

# Golf Medicine From Master Doctors

*A Prescription Counter That Has a Cure for Your Golfing Faults*

Which Hand Does the Work?— *By Jock Hutchison*



THE question of which hand is the more important in making a golf swing has long been a favorite subject for debate among golf critics, and so far as these critics are concerned I am not hopeful that anything I have to say on the subject is going to settle the question for once and all. However, I am

convinced that an explanation of just what offices the two hands perform, as I see it, may be of help to those who are trying to improve their play. Instead of attempting to say which hand is the more important, I shall try to outline the duties of each, and let the reader draw his own conclusions.

Starting with the backswing, the left hand should do the work of starting the clubhead back from the ball. There are two main purposes in this, first to keep the clubhead low and second to avoid snatching the club back too fast. Consider the movements possible to the right hand, and it will be apparent that about all it can do is to lift up on the club, if the right arm is kept in rather close to the side as it should be. If it pulls back in a straight line from the ball, the arm must of necessity work too far out from the side. It is admittedly a mistake to lift the club up abruptly from the ball, so that the right hand and arm can do practically nothing in starting the club back. It may help slightly in eventually getting the club to the top of the swing, but not much.

Now in starting down, the club should be swung on as long a radius as the left arm fully straightened out allows. In other words the hands want to sweep around from the position in front of the right shoulder at the top of the swing,

and must not be pulled downward and in toward the body, which is a rather common fault. A little examination will show that the right arm bent at the elbow as it is, cannot do anything in starting the club this way. Thus the left must start the club down.

In carrying the club on down and through the ball the sweep of the arms must be coordinated with the turn of the body back toward the left. If the body turns too fast, it gets ahead of the arms, and a slice inevitably results. This is what happens where the right arm and side push around too rapidly. The left side with a pull from the shoulder sets the pace and the right side must not be allowed to crowd it too much. But there is a job for the right in putting a snap into the stroke with a quick forward bend of the wrist just as the clubhead is coming against the ball. This is right hand pure and simple and accounts for extra distance. But the action must be delayed until the clubhead is not more than eighteen inches to two feet from the ball.