anything he has ever done, or will do.\textsuperscript{1} His innate modesty and shyness did not allow him to bask in the vast public acclaim which was showered upon him. Actually he disliked celebrations in his honor. He would have preferred to have missed them but a sense of obligation plus his compassion for the feelings of others made him attend. He appreciated the intentions of the people but he was greatly embarrassed by their cheers and praises. The following story told by Jones about a New York celebration for him upon his triumphant return from Great Britain in 1930, illustrates this point:

It seems that my friend had been walking down on the Battery on that day in July at the time when our party was being landed from the "Macom" and the parade was in process of formation. The day was very warm, and a number of New York policemen in their dark-blue uniforms were laboring vastly to clear away curious onlookers and to marshal the various automobiles into an orderly procession. My friend had approached one massive policeman, sweating profusely under the heat and his heavy uniform, and asked, "What's the parade for?" The policeman, giving him a look of eloquent disgust, replied, "Oh, for some goddamned golf player!" In a way it's too bad that policeman could not have had the solace of knowing that for all my thankfulness, I was suffering just about as much as he.\textsuperscript{2}

Jones's modesty is further illustrated by the following story related by Clifford Roberts:

In the middle 30's, some prominent and well meaning individuals proposed that a national movement be organized to raise funds for the purpose of building a large statue of Bobby Jones, the golfer, and that this monument be erected on the grounds of the Augusta National.

I recall, that at the time, quite a number were favorably impressed with this ambitious proposal.

\textsuperscript{1}Questionnaire reply from Jack Nicklaus, November 3, 1966.

\textsuperscript{2}Jones, \textit{op. cit.}, p. 143.
In characteristic fashion, Bob graciously thanked the individuals but firmly declined the honor. He explained that the golf course itself adequately served the purpose they had in mind.¹

These qualities of modesty and shyness were the primary reasons for Jones's great popularity. He still maintains these enviable traits today. At the Masters Tournament, which is Jones's tournament, he refuses to have his golf cart driven down the fairway where he could see the play much better. He prefers to stay inconspicuous in the gallery so he will not offend anyone. His humility does not allow him to realize that the people would welcome it, for to them, seeing Bob Jones is part of going to the Masters.

Jones's courage, daring and competitive spirit are important parts of his character and personality. In golf these traits were obvious in his style of play. He usually went for the difficult, dangerous shot rather than the safe shot and more often than not would bring the shot off. His many victories which were achieved by coming from behind displayed his courage and competitive spirit. This courage in the face of adversity carried over into his personal life as well, for it took the highest degree of courage to face his physical problem. His acceptance of this burden which fate had willed, showed the same courage which prevailed in his golf. Concerning this trait, Arnold Palmer, a great competitor himself, said, "I never had the opportunity to know Mr. Jones as a competitor, but from the way he has fought his unfortunate illness in recent years, I know that he must have been a courageous and intelligent, as well as an extremely able, one."²

¹The Augusta Chronicle-Herald, April 3, 1966, p. 4-I.
²Questionnaire reply from Arnold Palmer, October 20, 1966.
He was a fierce competitor. To be classified as such, one must have an intense desire to succeed and be able to direct all efforts toward that end. Jones was able to do this well in his golf. He mustered all of the forces at his command and directed them toward the end of winning the tournament at hand. He was a very cold, hard competitor on the course. His intense desire to win, his great powers of concentration and his faultless swing made him appear as if he were a machine as he played. Nothing could be further from the truth. Actually, he was seething inside and throughout the tournaments, he had extreme emotional upsets. These emotional disturbances usually caused him to lose from twelve to eighteen pounds during a tournament. Jones was capable of playing faultless golf, but he was also humanly capable of making terrible shots in the heat of competition. However, the most important characteristic in competition is the ability to make the important shot when it counts. Bobby Jones had this attribute and he played his best when the pressure was the greatest.

In the heat of his competitive endeavors, Jones did not forget that golf is a game to be played with forthrightness, honesty and honor. His integrity in these situations was unquestionable. He called penalty strokes on himself several times in important tournaments. The most famous of these was in the 1925 United States Open in which he tied for the championship after having called a penalty stroke on himself in the first round. He eventually lost to Willie McFarlane in a play-off, but without the penalty stroke, there might not have been a play-off.

Threaded throughout this personality is a spirit of faithfulness and loyalty. A vivid example of this was Jones's devotion to O. B. Keeler, his faithful companion. Keeler, the Atlanta Journal golf
writer, built the Jones legend in sport through his eloquence in writing. In Keeler’s eyes, Jones could do no wrong. Jones recognized and appreciated Keeler’s efforts. He said, “If fame can be said to attach to one because of his proficiency in the inconsequential performance of striking a golf ball, what measure of it I have enjoyed has been due in large part to Keeler and his gifted typewriter.” At the time when he wanted so much to stop playing competitively because it was no longer enjoyable, he felt an obligation to Keeler and others to continue at least until he had captured all of the major titles. Prior to 1930, the only one which had eluded him was the British Amateur. Following his victory in this tournament, Jones expressed his feelings:

Even if this should be the only championship won during the year, with it I had now won, at one time or another, all four major championships. I should, therefore, henceforth feel no obligation to myself, or even to Keeler, which was about the same thing, to continue playing in competition unless I felt like it.

This same kind of loyalty existed in Jones’s mind about his many followers through the years. He continued playing more years than he personally wanted, partially because of this loyalty to his friends. He felt great remorse after losing for having disappointed his followers.

His loyalty and devotion to his father is another example of his fidelity. He believed that his father was greatly responsible for any success and enjoyment he had gained from playing golf. His devotion and faithfulness to him until his death is truly a story of loyalty. Jones included his father in nearly all of his golf endeavors.

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1Jones, op. cit., p. 93.
2Ibid., p. 133.
The elder Jones attended nearly all of the tournaments. He revelled
in his son's accomplishments and suffered through his failures. Jones
preferred playing golf with his father and his friends in the casual
games at East Lake between tournaments. He patiently listened to his
father's many theories about the game and he publicly gave him credit
for any success which he had achieved. Jones's favorite story about
his father and his golf is that at the seventeenth hole of each round,
the "Colonel" had figured out the secret of the game. However, by the
time he came back for the next round, he had forgotten it. Jones
dedicated one of his books, Golf Is My Game, in this way: "To my
father, to whom I owe all of this—and a lot more."

Bobby Jones is an amiable person who enjoys the company of his
friends. Following a tense tournament round, he nearly always lin-
gered in the locker room to enjoy the traditional locker room frivolity.
They had drinks, sang songs and discussed the day's play. He enjoyed
this part of the game just as much as the playing. Paul Gallico des-
cribed this part of Jones's character:

He had a warm, all-embracing grin and a fine, derisory
expression about his eyes and mouth when telling one against
himself. He had the gift of laughter and self-ridicule. He
enjoyed a drink, a funny story and companionship, and had an
enviable and fluent repertoire with which to correct the line
of a ball in flight.

He was always the epitome of patience with the boisterous gallery. Even
though he was constantly deluged by autograph seekers, social

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1Interview with Jean Marshall, October 30, 1966.
2Jones, op. cit., dedication page.
3Paul Gallico, "The Golden People of a Golden Decade," Chicago
Tribune, April 5, 1961, Section 2, p. 1.
opportunists and other people who displayed irritating impudence, he
accepted this as part of the price to be paid as a famous person.
Gallico described this by saying, "He was the only celebrity I ever
knew who was prepared to accept as gracefully as possible every penalty
there is to be paid for fame and publicity in the United States."¹ He
disliked being called "Bobby," the name the English writers gave to
him. He much preferred to be called "Bob," but this he also accepted
as an inevitability.

Jones is a frank and forthright person who does not hesitate to
offer his opinion on a subject if he so desires. He chooses his words
carefully, however, and therefore, very seldom offends with these
opinions. He had the diplomatic capacity of doing and saying the
proper thing at the appropriate time. Concerning this Arnold Palmer
said, "In my limited contacts with Mr. Jones, mostly during the Masters
at Augusta, I have found him to be a keenly alert and wise man, gifted
with the ability to say the right thing to everybody at the right
time."² An example of this trait was his leaving the British Open
trophy at St. Andrews following his victory in 1927. This gracious
act did as much to solidify British-American relations in sport as any-
thing up to that time. It not only endeared Jones himself to the
British people, but the America which he represented as well.

He has compassion for other people and their problems and joys.
Recently he received a letter from a young man whose parents had sent
him to a preparatory school. This young man was very unhappy. He

¹Price, op. cit., p. 197.
²Questionnaire reply from Arnold Palmer, October 20, 1966.
disliked the school and the whole idea of education. He had some abil-
ity in golf and had decided that he wanted to drop out of school and
embark on a professional career in golf. In the letter he asked Jones
for his opinion as to what he should do. Jones pondered the question
for several days before deciding what course to advise the boy to
follow. He advised him to finish his schooling and then to think about
a career in golf, explaining that in this way he would protect his
security if he were unsuccessful in golf as well as maintain a good
relationship with his parents. He also told him that he should be glad
that he had parents interested in his education.

Jones was vitally interested in this boy's problem and worried
a great deal about the responsibility involved in his answer. This
incident illustrates Jones the humanitarian, who would take time from
his own busy schedule and his own problems to help a young man with a
problem which could well shape his future.

The worth of a man is determined not only by what he has done
throughout his life, but also by the impressions he has made upon his
colleagues, fellow-competitors and close associates. The opinions of
several prominent golfers representing the past fifty years in golf,
who have known Bobby Jones in various capacities were sought. These
men were asked their opinions of Jones as a person. Each in his own
way said nearly the same thing: Bob Jones is a unique human being, the
likes of which grace the scene very infrequently. His old adversary,
Francis Ouimet praised him by saying, "As a person, Robert Tyre Jones,
Jr., was outstanding in every way. He was not only a magnificent
golfer, but an outstanding man as well.¹ Battle-hardened Tommy Armour responded: "I am not given to superlatives when talking about people but when one talks about Bob Jones they are very appropriate. He has always stood for everything that is fine ethically, morally and mentally."² Gene Sarazen spoke of his example as a sportsman, "Bob is a fine man whose exemplary conduct, both on and off the golf course, has been an inspiration and example to the young and to followers of the game."³ Al Watrous said: "Bob Jones is a wonderful person, citizen, a great American and the greatest player of his time."⁴ Sam Snead's reply was brief and to the point: "As far as Bob Jones is concerned as a person, there aren't any superior in my book."⁵ From the younger generation, Jack Nicklaus recognized Jones's modesty by saying, "He is one of the finest people I have ever met. He has a certain quality about him that is hard to find in many other people. I don't know exactly how to put it into words. I have never heard him talk about his own golf or about anything he has ever done, or will do."⁶ Arnold Palmer singled out his thinking ability as he said, "He has always been very kind to me and I look forward to my conversations with him because

¹Questionnaire reply from Francis Ouimet, September 14, 1966.
²Questionnaire reply from Tommy Armour, September 21, 1966.
³Questionnaire reply from Gene Sarazen, September 26, 1966.
⁴Questionnaire reply from Al Watrous, February 3, 1967.
⁵Questionnaire reply from Sam Snead, October 26, 1966.
⁶Questionnaire reply from Jack Nicklaus, November 3, 1966.
of his astute thinking and solid, candid observations about the game.  

These men each chose a different approach to the Jones personality. Synthesizing all of these traits one discovers Jones the Man, who as an athlete had the rare combination of superb physical ability and tempestuous spirit with which he won thirteen major golf championships in eight years. He played the game as an amateur because he loved it and for the satisfactions which he received from playing. When the pressures became so great that he no longer enjoyed playing, he had the intelligence and good judgment to quit competitive golf. This he did, but not before he had left some very indelible impressions of Jones the Man.

**HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GAME**

The material contributions which Jones has made are many. His record as a golfer is one of his most significant contributions. His record of thirteen major tournament victories has not been surpassed. The Grand Slam is the most famous of his many accomplishments. However, his record in the United States Open is nearly unbelievable. He competed eleven times, winning four; placing second four times, two of which he lost in play-offs for the championship and finished fifth, eighth and eleventh in the remaining three starts. In his last eight United States Open tournaments, he either was first or tied for first six times. By adding his British Open record, three wins in four attempts, one discovers that in fifteen Open championships against the world's best golfers, Jones won seven times and was second four times. In the final nine years of his career, he competed in twelve Open

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1Questionnaire reply from Arnold Palmer, October 20, 1966.
championships, British and United States, finishing either first or second eleven times. This record was made in what is declared to be the two most difficult tournaments in the world. In thirteen attempts for the United States Amateur Championship, Jones won five times and was runner-up twice. He won five of the last seven Amateurs in which he competed. He won the British Amateur once in three attempts. He never failed to qualify for any tournament which he entered. All told, he won thirteen of the thirty-one major championships which he entered in thirteen years of national and international competition, a record which appears to be irreproachable.

In addition to his golf record, he contributed greatly to the theory of golf by writing several hundred articles of golf instruction explaining his methods and thoughts about the game. These articles appeared in newspapers throughout the United States for some nine years from 1927 to 1935. He also wrote three books. In 1927, Jones and O. B. Keeler wrote Down The Fairway; in 1960, he wrote Golf Is My Game; and in 1966, he published Bobby Jones on Golf. In the early thirties he made two instructional movies entitled How I Play Golf and How to Break 90. At about this same time he helped design the initial set of first class matched iron clubs for the A. G. Spalding Company. He supervised the design of two golf courses, the most famous of which is the Augusta National in Augusta, Georgia. This course and its accompanying Masters Tournament are probably Jones's most significant material contributions to the game. One of the world's current best known players, Arnold Palmer, expressed his opinion on Jones's contribution as follows:

Mr. Jones has contributed a great ability, a great record,
a great course and a great tournament to golf. I don't know of anybody else who has done so much. With his brilliant play in the amateur and open tournaments of his active career, Mr. Jones deservedly became a great national and international figure. His record not only brought much respect and acclaim to him and his country but also did much to enhance the popularity of golf in the United States and throughout the world in earlier, less prosperous years. Then, after his playing days were over, Mr. Jones, the guiding light, along with his good friend, Clifford Roberts, and others brought into being the magnificent Augusta National Golf Club in Georgia and founded the Masters Championship, which is run so well and has grown so popular that it is probably the best known golf tournament in the world and ranks in prestige among golfers right beside the U.S. and British Opens and the P.G.A. Championship.1

Jack Nicklaus, the current Masters Champion, had these comments:

He proved that amateurs could compete. He has set a record that I don't believe anyone will ever equal as a one-year accomplishment. He contributed the Augusta National Golf Club, used for the Masters, which will be a long-lasting memorial to Bobby Jones. He has created the greatest tournament in golf and, as an intangible contribution, the "air" he has created at Augusta has helped to make and keep golf a clean game. Many times when things have happened, his guidance has helped to keep golf, and a lot of people, headed in the right direction.2

His greatest contribution is not a material one, however. In all of the thousands of words which have been written about this man and his golf, one thing seems to stand out clearly above all others--his sportsmanship. His attitude toward and his method of playing the game epitomize the true spirit of sportsmanship. One of his opponents, Tommy Armour said it this way: "Jones was the epitome of sportsmanship on the golf course whenever he played. The high respect in which he was held all over the world was an example which has been followed by

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1Questionnaire reply from Arnold Palmer, October 20, 1966.
2Questionnaire reply from Jack Nicklaus, November 3, 1966.
amateurs and professionals. Francis Ouimet, the recipient of several overwhelming defeats by Jones, said:

The record book speaks volumes for his contributions to the game of golf. It was my good fortune to live in that period when he was establishing his greatest successes. The perfection of his golf lends me to say it would be impossible for anyone to play golf any better than Bob Jones, regardless of the past or present qualities of the game of golf. Furthermore, his humility in success or charming manner in defeat will always live in my memory above all else.

Paul Gallico, a sportswriter-novelist, famous for his candid and forthright opinions, said about Jones: "I have found only one (sports figure) who could stand up in every way as a gentleman as well as a celebrity, a fine, decent human being as well as a newsprint personage, and one who never once since I have known him has let me down in my estimate of him."

Bobby Jones had and still has great love for the game of golf. He also has the highest respect for the game and it showed through his honorable method of play. Golf has been good to Bobby Jones, and he, in turn, has been good for golf. The bond is reciprocal. A newspaper editorial summed it up well by saying: "He has done more than perform a feat. He has achieved a character, so that the world, while marveling at his game, pays highest tribute to his soul."

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1Questionnaire reply from Tommy Armour, September 21, 1966.

2Questionnaire reply from Francis Ouimet, September 14, 1966. (The underlining is the author's.)


4"Bobby Himself," The Atlanta Journal, July 14, 1930.
Please write your response on this sheet.

I. Please give your opinion of Mr. Jones as a person.

I am not given to superlatives when taking about people but when one talks about Bob Jones they are very appropriate. He has always stood for everything that is fine ethically, morally and mentally his kindness of thought and his generous disposition of his wisdom was always freely given. It was a great honor to know him.

II. What has Mr. Jones contributed to golf? (Please consider both intangible contributions as well as material contributions.)

Jones was the epitome of sportsmanship on the Golf Course whenever he played. The high respect in which he was held all over the world was an example which has been followed by amateurs and professionals. Collegiate golf got a tremendous impetus when Jones won the Championship while in college. I think I was the main beneficiary of his golf knowledge. I had a lesson from him practically every day for four months and it really helped me as it did many of us. His flawless form was imitated by many, but only a few came near his perfection.

III. May I have your permission to quote your answers directly?

Yes you may. 

[Signature]
Dear Mr Gordin,

I have just returned from Palm Springs hence the delay in replying to your letter regarding Bob Jones, and my match with him at St Louis.

Let me say that it was one of the greatest and most interesting of my career. Bob was supposed to win his first National Amateur, and I being at that time the British Amateur Champion was equally anxious to win so that I could claim to be the World's Amateur Champion.

There was lots of rain during the whole week and the putting greens were sloppy which I know from observation hurt Bob's chances. I skidded the ball up to the pin with a low elevation and gathered no mud (there was no cleaning of the ball then). Bob played rather a high shot to the pin and gathered mud. That perhaps was the difference because I decidedly out putted him. Jones was two up after the first eighteen holes and really should have been more as he outplayed me generally. Incidentally there was never more than two holes difference at any time, but my only period of being up came at end.

At lunch time I was in the toilet - I was there frequently because of touch of diarrhea - while there Bob came in with Grantland Rice and they discussed the match to that point without knowing I was hearing them. Bob says 'to Grant, I can't understand why I am only two up on Hunter as I feel I outplayed him more than that. Grant was very complimentary in replying saying not to take me lightly as I was known as a great finisher.

In the P.M. round I played much better - better than Jones-, but he was still one up as we teed off the short thirteenth. Bob tried to carry water and brush to the right and short of the green and landed in bad trouble. I played safely down the middle and got an easy four to Bob's five. Apparently upset, Jones drove out of bounds on the fifteenth and I won with a birdie four. At the short sixteenth we both landed in a trap about fifteen feet from the pin placement. We both got out within eight feet of cup I was fortunate enough to putt first and I holed - Bob missed. The seventeenth a short four par we were both on green in two with Bob inside - I putted up a few inches from the cup, and Bob missed his birdie - that was it.

There were many interruptions because of the huge crowd being all for Jones, or else as Tommy Armour says there were approximately 10000 spectators and all except me were for Bob. Howard Whitney then President of the U.S.G.A. addressed the crowd several times asking them for better sportsmanship. Frankly the crowd did not bother me, but rather upped my moral and determination.
Bob Jones was the essence of good sportsmanship as always and his somewhat disappointed father was the first to congratulate me. Naturally I was elated at having beaten probably the world's all time greatest National Championship player. Bob during his remarkable career won championships of national importance, always somehow as become a great champion producing good enough golf to defeat the field.

Sincerely

Willie Hunter
November 3, 1966

Mr. Richard Gordin
Ohio Wesleyan University
Delaware, Ohio 43015

Dear Dick:

Please excuse me for taking so long to answer your questions.

First, you asked for my opinion of Mr. Jones as a person. He is one of the finest people I have ever met. He has a certain quality about him that is hard to find in many other people. I don't know exactly how to put it into words. I have never heard him talk about his own golf or about anything he has ever done, or will do. All he has ever talked about to me was my career and how to help me with it. He never discusses his own situation, which is quite pathetic. He has arthritis, is very ill and is never going to be any better.

You also wanted to know what I thought Bobby Jones has contributed to golf, not from what he won in tournaments, but as a tournament player. He proved that amateurs could compete. He has set a record that I don't believe anyone will ever equal as a one-year accomplishment. He contributed the Augusta National Golf Club, used for the Masters', which will be a long-lasting memorial to Bobby Jones. He has created the greatest tournament in golf and, as an intangible contribution, the "air" he has created at Augusta has helped to make and keep golf a clean game. Many times, when things have happened, his guidance has helped to keep golf, and a lot of people, headed in the right direction.

The last thing you wanted to know was whether or not you could quote me, and my answer to that is, yes.

Best regards,

Jack Nicklaus

JN/cb
Please write your response on this sheet.

I. Please give your opinion of Mr. Jones as a person.

As a person, Robert Tyre Jones, Jr. was outstanding in every way. Gracious in manner, determined in competition, he would have been successful in any endeavor he cared to apply himself to. He set an example of sportsmanship that could be an objective for all athletes to follow.

II. What has Mr. Jones contributed to golf? (Please consider both intangible contributions as well as material contributions.)

The record book speaks volumes for his contributions to the game of golf. It was my good fortune to live in that period when he was establishing his greatest successes. The perfection of his golf game leads me to say it would be impossible for anyone to play golf any better than Bob Jones, regardless of the past or present qualities of the game of golf. Furthermore, his humility in success or charming manner in defeat will always live in my memory above all else.

III. May I have your permission to quote your answers directly?

[Signature]
I. Please give your opinion of Mr. Jones as a person.

I never had the opportunity to know Mr. Jones as a competitor, but, from the way he has fought his unfortunate illness in recent years, I know that he must have been a courageous and intelligent as well as an extremely able one. In my limited contacts with Mr. Jones, mostly during the Masters at Augusta, I have found him to be a keenly alert and wise man, gifted with the ability to say the right thing to everybody at the right time. He has always been very kind to me and I look forward to my conversations with him because of his astute thinking and solid, candid observations about the game.

II. What has Mr. Jones contributed to golf? (Please consider both intangible contributions as well as material contributions.)

Mr. Jones has contributed a great ability, a great record, a great course and a great tournament to golf. I don't know of anybody else who has done as much. With his brilliant play in the amateur and open tournaments of his active career, Mr. Jones deservedly became a great national and international figure. His record not only brought much respect and acclaim to him and his country but also did much to enhance the popularity of golf in the United States and throughout the world in its earlier, less prosperous years. Then, after his playing days were over, Mr. Jones, the guiding light, along with his good friend, Clifford Roberts, and others brought into being the magnificent Augusta National Golf Club in Georgia and founded the Masters Championship, which is run so well and has grown so popular that it is probably the best known golf tournament in the world and ranks in prestige among golfers right beside the U.S. and British Opens and the Ryder Championship.

III. May I have your permission to quote your answers directly?

Yes

LETTER SIGNED BY
ARNOLD PALMER
I. Please give your opinion of Mr. Jones as a person.

II. What has Mr. Jones contributed to golf? (Please consider both intangible contributions as well as material contributions.)

III. May I have your permission to quote your answers directly?
I. Please give your opinion of Mr. Jones as a person.

As far as Bob Jones is concerned as a person, there aren't any superior in my book.

II. What has Mr. Jones contributed to golf? (Please consider both intangible contributions as well as material contributions.)

Bob Jones is certainly the legend here in the United States as well as in foreign countries. He not only had the following and determination, but the desire and ability to accomplish what he has. Like most, you might say "high-bred" people, he had his difficulty in controlling his emotions in his early life, but after harnessing those faults, it was just a question of time until he should be the greatest.

III. May I have your permission to quote your answers directly?

Yes, you have my permission to quote me.

[Signature]
Dear Mr. Gardner -

I am very pleased to tell you the play of the first hole at Winged Foot in the 1929 United States Open by Bob Jones.

Being fortunate to be his playing partner and now an opportunity to describe the play as I remember it:

Bob needed a par to tie. His lie was that was long and straight. His second shot was pitched slightly to the left of the green. He chipped short of the hole about 5 feet, which left him a left-to-right breaker on a slick, fast green.

But led a perfect putt that hung just right, right speed as it hung on the upper edge of the hole for a fraction and then dropped into the hole.
My opinion of Bob Jones as a person

All I can say is that I have been greatly

privileged not only to know Bob Jones

but to be his playing partner in two

Open Championships and having the

pleasure of a few informal rounds

with him, has been one of the greatest

most precious experiences of my

desert

Bob Jones, contribution to golf.

I fear cannot overestimate the game

and it is to stay with me the rest

Upon the last run.

Bob Jones, a wonderful person,

citizen, a great American, and

greatest player of two time

Sincerely

Al Weismann
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