

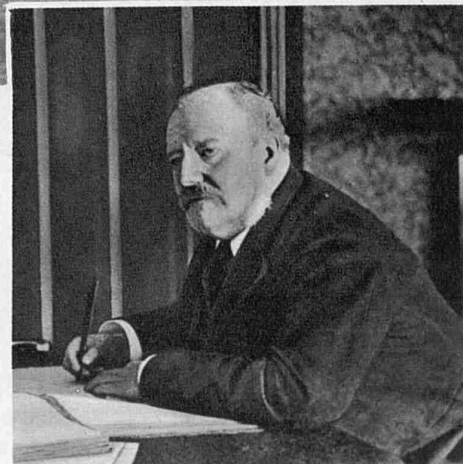
Hoylake—continued



THE ROYAL: The approach to the Royal (seventeenth) green guarded by a road on the right and pot-bunkers on the left—a truly frightening shot. From the new championship tee, this hole now measures 419 yards. It is an outstanding two-shot hole.



THIS PLAN of the Royal Liverpool Golf Course, Hoylake, gives a rough impression of how the course is laid out. The course takes the shape of a triangle, bounded by Stanley Road, Meols Drive, and the shore. The length of the course will be 7078 yards for the Championship



A FORMER HON. SECRETARY: The picture shows the late Thomas Owen Polter, a former Hon. Secretary of the Royal Liverpool Golf Club, who in 1885, first conceived the idea of organising a match-play tournament solely confined to amateur golfers.

The Importance of Power

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fast-running fairways it is a source of worry and anxiety—as most players know. A long player off his game on a really difficult course cuts quite a sorry figure. I know you will say a short player off his game often cuts a worse figure, but the error can be *pro rata*.

In women's golf this question of power is shown very clearly—the strong players get through all the time. Until courses are made really tight and the placing of shots becomes more important than the length, power will continue to keep the big advantage it holds at present.

A long player, not striking the ball well but keeping in play, can still finish the course well—the short player also mis-hitting his shots cannot score as low. This, I feel, everybody knows, but it does no harm to bring up this point from time to time. I have never played seriously with the gutty ball, but I can imagine that in the old days golf was more of a game of chess, working several moves ahead all the time, than it is to-day, when it seems possible to get out with a par result from almost any shot if you are long enough.

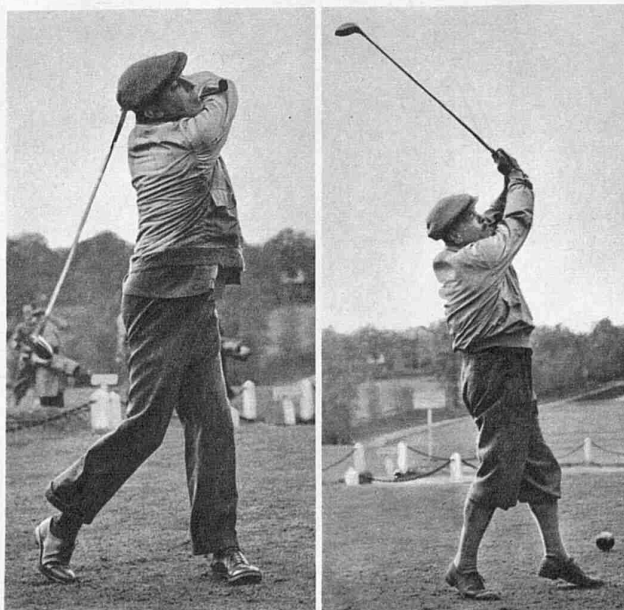
I came across a short hole this past week, where the green sloped slightly away from the player; it was about 120 yards—a No. 7 for most players as the green was situated below the tee. The usual controversy was raging—between the No. 7 players and the No. 3 iron brigade. The latter contending it was an impossible hole, for in the summer they could not stop on the green; behind the pin, I must add, was a slight step down and a number of yards of semi-rough. Here was the power question

again. I said the hole was a good one because it required a good No. 7 to stop on anyway, and if a player was so weak as to need a No. 3 iron he would have a worthy handicap to balance things up: if he had no worthy handicap then he was kidding himself.

Too Weak to Play

I feel that if golfers had handicaps they could play to when the money's down, most of these points about what is on and what is not on would rarely arise. The only solution is for the short players to become longer. If it is any consolation, I know many people who are really too weak to play golf, but as it is a walking game they often think it is not their fault that they are so bad, because, after all, they say they can play other games which do not require running.

Have you ever thought that if the ball was placed on a seaside fairway in the most difficult stance or lie, not on the edges, either, at every hole a low score even to a powerful player would become a gamble. On certain very undulating fairways the ball could be placed so as to make getting on in two almost impossible. So when you watch golf and the player does not do the shot you expect, do not always say "He had only the simplest of shots to play with a No. So-and-So" unless you know how he was lying, as even with the crack players the lie is all important.



"MISSING THE PIPE": Do you think the pipes in question play any part in moulding these golfers' swings?

Henry Cotton
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