

'OPEN' DRAWS WORLD'S TOP GOLFERS

At that Queen of Championships, the 'Open' - golf-king Henry Cotton, appears only as a visitor. America's handsome Johnny Bulla and stocky Bobby Locke from South Africa are joint favourites for the throne Cotton has vacated. Among other hopefuls are Ireland's smiling Fred Daly - Florry Van Donck, Belgium's big money-winner - and Max Faulkner that old Ryder Cup favourite. Setting a hot pace is "Smiler" Bulla, while the Deal gallery also applauds that other American wonderman, "Muscles" Frank Stranahan.

Ex-Royal Marine Commando Ken Bensfield, springs into the front ranks with an impressive 69.

Sundridge Park's Alf Padgham is another of the stars to shine.

Most striking incident, reflecting the "needle" atmosphere of the 'Open' is provided by temperamental Frank Stranahan, when he misses an easy putt. Nevertheless he goes round in 71 and is among the leaders in this, the world's most valuable golfing championship.