

THE OPEN GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

97 of the world's top players qualify to fight it out at Muirfield for the golfing crown @ the British Open Championship. With a first-day round of 69, Charles Ward raises hopes that the title will return to Britain. For, with French racehorses running away with the classics and English cricketers running between the pavilion and the wicket, the sporting public looks to golf for inspiration. Claude Harmon is in a strong American contingent determined to add the Open trophy to the British amateur crown and the Ryder Cup. Temperamental Australian Norman von Nida (who has won more than a thousand pounds in prize money in the past twelve months) is another strong challenger, eager to emulate the feats of his cricketing countrymen.

The King heads the large gallery that follows the British players. Henry Cotton - idol of them all - satisfies his severest critics with a brilliant score of 284, to beat by five strokes Irishman Fred Hale, last year's winner.

41 years-old - record breaker Henry Cotton receives for the third time in his career - golfing's biggest prize - the Open Championship Cup.