PAGE

THE PINEHURST OUTLOOK

The wealth of whins, the boldness of | possible deal, certain happenings at St. some of the carries, the knolls and hillocks of Prestwick, the diversity in shape, size and undulations of the putting greens, all have been noted by golfers in their stories of Prestwick. The cardinal bunker at the third hole, the seventeenth with its unique second shot, after a drive which must be far and to one spot on the fair green, all these have been spoken of in books and articles. At some of the longest holes the fair way is little more than thirty yards wide, so that with this classical instance before us, who can complain of the narrowness of the fairway of any American course.

Then to Prestwick St. Nicholas, a very easy short course. Then to Turnberry, a very excellent public course, owned by the Railway Hotel Company. one of the few courses in Scotland where Sunday golf is permitted. It is a short journey south of Ayr. After that to Edinburgh and some golfing at Gullane, where there are two very fine eighteen-hole courses which have lately been remodeled. The putting greens at Gullane were the best we had played on so far. Then to North Berwick, where I enjoyed some of the best golf of the tour. To mark the holes of North Berwick is to give them the title "very good," others "good", and only a few the judgment of "fair." It may be of interest to American golfers to know that at North Berwick, the first and eighteenth holes cross and yet no fault is found. If a golfer here found one hole crossing another, he would refuse to play without taking out extra insurance, but there are very few accidents.

Passing to St. Andrews, where the open championship was played June 22nd to 24th, I had another nine days of golf. Of all the courses I visited, St. Andrews was the most worthy of study to those who wished to make a fine score and as I had entered for the championship and was desirous of making a good showing in the tournament, I made a particularly close study of holes. St. Andrews goes out and comes back, everybody at least knows that. Now the bunkering of the course led the professionals, at many of the holes, to defeat the object of the committee, for coming home they would play the fairway of the holes going out, thus avoiding the bunker problems and opening up an easy way to the green. But that's another story.

I found at St. Andrews a great deal of hero worship. The crowds were all Braid, Taylor, Vardon and a few others, and seemed to think it preposterous that any of the young and rising golfers of Great Britain should accomplish anything against those giants of golf. Smith's record round of seventy-one was forgotten when Duncan equalled it and Duncan was left to himself as Smith had been, after he had failed in his next round. Newspapers gave more space in their reports of the tournament to make excuses for the indifferent play of the heroes than they did in giving credit or praise to the outsiders who played well.

Being accustomed to the admirable arrangements that the United States Golf Association makes for its open championship in relation to the posting of scores and giving everybody the squarest

Andrews deserve mention. For instance, the scores were printed after the day's play and during the progress of the lay, it was next to impossible to find out how the golfers were going; all information, except the posting on a small blackboard of the lowest scores, being kept religiously within the tent of the Committee. Everybudy seemed to be asking everybody else how so-and-so had finished with little hope of enlightenment. Again, the great players and the great names in the competition, were followed by large crowds and they were taken care of by flagmen and others, but the poor struggling player was left to himself, and however well he might be going, would at any moment be held up by crowds which had just left a favorite pair or which were racing to follow another favorite player. Such discrimination in favor of certain players struck me as being unfair, to say the least. At the presentation of prizes, I made every effort to be on hand to receive mine, but the arrangements were so poor and the crowd handled so badly, that it was impossible for me to reach Lord Kinross who distributed the prizes when the names were called. Lord Kinross said something about the shyness of the golfers from across the water in not coming forward and later when he was told the facts he expressed regret. One can imagine the difference if a British professional came here and won a prize in the open championship under the auspices the United States Golf Association. During my stay at St. Andrews, I was treated with great courtesy

and kindness. After having had a favorable opportunity of making a study of the famous British players, there is not the slightest doubt in my mind that if the professional golfers of the United States had the chance to play over such courses frequently as those on the other side,

(Concluded on page eleven)



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