

JOKE-A-STROKE GOLF

Stand by for a game of golf with a difference. Yes, Bob Hope is here and with him the old greamer himself, Bing Crosby, to play an America versus Britain match. Before the start, the usual Bing-Bob banter:

Bing: "Are you in form for today?"

Bob: "Oh, I'm in fine shape - I've had my second cup of tea with adrenalin and I'm ready."

Bing: "You know I think you'd better get along home - you're beginning to look like your passport picture."

Bob: "Isn't that something - I look like Bela Lugosi with Peter Lorre's head - don't I? You should see my passport picture. You know most passport pictures you look as if you're looking through a porthole. Mine looks like I'm sick and can't get the porthole open. I say we ought to get our competitors in here, don't you think?"

Bing: "Here's Ted Ray. Give him a hand folks, he's going to Korea to entertain tomorrow."

Bob: "And here is Mr. Donald Peers. This is Crosby with tea right here. What's this - a shady neck?"

Donald: "That's right."

Ted: "Do you think we're going to beat these boys Donald?"

Donald: "I think so."

Ted: "I think you are, I'm not."

Bob: "Isn't it lovely being here in California. I just love it - look at that sky. This is the only place in the world where you can get four seasons in one day. We'd better hurry, it'll be snowing before the third hole you know."

Before a crowd of nearly ten thousand, the match, held at the Temple Golf Club, Maidenhead, begins. Donald Peers drives off and his wise-cracking partner Ted Ray seems to approve - but Bing's taking no chances.

Bob says Ted Ray could do with a driving lesson. But here's Bing having a bash. Heaven and the crowd know where it went - can you see it Bob?

Crosby takes cover as the game warms up. The crowd make it look like a game of raggar, not golf.

Caught hard and fast in the middle of the dense crowd of fans are the two crooners who look anything but rivals as they make their way to the next green. Nobody seems to worry much about the game itself. They only want to see the stars.

The crowd stops breathing, and Bob drives off again. Eight of the holes have been abandoned because of the time taken to force a way through the crowd. Despite the fact that it's been more like an assault course than a golf course, the four stars are still in terrific form and really giving the crowd their money's worth. All the proceeds from the match will be given to the Variety Club of Great Britain who, in turn, will hand it into the funds of the National Playing Fields Association. By the way, if you want to know which team won the match, it was Donald Peers - and Ted Ray - so they say.