

***Mrs. Hart wins***

***Met links crown***



Mrs. A. Sherburne Hart of Essex County withstood a rally yesterday and won her first Women's Metropolitan Golf Association match play championship by defeating a former titleholder, Mrs. A. B. Bower of Pelham, N.Y., 2 and 1, at the Essex Fells Country Club.

Mrs. Hart lost a five-hole lead in the 36-hole final to the 67th edition of this championship, then came on to take the 33d and 34th holes and gain revenge over the woman who beat her for the title in 1966.

"I told myself, I need not be afraid anymore," Mrs. Hart said after Mrs. Bower drew even. "I play too conservatively when I'm out in front."

When she went 2 up with a par on the 34th while Mrs. Bower three-putted and then halved the 35th with pars the match was over.

The two women went into the first turn even, but Mrs. Hart finished the first 18 with a 4-up lead. She won three straight, 11, 12 and 13, with pars, lost the par-5 15th when she took a bogey, but came back with birdies at the 16th and 18th to win the holes.



Mrs. Hart shot even-par 37-38—75 while Mrs. Bower was four over at 37-42—79.

Mrs. Hart appeared to have everything sewed up when she increased her lead to 5-up with a birdie on the 19th hole to open the afternoon round.

Then Mrs. Bower began her rally, taking 20, 22 and 23 with pars and trailing only by two after 27 holes.

On the 29th, Mrs. Hart trapped her third shot, then came out over the green. When she also took three putts to get down, Mrs. Bower trailed by only one.

Then, at the 31st, Mrs. Hart, a long hitter, put her drive out of bounds, settled for a bogey and lost the hole to a par — and it was all even.

Mrs. Hart consistently outdrove her opponent.

“She had a definite advantage in strength and length,” Mrs. Bower said. “Her drive explodes like a coiled steel spring being unsprung.”

Mrs. Hart moved in front to stay at the 33d. She put a five-wood on the green for her second shot on the 437-yard, par-5 hole and finally birdied it.

The 34th, a 428-yard, par-5, was the climax of the match. Mrs. Hart played it in par while Mrs. Bower,



after reaching the green in regulation, needed three putts and lost the hole.

Mrs. Hart had to save a par on the 35th hole to end the match. She put her drive into a trap, but came out onto the green and earned her par for the match-ending par.



MRS. A. SHERBURNE HART



## MRS. HART UPSETS MRS. BOWER IN MET AMATEUR

• It was four years coming, but Mrs. A. Sherburne (Hatsy) Hart of Short Hills, N.J., has finally evened the score with Mrs. Albert B. (Bea) Bower of Pelham, N.Y.

In 1966, these two standout golfers met in the final of the Women's Metropolitan (N.Y.) GA championship, and Mrs. Bower emerged the winner. They clashed again in the 1970 tournament, but this time, it was Mrs. Hart walking off with the laurels, 2 and 1, in the 36-hole wind-up at Essex Fells, N.J., CC.

Mrs. Hart, the reigning New Jersey women's champion, shot par 75 in the morning round over the 5,783-yard course to Mrs. Bower's 79 for a 4-up advantage. She lost it all on the first 13 holes of the afternoon segment, then finished birdie, par, par starting at the 32nd hole in a strong comeback that brought revenge—and the crown.

Rain spoiled play over the final 18 but did not appear to visibly hamper either contestant.

Mrs. Hart, mother of four and the lone New Jerseyan to make it past the quarterfinal, exhibited her finest golf in a semifinal duel against Mrs. Thorne Dempsey of Westbury, N.Y., fashion-

ing a brilliant 31-39—70, five under, to win by 6 and 5. After the 13th, where the match ended, Hatsy decided to play the final five holes in a bid to break 70. But a greenside bunker at 18 spoiled her hope as she had to settle for a bogie.

Mrs. Bower, a champion of New York, Kentucky, Massachusetts and Maryland at one time or another, earned her way into the final with a 4 and 2 verdict over Mrs. Gordon McGrath of Piping Rock, N.Y.

