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Canterbury and the Western Open

By SPENCER M. DUTY

AT FIRST sight the course of the Canterbury Golf Club is somewhat deceptive and is apt to give the impression of being much easier than it really is. Sand traps are not the dominant feature of the landscape. The fairways are broad, the greens of ample size and generally with open, inviting entrances. Nor are the greens in the least bit tricky with the possible exception of No. 2.

However, low scoring does not prove to be quite as simple a matter as was first supposed, often leaving the player a bit bewildered as to the reasons, and with a firm conviction that another trial will bring home the bacon.

The real reasons are not hard to find. The course has not been based to any great extent on artificial hazards but rather on the natural character of the ground. Other than the tees and greens there is hardly a flat place on the course, and while not hilly, still the ground twists and rolls, at times abruptly and then fading out into a deceptive appearance of being level.

While the main part of the greens are as nearly level as well may be, still there is enough grade to provide surface drainage, and this slant is not always towards the middle of the fairway. Thus No. 4 hole bends to the left but the slant of the

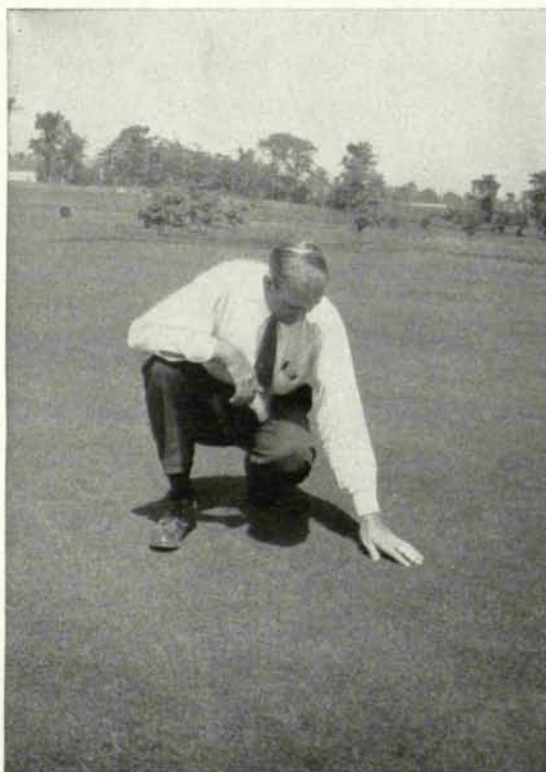
green is toward the right of the fairway. The short way to the hole may prove to be the harder way, especially if a strong breeze is blowing.

The fairways do not go directly over the hills but may follow along the side of a grade, giving a stance where the ball is at a different level from the feet, and one foot is slightly higher than the other, often resulting in the ball flying to an unexpected place. No. 16 is a good example as the ground from tee to green slants in every possible direction.

The approaches to the greens maintain this character and if not carefully played may turn the ball to the side. All are watered so that a uniform growth of grass is maintained during the year.

Par for the course is 72, consisting of 4-3 par, 10-4 par, and 4-5 par holes. Of the 3 par holes, one is long, about 240 yards, and difficult, two of medium length, one of which is without a trap but with sufficient trouble in front and to the left, and one short, of 126 yards.

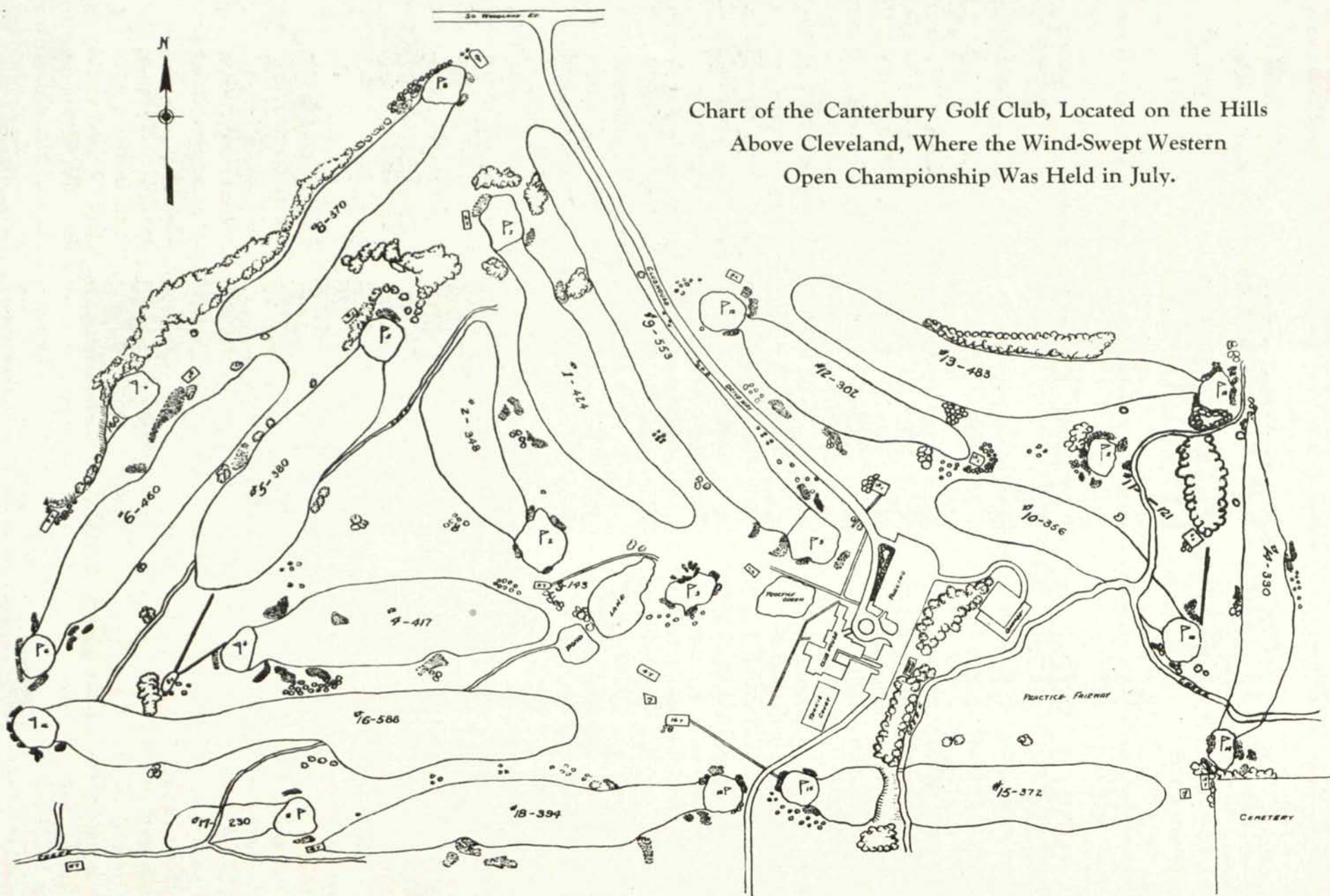
Of the par 5 holes, two are of sufficient length and difficulty to make it nearly impossible to reach the green in two shots. The other two are possible 2-shot holes for the expert. No. 6, which is slightly over 460 yards, lies along a ridge



MALCOLM McLAREN

who assisted Jack Way in conditioning the Canterbury course for the Western Open Championship. He has the title of greenkeeper and is a worthy member of his profession.

Chart of the Canterbury Golf Club, Located on the Hills
Above Cleveland, Where the Wind-Swept Western
Open Championship Was Held in July.





TWO INTERESTING VIEWS OF THE CANTERBURY COURSE WHERE THE WESTERN OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP WAS PLAYED IN JULY



NO. 14 GREEN AT CANTERBURY, A PAR 4 HOLE OF 330 YARDS

The green is tightly bunkered and is bordered by a creek, which makes the pitch shot especially difficult.

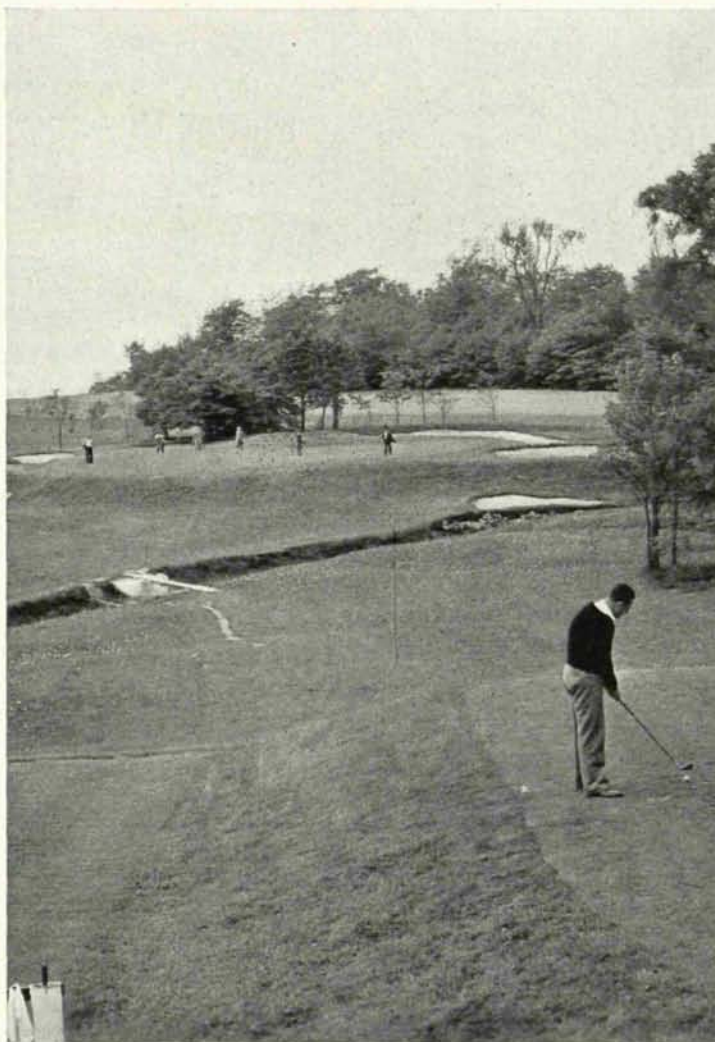
with the lower side on the left, while to the right of the green is out of bounds.

No. 13, when played at about 490 yards, goes over a grade which at the 230-yard point is considerably higher than the tee and green. The best drive will not be much beyond the crest, leaving a long, down-hill shot to a narrow entrance to the green. The right side of the green is wooded, the balance being surrounded by shallow traps, while beyond is a creek.

As a rule the tee shots can be hit hard provided the direction is right, but there are places

where judgment is to be preferred to strength such as No. 10 and 14 where an over-long ball will find trouble. Nor is a long shot justified as the approach is simple if the tee shot is properly placed.

No. 16 will call for a long ball when played from the rear tee at about 620 yards. Not only must the first two shots be long if the green is to be opened up but they must be well placed.



NO. 11, ONE OF CANTERBURY'S SHORT HOLES
This hole is 121 yards long and the view is taken from the tee.

Without doubt the stiffest consecutive holes are the last four, not only from the character of the ground but also because of their total distance. If the same rate was maintained throughout 18 holes the resulting length would be nearly 7400 yards.

Play during the tournament was from nearly the rear of the tees which gave a length of about 6600 yards. With a typical Canterbury breeze, this distance was ample for the most exacting golfers.

It is not generally realized that the Canterbury course is over 1100 feet

nearly 600 feet above Lake Erie, both the lake and the city being visible ten miles to the west. To the south, the hills on the far side of Cuyahoga Valley, fifteen miles away, loom up. As a result, if there is a breeze anywhere in the vicinity Canterbury gets a strong wind.

We are indebted to Mr. W. J. Daily, chairman Press and Publicity committee, for the illustrations used in this article.



CANTERBURY OFFICIALS WHO MADE THE WESTERN OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP A SUCCESS
On the left is Russell S. Begg, Green committee chairman; in the center is E. B. Roberts, president; and on the right is H. B. Burrows, vice-president.



The 9th green at Fresh Meadow Country Club, Flushing, L. I., where the U. S. G. A. Open Golf Championship was held this year. Grass Seed for this course supplied by Stumpp & Walter Co.

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