

Passing of Fred Herreshoff

In the untimely death of Fred Herreshoff, who succumbed to an attack of pneumonia a short time since, the world of golf lost a most engaging figure. Though Herreshoff had not figured prominently in big tournament events within the past few years, it was comparatively recently that no big event on this side of the water was complete without his presence.

Herreshoff was one of the first youthful golfing prodigies who have flashed to the fore in American circles, including such widely known players as Jerome Travers, H. Chandler Egan, Chick Evans, Bobby Jones and others. Furthermore, he achieved one distinction which still remains to him alone. He was the youngest finalist to ever participate in the National Amateur Championship tournament.

As far back as 1904, while a lad of sixteen years of age, Herreshoff fought his way through the successive rounds of match play to reach the final round at Baltusrol, where he was defeated by H. Chandler Egan after a spirited contest.

Herreshoff never succeeded in landing the national title, but twice he finished in the position of runner-up. His first time in the final round was against Egan as related above, while his second sally into the final skirmish took place in the annual affair of 1911, at Apawamis, where he was defeated by Harold Hilton, the British star.

His Star Performance

This performance, no doubt, was the outstanding event in Herreshoff's golfing career. Few indeed of the crowd of spectators who witnessed this memorable match have forgotten the hectic details. It was an extra-hole affair, Hilton winning out on the thirty-seventh hole under circumstances which rather convinced that Lady Luck was traveling with the visitor.

After two good drives, Hilton sliced his second effort badly, the ball sailing in the direction of the thickly-wooded rough to the right of the green. But the nod of Dame Fortune manifested itself in the unexpected turn of having the ball strike the face of a big boulder in the edge of the wood and bound onto the green, enabling the famous Britisher to land a par 4 to score a win, when nothing less than the miracle that happened could have saved him from being practically forced to concede the hole and the match.

The American
Golfer



FRED HERRESHOFF