

upon which anyone with enough vision can create a pleasant golf course.

The game of golf, as all know, originated across the sea and it is to England and Scotland that golf will always owe a debt of gratitude. The links of Britain have been the scene of more championship contests than any other area of similar size in the world. Within a district scarcely larger than New England, fine courses are scattered with profusion. Such names as St. Andrews, Muirfield, Prestiwick, Sandwich, Westward Ho, Hoylake and Deal are laden with golfing history. These notable courses are all by the seashore.

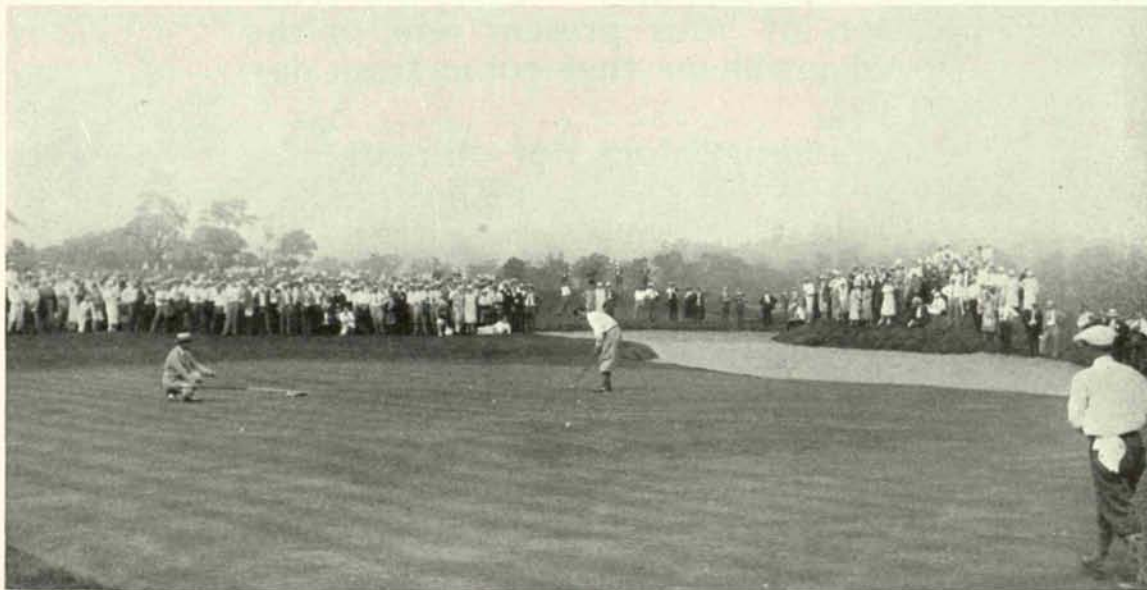
Seaside courses, swept by varying breezes, fascinate the golfer because they test his skill. The shifting winds enlarge the sporting element of chance. Many a championship has been decided by a puff of wind. There is a certain lure about the sea which causes busy men to listen to the waves, forget their troubles and turn to golf.

Naturally, the first fine courses in this country were patterned after those abroad. National Golf Links and Lido Country Club, Long Island, Pebble Beach and Cypress Point, California, and Olympic Golf Club, San Francisco are all seashore courses. These are all close to the beaches and high tide comes within a com-

paratively short distance. The Sea View Country Club has a fine course at Atlantic City and Boca Raton Country Club has another masterpiece at Del Rey, Florida. The bluffs at Palo Verde and Lajolla, California, also contain fine courses.

The real problem in the development of seaside courses has been to properly condition the soil. Sand, which forms the basis for beach property, is generally quite deficient in the necessary humus. Thus, soil bacteria must be supplied before turf can be grown satisfactorily. The land usually is covered with top soil which makes conditioning expensive.

The popularity of golf increased by such prodigious bounds, however, that the possibility of creating satisfactory courses inland was soon considered. Topography selected for the first links away from the shore was of a gentle rolling nature. Fine examples of such types of courses are Olympia Fields Country Club, Matteson, Illinois; Merion Cricket Country Club, Ardmore, Pennsylvania; Braeburn Country Club, Braeburn, Massachusetts; and the Minikahda Club, Minneapolis. Owing to existence of natural contours of the ground, which not only formed perplexing hazards and bunkers but also assisted drainage, the problem of construction was much simplified.



THE 14TH GREEN AT THE OAKMONT COUNTRY CLUB

*This picture was taken during the National Amateur Championship which was played at Pittsburgh in 1925. Roland MacKenzie of Washington is putting*