

# MATCHLESS

JOYCE WETHERED, GLENNA COLLETT AND  
THE RISE OF WOMEN'S GOLF



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*Joyce Wethered, Glenna Collett and the Rise of  
Women's Golf*

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For Ruth Ann, my inspiration in golf

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One

# EMPRESSES OF GOLF



**E**VEN before they struck their first shots on that spring morning at Troon in 1925, Joyce Wethered and Glenna Collett surely must have sensed that something extraordinary was about to unfold over that ancient links in Ayrshire. During the years since the Great War, on opposite sides of the Atlantic, the Englishwoman and the American had played such overpowering golf that they set a new standard for the women's game, sweeping aside even the breakthrough players who had preceded them. Wethered and Collett had become the talk of the golfing world, and fans everywhere were desperate for a match between them. Ten months earlier, the American magazine *Golf Illustrated* had demonstrated the extent of that hunger with a full-page presentation titled 'Empresses of Golf'. It featured studio portraits of Joyce and Glenna looking their loveliest. Wethered, 23, sits in an armchair, wearing a sleeveless dress over her willowy frame. Collett, 21, stares serenely at the camera, her elbows propped up on a table, her chin resting on her folded hands. The caption notes,

simply, that: 'A meeting between these two stars is a treat that is in store for the golfing world in the near future.'

Now, at 10.20 a.m. on 25 May, that moment had arrived as the two women prepared to tee off in the British Ladies' Championship. Both wore a cloche hat, a calf-length skirt and a sweater over their blouse - Wethered's a cardigan, Collett's a Fair Isle she bought in Scotland to ward off the chill. Everyone attending that championship had hoped the draw would place Wethered and Collett in opposite brackets, setting up the delicious possibility that this first meeting between them would come with the title on the line. It was not to be. Fate brought them together in the third round, raising fears that the rest of the championship would be a letdown. The golf Wethered and Collett played certainly lived up to its billing. Before they reached the turn that morning at Troon, both Joyce and Glenna were keenly aware that in one another they faced the most formidable opponent they had ever confronted in a match, or ever would.

Playing over that windswept links along the Firth of Clyde - a genuine championship test at 6,415 yards - they arrived at the ninth tee all square, with scores approaching level fours, the standard in that age for flawless golf. Wethered was one over, Collett a stroke higher. Scores that low were unthinkable for women in 1925. Two years earlier at Troon, playing from the same tees, Arthur Havers won the Open Championship by playing all four of his rounds in a shade over level fours. Wethered and Collett were, frankly, astonished by the game they brought out in one another. 'I played as perfect golf as I ever will play,' Glenna marvelled in her memoir, a notion Joyce repeated in hers, almost to the letter. That afternoon at Troon marked the beginning of a sporting rivalry that would captivate the

golfing universe for a decade and establish a lifelong bond between two very different women, one born of respect for a competitor whose brilliance inspires your own.

Four years later, the competition between Wethered and Collett would reach its heart-stopping crescendo - this time, fittingly, in the final of the first Ladies' Championship to be conducted at St Andrews in a generation. Both women would live to a great age - Collett to 85, Wethered to 96 - but neither would ever outlive the legend they created that afternoon on the Old Course. Their match eclipsed even the glories of Troon. Bernard Darwin, golf correspondent for *The Times*, was so dumbstruck by what he witnessed at St Andrews that the greatest of all golf writers found himself, for once, at a loss for words.

Wethered and Collett would meet on nearly a dozen other occasions in the afterglow of that championship - at the 1932 Curtis Cup and during Joyce's 1935 tour of North America - generating a level of respect for women's golf that would once have been unimaginable. Their accomplishments represented nothing less than the realisation of a goal women had been striving to reach since the earliest days of golf. Ladies began taking to the links as soon as their husbands began donning scarlet jackets and heading to the club for a game. They did so with the single-minded intent of proving that they, too, could master the sport that had so beguiled their men. That quest took on a deeply symbolic meaning because it unfolded during a singular time in history, an era when suffragettes around the globe were fighting stubbornly, sometimes violently, to establish their rightful place in a patriarchal world.

Even as women founded their own golf union and launched their own championship in 1893, their fight for

the right to vote was gaining momentum worldwide, with the final victory achieved just a year before Wethered and Collett engaged in that unforgettable duel at the home of golf. With the suffrage issue dominating headlines in the US and Britain, the supremacy Wethered and Collett achieved in golf stood as living testimony to the point women fought to make. Given a fair chance, they could develop a level of skill equal to any man's. The women's rights movement, however, was not the only history that coloured the rivalry between Wethered and Collett. There was golf history, too. Their matches were played during the years when America was building what Darwin described as its 'great golfing empire'. Season after demoralising season, the most cherished of British trophies, the Claret Jug, was spirited away across the Atlantic.

By 1929, when Wethered and Collett met in that epic final over the Old Course, the truth was that there was only one player left in Britain who had not been vanquished by an American - Joyce Wethered. It is, perhaps, one of the ironies of history that the upshot of the enormous recognition Wethered and Collett brought to the women's game was something neither Joyce nor Glenna wanted, as women who believed firmly in the prevailing ideal of their age - that golf was its best when the game was played for love and not for money. Less than a decade after they left the field - Wethered at the conclusion of her triumphant US tour, Collett for the sixth and final time as America's champion - women would take their first steps towards establishing a professional golf tour of their own, once again striding confidently into a world that had previously been the sole province of men.

Two

## LADIES ON THE LINKS



READERS of Edinburgh's *Caledonian Mercury* awoke to news so shocking on 24 April 1738 that it would be reprinted in papers as far away as London and the American colonies. 'Early last Tuesday morning,' the report read, 'two married women of the city stepped out to Bruntsfield Links to a concerted match at golf, followed by their husbands carrying the clubs. Curiosity led thither a great crowd, who were charmed with seeing the half-naked viragos tilt the balls so manfully, and their dexterity in holing. Considerable wagers were laid; but Charming Sally carried the prize.' The mind reels with questions about this curious report. How did men in that male-dominated society come to be carrying clubs for their wives? Had they lost a bet? What was meant by half-naked? Had those two domineering women - virago, after all, means 'female warrior' - played without a corset or a proper hat? Truth is, not much can be known with certainty, beyond that women playing golf in public was rare enough in 1738 that the story would be picked up by the *Daily Gazetteer* and *Read's*

*Weekly Journal* in London and across the Atlantic in the *South Carolina Gazette*.

This much can be safely inferred: women had wanted to play golf from the moment men took up the game. It is worth noting that the match reported in the *Mercury* took place six years before the Gentlemen Golfers of Leith staged the first formal competition in 1744, playing for a silver club donated by Scotland's capital city. Reports of women playing golf continued to crop up regularly through the years. The *Statistical Account of Scotland* mentions women and children playing over the links at Musselburgh during the 1790s. In December 1810, members of the Royal Musselburgh Golf Club voted to donate a prize for a competition among the town's fishwives. Evidence of women playing over the links at St Andrews surfaced early on, too. In 1855, Mrs James Wolfe-Murray, daughter of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club's revered leader John Whyte-Melville, scandalised the town by boldly taking to the course, playing alone with two clubs.

A dozen years later, women would get the first golf course of their own, designed by the man who did more than any other person to spread love for the Scottish game, Tom Morris of St Andrews. The ladies' links he created, however, was something entirely different from courses played over by men. By the early 1860s, women in town had taken a fancy to putting, a brand of golf Victorian society considered far more appropriate for ladies than Mrs Wolfe-Murray's forays on the St Andrews links. Women played their games over a handful of short holes near Old Tom Morris's shop, which caddies had laid out to pass the time as they awaited a bag to carry. Caddies didn't appreciate women invading their space, although they were savvy enough to keep quiet about it, and gentlemen of the

R&A didn't want their wives mixing with ruffians. They asked Morris to lay out a proper course for the women of St Andrews, leading to creation of the Himalayas putting green, a rollicking 18-hole adventure that has changed little over a century and a half and remains among the most popular attractions in town.

That same year, 1867, saw the formation of the oldest women's golf club in the world, still thriving as the St Andrews Ladies' Putting Club. Morris showed his commitment to welcoming women into the world of golf by doing double duty for the next 30 years as keeper of the ladies' green. The club's first competition, conducted on 5 October 1867, was a roaring success, drawing a substantial crowd of upper-crust ladies and gentlemen as well as 22 entrants, among them women with the most famous surnames in St Andrews – Moncrieff and Chambers, Tulloch and Boothby. The prizes were the club's Golf Medal and silver pebble brooch, both of which are competed for even today. Newspapers lapped it up, with fawning coverage appearing in the *St Andrews Gazette*, the *Fifeshire News*, and even the national newspaper, *The Scotsman*, which described the event as a 'most novel, interesting and excellent competition'.

Over the years, the Ladies' Putting Club came to play a significant social role in St Andrews, one that would remain part of the game through the ages. In those days, gentlemen could join the club as associate members. That provided an outlet for courting in an informal atmosphere, a rarity in the Victorian age. Men and women could play alongside one another in monthly medals. During the spring and autumn events, restricted to ladies only, men could tag along as markers or caddies. The Ladies' Putting Club also made one other social contribution that will

forever remain part of the game. In a way that ancient golf societies for men had never done, it made the game a family affair, one children would be introduced to by their parents, as is so often the case today. In July 1888, the *St Andrews Citizen* announced plans for the first Children's Golf Club. It was open to boys and girls, ages five through 13, whose mothers belonged to the Ladies' Putting Club, as well as to the children of visitors who swelled the club's ranks every summer. By September, the club had been formally launched, with 134 children as members.

The experience of one famous family - the Tait's of Edinburgh, frequent visitors to St Andrews - demonstrates the impact the Children's Golf Club would have on developing young players. In 1895, a band of travellers that came to St Andrews every summer and were popular with the townspeople donated two prizes for a competition among members of the Ladies' Putting Club, a claret jug for first place and a medal for second. The best of 60 scores was the fine 105 turned in by Edith Tait, the older sister of a youngster who would grow up to be one of Scotland's most famous and beloved golfers. Her brother, Frederick Guthrie Tait, would get his first taste of glory over the Ladies' Putting Green as well. In September 1881, aged 11, Tait took first place among 42 players in a Children's Club tournament, with a score of 107. It was an early sign of the great champion he would become, with victories in the 1896 and 1898 Amateur Championships before his tragic early death in 1900 during the South African War. Even today, the Children's Golf Club remains an institution in St Andrews, hosting putting competitions that introduce new generations of boys and girls to the royal and ancient game.

## UNMATCHED ENTHUSIASM

In its report on that first competition of the Ladies' Putting Club in the autumn of 1867, *The Scotsman* confidently predicted that this new pastime 'will become a favourite game, not simply among the ladies of St Andrews, but throughout the kingdom'. The newspaper's correspondent, however, would never have guessed that the next ladies' golf club would be formed not in Scotland but England, at Royal North Devon, better known as Westward Ho! Truth is, that might have been expected, given that North Devon's founders, Isaac and William Gosset, had close ties to St Andrews. The year after Tom Morris laid out the Ladies' Putting Green, Westward Ho! built one nearly identical to it on Northam Burrows. The North Devon Ladies' Golf Club was founded that same year, 1868, with 35 women as members and a number of gentlemen as associates. It was followed in 1872 by the London Scottish Ladies' Golf Club at Wimbledon, with 14 original members. Neither of those clubs would last, disappearing after a few years and being reconstituted in the 1890s. They were, however, an early sign that English women would embrace golf with unmatched enthusiasm. It would not be long before they wanted more than mere putting.

By the 1880s, English women were forming clubs that played over courses which required genuine golf. Some had links of their own, others competed over the men's course, sometimes using forward tees. So many women took up the game that they played a significant role in the great golf boom that swept England before the war, according to new research by historian Michael Morrison. By 1894, England had 44 ladies' clubs, more than twice as many as Scotland. The membership of those clubs, however, by no means

reflected the number of women playing golf. Scores of men's clubs had a ladies' section, so English women actually were playing at more than 100 golf clubs by the middle of that decade. By 1889, some 3,700 women had taken up the game, one of every 10 golfers in England. When war was declared in 1914, women accounted for one of every four golfers and their number had swelled to 73,000.

It was during this frenzy of growth that a pivotal figure in the history of women's golf - Issette Pearson - would fall in love with the game and under the spell of Dr William Laidlaw Purves. Issette was born in Devon, on 2 November 1861, to Thomas and Mary Pearson. Her father was a landed gentleman, although when Issette was still a toddler, he made a bad investment that nearly ruined him. Pearson moved his family to Birkenhead, near Liverpool, and opened an insurance business. His firm proved so successful that in 1887 Pearson decided to expand in London. It was there, on Barnes Common, that 25-year-old Issette caught the fever for golf. Tall and sturdy, with a decidedly stern countenance, Pearson looked matronly even as a young woman, in part because she always wore her dresses buttoned tightly up to the neck.

Pearson quickly earned a reputation as an outstanding player, and early on she developed ambitions for the future of women's golf. Her opportunity to pursue them would arise when she became a founding member of the revived Wimbledon Ladies' Golf Club in 1890. At the club, she met Laidlaw Purves, an Edinburgh-born eye surgeon who practised in London. He was a powerful figure in the emerging world of golf, a leader at Royal Wimbledon and Royal St George's in Sandwich, the first English links to host an Open Championship. Purves and Pearson were two

proverbial peas in a pod – Issette branded by journalists as ‘despotic as the Czar of Russia’, Purves so caustic and aggressive that he tended to alienate those whose help he needed most. They met at a propitious time. Since 1866, Purves had been campaigning to establish a central ruling body for a rapidly growing game – one that could develop and govern a universal set of rules, as well as a handicapping system that could account for the vast differences between golf courses. Purves’s efforts had gone nowhere, mostly because other powerful men in the game found his browbeating tiresome. In Pearson, he discovered an equally formidable woman who saw the issues the same way he did.

Not long after the Wimbledon Ladies’ Club was re-established in 1890, its members began to play home-and-away matches against neighbouring women’s clubs. Pearson immediately encountered the same problems bedevilling the men’s game. While most clubs followed the rules used at St Andrews, many had local variations that created inconsistencies. Worse still, each club had its own way of establishing handicaps, which were so wildly different that matches often turned out to be lopsided. Not only that, Pearson believed women needed a national championship of their own to match the men’s Amateur inaugurated at Royal Liverpool in 1885.

By then, Purves had become fed up with his lack of progress in men’s golf, which would not agree on how to govern the game and its rules until 1897, years after women had shown the way. He leapt at the chance to help Pearson realise her ambitions. It provided Purves with a platform to demonstrate how effective his ideas could be when put into practice. In the spring of 1893, Purves and Pearson sent a letter to women’s clubs throughout Britain,

inviting them to a meeting on 19 April 1893 at 2.30 p.m. at the Grand Hotel in Trafalgar Square, London, to discuss the prospect of forming a golf union. Before those assembled got down to business, Purves gave a speech in which he laid out the goals of this new union and vented his frustrations about the way his ideas had been ignored by leaders of the men's game, especially those in St Andrews. 'When the members of the Wimbledon Ladies' Golf Club sent out their proposal that a Golf Union should be established,' Purves began, 'they showed a most commendable foresight.' Without a union, he warned, competitions between clubs, international matches and championships for women would be plagued by the same 'chaotic conditions' that existed in the men's game. Conditions, Purves added, that were created by 'an oligarchy of each local club ruling over its own individual members, and a great oligarchy, of an ancient and venerated club ruling over the golfing world', a thinly veiled swipe at the Royal and Ancient. He went on to outline the stated ambitions of the Ladies' Golf Union - establishing a uniform code of rules and a central body to govern them; creating an adequate system for handicapping tournaments, and conducting a national championship for women. Before the meeting concluded, the 13 clubs represented voted unanimously to form a Union, with Pearson as its Honorary Secretary and Blanche Martin Hulton as Honorary Treasurer. Four men were named vice presidents - Purves and Talbot Fair for England, Harry Everard for Scotland and Thomas Gilroy for Ireland.

Two months later, beginning on 13 June, the first British Ladies' Championship was conducted over the nine-hole women's course at Lytham and St Annes. Most of the 38

competitors hailed from England, although a handful also came from Ireland and Pau in France. Not a single player from Scotland made the trip. Scots were slow to accept a Union they saw as strictly English, but when the Championship came to Scotland, in 1897, they demonstrated their superiority by claiming 13 of the final 16 places at Gullane, including both spots in the final. With Scots absent, that first Ladies' Championship came down to the favourites from England - Pearson and Lady Margaret Scott, the striking, 19-year-old daughter of the 3rd Earl of Eldon. Lady Margaret came from a renowned golfing family. Her brothers Denys, Osmond and Michael were all first-class players. Osmond would be runner-up in the 1905 Amateur, and in 1933 Michael would become the Championship's oldest winner, aged 55. A year earlier, Lady Margaret had demonstrated what a formidable golfer she was by winning a tournament at Cheltenham club against a field of men. In the Ladies' Championship final, she made mincemeat of a nervous, overworked Pearson, building an enormous lead over the opening nine, and finishing Issette off by going seven holes up with just five to play.

It was, perhaps, a sign of the enormous task that lay in front of Pearson and her new union that it was not Lady Margaret, but her father, the Earl of Eldon, who accepted the trophy and delivered the victory speech. As dominating as Lady Margaret's victory was, it was her scores that raised eyebrows in the press. Two rounds of the ladies' course at St Annes added up to 4,264 yards. The nine-hole record was 36, posted by the great John Ball Jr., and Lady Margaret finished every one of her Championship rounds with a score between 40 and 42. 'Judging by the play of several ladies at St Annes last June, more particularly that of Lady Margaret Scott, there would be nothing surprising

if, at some future time (and that may not be very far distant), a lady is found entering for both the Open and Amateur Championships,' Alexander Doleman wrote for *The Golfing Annual*. That was a bold prediction coming from a reporter of Doleman's experience. The 57-year-old had covered and played the game with distinction since the days when Young Tom Morris was making his stirring march to claim the Champion's Belt. Could women master the game as well as men? The question Doleman laid on the table would come to be known as golf's 'eternal problem'. It would be debated in clubhouses and tested over the links from the days of Lady Margaret and Issette Pearson through the coming of Joyce Wethered, Glenna Collett and beyond.

## **GLOBAL SISTERHOOD**

When Pearson was falling in love with golf on Barnes Common, she was inclined to think she might be the only woman who had taken up this newly popular game. 'I could not hear of any other lady who played,' she wrote a dozen years later, 'though more than one gentleman was able to assure me that there were several in Scotland.' What Issette did not know was that even as she was working with Purves to establish the Ladies' Golf Union, women were embracing the game in every corner of the globe. Long before golf moved into England, it had been played in France at Pau, a fashionable resort in the Pyrenees. The first course was laid out there in 1856, and by 1877 Pau had a separate nine-hole links for women. The Cape Golf Club in South Africa admitted women as early as 1889, not because its leaders were forward-thinking, but because they desperately needed membership fees to stay afloat. By

the turn of the century, women were playing at clubs across the nation. That was true in Australia as well. Royal Melbourne Golf Club admitted women in the autumn of 1892, followed quickly by clubs in Adelaide and Sydney. By 1894, Australian women had a national championship to match the one Pearson had launched a year earlier in Britain. Women's golf was well under way in Canada, too. Ladies' clubs had formed in Montreal, Quebec, London and Toronto by 1891. Three years later, women from Quebec and Montreal competed in North America's first inter-club match.

But it was in the United States that this global sisterhood would develop its greatest army of adherents, women who would one day join the nation's men in challenging the hegemony of the British. Beyond that, the US was the only country where the origin story of golf was not solely one of men forming golf clubs and grudgingly allowing women to play over their links. The summer before Pearson founded her Union, a woman named Frances Boit paid a visit to her aunt and uncle, Mr and Mrs Arthur Hunnewell, of Wellesley, Massachusetts, 30 miles west of Boston. Boit had just returned from a trip to the continent, including a stay at Pau, that notable incubator of golf beloved by travellers around the world. Assuming that by then this newly fashionable game had caught on in the States, Boit brought her golf clubs with her. Like most Americans at that time, the Hunnewells knew nothing about the Scottish game. It had, after all, been only four years since the St Andrews Golf Club was founded in Yonkers, New York, becoming the first permanently established club in the country.

The Hunnewells were intrigued enough by Boit's description of the game to give it a try. Seven holes were

laid out over the adjoining lawns of Hunnewell, his nephew and his brother-in-law. Boit suggested sinking flowerpots in the ground to serve as holes. Among those the Hunnewells invited to watch Boit demonstrate golf were Laura Safford Stewart, the wife of textile magnate John Wood Stewart, and Laurence Curtis, the cousin of Margaret and Harriot Curtis, two women who would later make a significant mark in the game. Curtis belonged to The Country Club at Brookline, founded in 1882 and which originally focused on horseback riding and other outdoor pursuits. Curtis was so enchanted by Boit's demonstration that he talked the club into adding golf to its amenities. Six holes were laid out the following April, a generation before the club would witness a seminal moment in American golf. 'While other localities pointed with reverential pride to their "fathers" of the game,' wrote the first historian of American golf, H.B. Martin, 'Boston golf had the distinction of having a "mother".'

Later that autumn, when Laura Stewart returned to her home in New Jersey, she and her husband did for Montclair what Curtis had done for Boston. They introduced their neighbours to the latest fad in sport by establishing a golf club. Come spring, it was thriving. Even before Frances Boit showed up in Wellesley, women along the nation's Eastern Seaboard had begun playing golf, mostly at clubs established by men, notably Shinnecock Hills in Long Island. Founded in 1891, the club would produce America's first women stars. By then, golf had already become so popular in America that both men and women were clamouring for national championships to match those in Britain. In the autumn of 1894, both St Andrews in Yonkers and Newport Country Club in Rhode Island set out to

identify a men's champion in events hosted over their course.

Not surprisingly, that led to bickering over whether either championship could be considered legitimate if it was not sponsored by recognised national authority. In December, the nation's five leading clubs - Shinnecock Hills, Newport, Brookline, St Andrews and Chicago Golf Club - came together to settle the matter by establishing the United States Golf Association. That first year, the fledgling USGA held only men's amateur and open championships, but women were not about to be left out. The Meadowbrook Club in Hempstead, Long Island, stepped in and hosted a stroke-play tournament it billed as the first women's championship. It was conducted on 9 November 1895, and drew 13 women, nearly all from clubs in New York or New Jersey. The winner, after two rounds over the nine-hole course, was Lucy Barnes Brown, of Shinnecock Hills, with a score of 132. She received a silver pitcher. That first championship attracted the attention of a Scotsman visiting the States, Robert P. Cox, a Member of Parliament representing Edinburgh. He wanted to encourage America's women golfers and asked the USGA if he could donate a new trophy for their new championship.

The following October, in the first officially sanctioned US Women's Amateur, a field of 29 women would compete at Morris County Golf Club in New Jersey for what is now considered the loveliest trophy in sport - a sterling silver cup featuring an enamel thistle overlay, inset gems and scenes from St Andrews on both the front and back. Taking a cue from Pearson and the Ladies' Golf Union, a new format was chosen to determine the champion - match play. A qualifying round winnowed the field to eight finalists, who faced off in 18-hole elimination matches to

identify the champion. Shinnecock Hills again produced the winner, 16-year-old Beatrix Hoyt, whose qualifying score of 95 was light years better than the score Barnes Brown had posted the previous autumn, or the score of 150 that won the first women's tournament in Canada. Still, it was a far cry from the superb golf Lady Margaret Scott had displayed two years earlier in the first British Ladies' Championship, going around the links at St Annes with scores in the low 80s.

Those early championships in the US and Canada established a pattern that would prevail for decades. Women golfers outside Britain would have their work cut out for them if they had designs on challenging their sisters in the birthplace of the game. By forming the Ladies' Golf Union, Issette Pearson had, indeed, shown 'most commendable foresight', giving the women of Britain a massive head start in a game that was taking the world by storm. When she left that meeting at the Grand Hotel, Pearson was a woman on a mission - fixated on women establishing their place in a game that for centuries had been strictly a man's world. Over the next three decades, as the global sisterhood imitated her every move, Pearson would pursue that dream with the ferocity of a tyrant, running roughshod over any obstacle that stood in her way. In autumn of 1893, basking in the glow of that first Ladies' Championship, she would befriend the ideal compatriot, a woman who was equally passionate about golf and, conveniently, possessed a gift for telling the remarkable story that was about to unfold.



Every woman golfer owes a debt of gratitude to those who founded and nurtured the Ladies' Golf Union. Above, founder Issette Pearson is seated between Gladys Ravencroft and Cecil Leitch (right). Below are correspondents Mabel Stringer (left) and Eleanor Helme. (Top image reprinted by kind permission of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club)





Collett's great American rivals were the sweet-swinging Virginia Van Wie (top) and Edith Cummings. Van Wie won three consecutive Women's Amateurs beginning in /310. Cummings was a dazzling Chicago socialite who served as the model for one of F. Scott Fitzgerald's characters in *The Great Gatsby*. (Top: Courtesy of the United States Golf Association)

