

More Two-Shot Holes

By THE OBSERVER

IT may seem that I have been devoting a great deal of thought and comment to the two-shot holes, but when we consider that most of them are of this type, it will be appreciated that the topic may not be passed over lightly. In modern golf courses we are likely to find four one-shot holes, two or three of the three-shot type, and the remainder two-shotters. Let us for a moment make some distribution which will lend great variety to the play.

Two-shot holes are divided into the following classes:

Long ones, providing for a drive and brasseys or a drive and cleek.

Medium holes, of the drive and long iron type.

Short holes, of two distinct types, a drive followed by a lofted approach or a drive followed by a run to the greens.

Assuming that we have a dozen two-shot holes for the modern course, a good arrangement provides four long ones, calling for two of the best shots which the hard hitter possesses. Such holes would average between 430 and 460 yards, according to conditions. Inasmuch as the second shots to these are long, the greens should not be too closely trapped, although the bunkering must place a premium upon placement.

Then four more two-shot holes of medium length more closely trapped, particularly in the vicinity of the greens, for the mid-iron should be played more accurately than brasseys or cleek.

This leaves four more two-shot holes and they may be divided equally, two

requiring a close mashie pitch with the greens closely and heavily bunkered, and the remaining two permitting a running approach to the hole with no obstructions, provided the drive has been accurately placed over an area which is well trapped.

It may be worth while to cast about for illustrations of the types which I have mentioned. A very fine example of the long two-shotter is to be found at Pine Valley. When I played there last I observed particularly the fourth hole. It is of the dog-leg variety and although there are traps to catch wayward shots, the way to the hole is not sprinkled with disaster provided one keeps long and straight. It is a hole where length counts, but not alone, for the two-shots fit together beautifully, and if the drive is not well hit and well placed the green is entirely beyond range.

A very fine example of the medium two-shotter is furnished by the 16th hole at Merion where the last national championship was played, and although the country boasts of many equally good, I use it as an illustration, because so many are familiar with it. The green lies just beyond the brink of a large quarry hole and after a good drive the scratch players have no difficulty in getting home with the long iron. The nature of the great hazard makes it almost impossible for one to get the green with his second if his drive has been anything but good, and it places the short player in a very awkward position; indeed it is a per-

plexing shot for a brassey if the drive is only two hundred yards.

The ninth hole at Garden City is a good example of the drive and mashie pitch. The green is not large and an immense sand pit in front makes it necessary to loft, and nothing but a ball with considerable under-cut will be satisfying. The character of the fairway makes it necessary to place the drive accurately on the left, otherwise the pronounced slope throws the ball

takes in the construction of greens for two-shot holes. It seems reasonable that any hole should always possess the value of its conception. The architect, in conceiving any hole, traps it with exact shots in mind. Under all conditions holes should demand exactly the same types of strokes, and consequently additional teeing grounds must be built in order to provide against abnormal conditions, such as head winds, or soggy ground, but the mistakes that I re-



WHEN THE GARDENER BUILT THE BUNKERS

far to the right, from which point the green is quite blind.

One of the best holes to illustrate a well placed drive and an open running approach to the green is the fifth at Shawnee. The green was built to show a rather pronounced slope from right to left, and if the drive is at the right of the fairway it is almost impossible to gain the green and hold it. But if the player has courage and hugs the boundary close on the left the green opens beautifully to a pitch and run.

I may say that I observe many mis-

ferred to are not infrequently encountered. I refer to the copying of putting greens and their surroundings and I think that a word will be sufficient. Although you may have observed an attractive green on another course it by no means follows that this same green would be satisfactory on a hole of a different type. How foolish it would be to copy a green which was designed to receive a second shot played with a brassey and introduce it on a hole which should be gained by a second shot played with jigger or mashie.