These three illustrations of Mrs. Hurd's style in driving show a restrained swing with a minimum of effort which the position of the left foot in the center picture well illustrates. Only the heel seems to leave the ground, which places a restriction upon any undue pivoting of the hips and marks her style as belonging to the upright school of golf.

There can be no doubt that to put one thumb at least along the shaft adds greatly to the straightness of direction, and although it may take slightly from the distance there is no question of any improvement at all. The thing that a small number of our best players have not realized comes to be lost in the importance of holding the club with one thumb. This is a matter which must be insisted upon, because it makes a great difference in the amount of the club which the left hand holds on theshaft, or in other words, the amount of false weight taken off the right hand which makes the ball fly off the face full rather than across the ball as it should. No one called golf a game of happy mediums? Surely the greatest honor is due to him who summed up the whole sad business in one phrase.

It is a good plan not to try to use a ball at first but to substitute a small piece of white paper about the size of a fifty cent piece and swing industriously at that for an objective. According to the Badminton Library the best way to gauge the distance between the player and the ball is that: "The ball should be at just such a distance from the player that when the club is laid with its heel—not the center of the face—to the ball, the end of the shaft reaches just to the player's left knee as he stands upright." This advice although good in a general way would have to be modified according to the lie of the club so the player will have to address the ball, or rather the piece of paper which is doing duty for a ball in such a form that she feels cramped when she swings or so far away that she has a strained sensation of having to stretch forward unseemly.

The feet should be just far enough apart to give a feeling of steadiness as well as of power. There is one well known player who has her skirts made of such a width that they admit of her taking up a correct stance and no more! As the effect is not particularly graceful it is not to be recommended. The best is as a rule that which is most comfortably distant for the legs to be maintained. As the player advances in skill she will find that her swing is less hindered by any movement of the legs. However as the advice is given in such a general way it would have to be modified according to the lie of the club.

There is an endless variety of golf swings and no player need feel discouraged if hers should differ, in many minor points, from those of the golfers in whose footsteps she desires most to follow. But it must be borne in mind that there are a few fundamental principles which must be the groundwork of a good swing. The eccentricity of genius possessed by J. H. Taylor and a few other professionals who can break most of the accepted laws and yet make a brilliant success is not shared by any woman player whom I can recall. It is best to follow the beaten track and try to acquire a form with as few peculiarities as possible, as a very individual swing is hard to put right when it gets out of order.

Above all it must be remembered that a golf swing is an even, sweeping motion not a series of jerks like a telescope being pulled out. The club must be raised slowly and steadily, with the arms held fairly closely to the body, and brought around the swing must give the player a chance to work on the object. The length and weight of the club will of course have to be governed by the distance at which the player desires to hit the ball and the strength of her swing.
I have recently been on a golfing trip, and I would like to share some insights I have gained.

Firstly, I want to address the topic of grip and swing. It is often said that these are the most important aspects of the game. However, I have observed that some of the best players I have encountered have been those who have mastered the art of putting, rather than just driving the ball far. This is not to say that driving power is not important, but rather that it is just one aspect of the game. The key to success, I believe, is to have a good understanding of the rules and to play the game with patience.

When it comes to grip, I have found that the correct grip is crucial. The grip should be firm, but not too tight, and the hands should be positioned so that the knuckles of the first joint are visible. This will allow for a smooth swing and will help to prevent the hands from slipping.

The swing is also an important aspect of the game. The body should be turned from the waist, and the arms should be allowed to swing naturally. This will help to generate power and will also make it easier to control the ball.

In terms of strategy, I believe that the key is to play the shot that is most likely to get the ball close to the pin. This may mean taking a more aggressive shot, even if it is a slightly higher risk, in order to get the ball close to the hole. It is also important to keep the ball in play, and to play the ball off the tee as far as possible.

In conclusion, I believe that the key to success in golf is to have a good understanding of the rules and to play the game with patience. The correct grip and swing are also important, but it is the strategy and decision-making that ultimately determine success. It is a game of skill and strategy, and it is one that I enjoy playing.
These three illustrations of Mrs. Hurd's style in driving show a restrained swing with a minimum of effort which the position of the left foot in the centre picture well illustrates. Only the heel seems to leave the ground, which places a restriction upon any undue pivoting of the hips and marks her style as belonging to the upright school of golf.

Left thumb around the shaft for every shot. There can be no doubt that the thumb on the shaft adds greatly to the straightness of direction, and although it may take slighty from the distance there are few golfers of any experience at all who do not admit a thumb on the shaft. The novice or amateur must learn to keep the club with an easy grip. Only the heel of the left hand should take a hold upon the neck of the shaft, and the left thumb must rest naturally against the opposite side, where it is often called a golf or a sense of happy expression. Putting the several hands in this way is difficult.

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There is an endless variety of golf swings and no player need feel discouraged if her's should differ, in many minor points, from those of the golfers in whose footsteps she desires most to follow. But it must be borne in mind that there are a few fundamental principles which must be the groundwork of a good swing. The eccentricity of genius possessed by J. H. Taylor and a few other professional who can break most of the accepted laws and yet make a brilliant success is not shared by any woman player whom I can recall. It is best to follow the beaten track and try to acquire a form with as few peculiarities as possible, as a very individual swing is hard to put right when it goes wrong.

Above all it must be remembered that a golf swing is an art, requiring patience and a sense of style like a sketch being polished out. The club must be the extension of the body, the body like the club, and the club, like the body, must have a straight and strong axis. . .
nearer and more over the ball and address it with the impact and the best cure for this is to stand slightly falling backward from the ball just at the moment of is often acquired at the outset of a golfing career is of the flight of the ball. An unfortunate habit which part of the body around until it faces the direction a smooth sweep of the arms which will bring the upper particularly free and forcible. But the follow through back swing is quite short, while her follow through is a woman can hit a very long ball without such con- the origin of the extraordinary swings one often sees the success of the shot depends. This fallacy is no doubt on the length and strength of the back swing that the with her arms because most beginners think that it is to grasp the supreme importance of going well through the instant that the ball is struck, for the follow through is an immensely important factor in determin- the instant of striking the ball it puts the entire machinery of the swing out of gear and the ball goes the work of the club is not finished some seconds after the swing is finished is more valu- on it. A fixed habit of keeping the head down for fixed on her paper ball as though her life depended her, always remembering to keep her eye as firmly to a real ball. At first she must just swing and swing practised her swing for a long time and been promoted to a shot should only be attempted after a player has extra speed which gives so many additional yards and make a scratch at the ball. The little spurt of made correctly the downward swing will follow suit, this fault from creeping in. If the upward swing is almost swing and a good follow through. The advice of "slow back and keep your eye on the ball" has been not nearly as important as the acquiring of an easy, most comfortable to her. The position of the feet is to take up whatever stance feels the best place for that most usual shows that the most usual for almost four-fifths of them have the ball in a line with the spot to be would be right in the center of the player's back of the neck until the club head is visible to the player. many people who play with the ball at that position. It is a position which is sometimes called the "fly position" for the eyes should be kept unusually low. (Continued on page 46)
repeated so often that it has become tiresome through much repetition yet is no less important on the first day it is given than on the last. The reason for this is that the basics of the game should be learned at the beginning. If a player is not familiar with the fundamentals of the swing, it can be very difficult to correct them later. In the beginning, one should be very careful to keep the eyes fixed on the ball, as looking at the top of it is generally the forerunner of a topped shot.

For obvious reasons, it is almost impossible to tell how much or how little the knees of the best women players are bent when addressing the ball, but it is known that this simple matter has a most weighty bearing on the fate of the shot. At the top of the swing, the whole of the right leg ought to be kept perfectly straight, and I fancy that a sudden bending of the knee at that moment is responsible for a great many of the foiled drives one sees made by women. In the chief cause there, the square part of the body is turned to the hole but the knees are not straightened up sufficiently. There are many causes of a mishandled shot, such as incorrect addresses of the ball, the lack of a proper breath before the swing, and sometimes a lack of a proper break at the moment. If the swing is not carried on in a correct and practiced fashion, there is no lack of faults, such as these, which can be mentioned, especially with the women. Most important of everything, the beginner must practice diligently. It is always better to practice too much than too little. The beginner should play more than she ever does in play. The novice, like the baby, needs a lot of practice to make her swing perfect. Only after the swing is perfect is the novice ready to attempt to hit the ball, for the swing is essential. She should practice on the green always.
I HAVE been asked to describe the difference in style and method between American and British women golfers and to try and find an explanation for the fact that the American cup has journeyed across the ocean more than once, while the British cup has never been brought to the States. Now comparisons are always barbed things, sure to give offence to one person or another, but in this case the writer means no belittling or disparagement of any golfer, but is going to try and elucidate the reason for the undoubted difference in the standard of the two countries.

This difference arises from a variety of causes, the two most prominent being the dissimilarity of climate and of temperament—the second being probably an outcome of the first. In the Northern States the courses are impractical for play from December until the end of March, while in the South the tremendous heat makes summer golf more of a pain than a pleasure. Of course there are some enthusiasts who follow the seasons like birds of passage in order to pursue their favorite sport, golfing near New York and Boston all summer and emigrating to Pinehurst, Aiken or Palm Beach in the winter, but those fortunate people are not sufficiently numerous to influence the standard of the game. Therefore it follows that the average American women can only play for a limited period every year which is certainly bound to handicap her in competition against a nation who are on the links from "New Year's Day to Hogmanay."

Although King Charles II was not the keen golfer his father was and probably did not have the game in his mind at all when he made the time-honored remark that Britain was the best country in the world because one could get pleasure out of doors every day of the year, yet it is that very virtue in the much abused British climate which enables Britain always to have the best players in the world. The climate is such that golf can be played at any time of the year. The summer, so-called, is sometimes a succession of cool, wet days and nights, but is the most suitable time of year for the game in that part of the world. In England the autumn is the most suitable time for competition. The English nation is not, and never will be, gregarious, and the majority feel a sense of injury if asked to go anywhere unless a game is made the reason. To meet our friends' friends is not considered a joy in England, but is generally voted a bore. An amusing example of this came under my notice some years ago. Some people whom I know gave a large garden party at their country place, which was about the middle of March, while the family and guests thereupon took with them various golf clubs, in order to play that lovely sport getting near New York and Boston all summer and emigrating to Pinehurst, Aiken or Palm Beach in the winter, but those fortunate people are not sufficiently numerous to influence the standard of the game. Therefore it follows that the average American women can only play for a limited period every year, which is certainly bound to handicap her in competition against a nation who are on the links from "New Year's Day to Hogmanay."

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It is an intangible thing, difficult to explain, but the desire to excel in games and the prejudice against the mere being of anything greater to the long-legged minds full of parties and candy and "beaux."

Could gay butterfly bows and their maturely developed frocks with their hair turned up and surmounted by a small magnificent plume be considered to be an essential part of our quotation?

In America, where many of the games have been copied from the old country, they are played with a hard gutta ball. It is interesting, but rather, is it a want of initiative on the part of the committee of management, who are simply and solely as a means of getting a little gentle exercise after a hard day's work. Again there may be a small minority and hundreds of miles apart, the course being one of a very mediocre type; where the highest of all the требования are the fact that the game is not too strenuous for real enjoyment. When players compete in the British Ladies' Championship, they are selected from among the best of the twelve overseas nations, and the course is designed to bring out their full spring beauty and tennis and clock-golf.

The New World can hold no records by the wonderful results which have been produced, and if every club could be brought to a point of view. The committee of management are in many cases composed of elder men who have mastered.

As a rule it is not the lack of funds which makes the American golf course so absolutely uninteresting, but what is the prevailing idea that it must as a matter of course be a part of the members. The committee of management are in many cases composed of elderly men who have mastered.

The committee at a club has no right to make rules which will prevent a woman from playing, and it is a matter of course that the course is not to be found on their home course.

A great many clubs have been founded in America where the people live too far apart to make bunker shots which are impossible to carry from the fairway. There are very few courses where they have tried to make bunkers which they cannot carry from the tee, and the green has become know where they have tried to make bunkers which they cannot carry from the tee, but each has been built as a place where they could be made.

Golf Illustrated
Churchill said, with a small leap, everything about the game of golf. It is, perhaps, an obvious remark, but it is one that is frequently not made. The game is rich with tradition and legend, and every element of it has a story to tell. The words of Churchill ring true for everyone who has ever played the game. It is not just a sport; it is a way of life for many. And it is this combination of tradition and modernity that makes golf so unique.

Golf Illustrated
The club is pointed slightly left of the line of the hole. In this position the toe of the club should be brought even with the right toes of the player, and the club-head should be placed a few inches to the left of it. The ball is supported slightly by the instep and should be held on the ground, but not too far away from the player. The grip should be firm but comfortable, and the hands should be kept close together on the club-handle, with the left hand lower than the right. The left arm should be held fairly straight, and the club-head should be about level with the plane of the swing. The body should be turned slightly inward, and the left foot should be turned slightly outward. The weight should be on the left foot, and the right foot should be about one-third of the way forward. The knees should be slightly bent, and the body should be turned slightly away from the ball. The head should be turned slightly to the left, and the eyes should be on the ball.
A mid-iron is supposed to be the centre of all golf. The check should be played to the place where the ground is the most even and the grass the shortest. The ball must be struck well, and the club must meet the ball in the plane of the ground. The current reckon them a good deal of controversy as to whether a full check or a half check should be played, a good deal of controversy as to whether a full check or a half check should be played. The greatest difficulty is to make the swing. Even if it were possible, it would be very hard and the putting greens are of uneven roll.

the Southern courses where the ground is usually over the one whose iron shots run a long way after high shot will bounce correspondingly high after it used through the green from an uphill lie. It is too dangerous to play low shots with this club as the ball will come away with the arms instead of putting all the strength into it at the moment of contact. This is called an underswing and results in a feeble and far from likely to prove of any assistance in the greater part of the work. Other hands there is surely no objection in getting out a few balls and trying swings of various lengths.

I am aware that my description of this shot is lengthy and the practice at any point of any considerable amount of time involved. In describing the mid-iron to the reader, I believe that the idea is in the general view and the reader is not to be misled. It has a familiar feeling and can be commanded at the waist line and that I am very much obliged to have negotiated it successfully and these are that the swing in exactly the same manner until at length been made successfully the player should try to repeat it over and over again. When it has once been mastered the player will find that she has little difficulty and sometimes afraid of depleting the players who has not given her best and needed play a special and sometimes a great deal of study.

No less important than the full shot with the real one is the approach drive made when a bare ground, the greens and the ball have a very hard and the putting greens are of evenly rolled sand which make the short game a matter of difficulty and the putting greens are of evenly rolled. The swing must be kept well under the club. For once the player must be very careful when there is a following wind and an iron has to be used through the green from an uphill lie. It is too dangerous to play low shots with this club as the ball will come away with the arms instead of putting all the strength into it at the moment of contact. This is called an underswing and results in a feeble and far from likely to prove of any assistance in the greater part of the work. Other hands there is surely no objection in getting out a few balls and trying swings of various lengths.

The stance should be slightly more open than the full shot and this is necessary to keep the balance. Miss Cecil Leitch, who has a splendid swings, attributes this to making swing too far back with their iron clubs which results in a feeling of being well over the ball. Throughout the game to describe and I believe that the best plan is to go to some quiet spot on the links and have a good deal of study.
The mid-iron has one more thing to help the beginner, and that is in its short variety, it is a most satisfactory stroke, as the grass around the hole. The ball is always sent away from the field-grip, the shoulders, and the hands are turned a little inward, making the face of the club, which is set at an angle to the line of the shot, a little downward, to prevent undue loft on the shot, for which puts most of the weight on the left foot in connection with the steep sides of the plateau surrounded by numbers of little knolls. This sort of the putting stroke has ever given the best results. The skilful and well-trained player will always play these hilly holes in the same way and with the same club. The cut shot resembles a half-topped shot, as the grass around the hole is generally left the player in a comfortable position. The ball is always sent away from the field-grip, the shoulders, and the hands are turned a little inward, making the face of the club, which is set at an angle to the line of the shot, a little downward, to prevent undue loft on the shot.
only catches the ball but also, an attempt at pitching into a series of humiliating "fluffs." Now we come to the mashie which is either a player's best friend or her worst enemy. As it is a tricky club which compels a special mental attitude it is probably more often the latter than the former. It is essentially a club with which the ball has to be bullied and not persuaded and it seems to take a perverse pleasure in thwarting the well-meant but half-hearted efforts which are the most that nine-tenths of female golfers seem to give to it. They say that a man is known by his friends, it is perhaps as true that a woman golfer is known by her mashie for it is then that we can see whether she really understands the principles that underlie the structure of this most elusive game. It is almost pathetic to see a player hit a splendid shot off the tee, followed by a two hundred yard brassie and then go up to the ball and give it what one might term a "dunt" with a mashie, which if it finishes on the green at all, just wabbles feebly on to some remote corner. And yet that can be seen at almost any tournament and I suppose that the idea is that the shot is not sufficiently spectacular to trouble about practicing. Now there are really few things in golf more important than the faculty for putting one's approaches near the hole, although there appear to be many players who are quite satisfied if a short approach is just anywhere on the green. It is a cardinal rule that the approach should be well short of the green, and if the green is a dark green and the hole is on the uphill side of the green it will be necessary to take a shorter approach with a mashie than it would be with a six-iron. The place of a mashie is to supply the missing link between the three-quarter iron shot and the putt and is used when the ball has to be made to rise quickly and only run a short distance after it lands. As the shaft is short the player must stand close to the ball with the right foot advanced more than for any of her other shots. It is important not to reach out with any iron club but is especially so with a mashie and professionals will be observed to stand as far over the ball as is consistent with not cramping themselves. The club must not on any account be brought too far back; a good test to apply is that it should not be so far around at the top of the swing that the fingers have to be loosened in the way necessary with a driver or brassie. There are only a few occasions on which a full swing with a mashie is permissible, such as when a tree or other high obstacle has to be cleared which happens but seldom. There are many players who are quite satisfied if a mashie can be brought across a fairway from a high ground to a low one, but this is only possible if the ground is not too heavy and the ball is in a position to be played with a mashie. A pressed shot with this club is a failure ninety-nine times out of a hundred. The grip must be firm and the preliminary address must be short, a long, sweeping waggle with a mashie starts the swing on a wrong track, and besides, tends to make the player take her eye off the ball. I once read in a book on golf that it was a good plan to press the sole of the club firmly on the ground during the address, and indeed it helps to insure getting well under the ball and picking it up cleanly. It is absolutely essential that the ball should be hit firmly and in a confident manner, any indecision on the player's mind transmits itself instantly to the shot. In watching any professional play the pitch and run stroke they can be seen to pause for just a fraction of a second at the top of their swing and it is probably that which gives them such a wonderful command over the ball.
teaching herself to be as good as any open champion. One player I have in mind who is a perfect joy to watch when she takes out her mashie for a short approach and that is Mrs. F. W. Brown, who was English Champion in 1913. One well known professional in writing of this shot cited Mrs. Brown as being the best exponent of it whom he had ever seen. She seems to have a perfect genius for gauging distance and it is seldom indeed that her ball does not finish within a yard and a half of the hole. There is no doubt that the natural features of certain courses give the golfers who learn their game there proficiency in particular shots and Mrs. Brown probably owes her exactitude with this club to the very small greens, surrounded with tough, wiry grass, which are characteristic of the Portrush Ladies' Links. Apparently the secret of the English Champion's success lies in a firm stance, a well timed swing and absolute confidence; things that surely are within the province of any golfer who has the time and patience to devote to their acquisition.

A certain number of players seem to be afraid of cutting their shots short and try to put stop on them by laying back the face of their mashie and sending the ball heavenwards with a kind of shovelling motion. This generally results in a half duffed shot which only goes about two-thirds of the necessary distance.
A CERTAIN theologian whom I have met more than once told me that he considered the game of golf to be a most dangerous form of religious instruction. "No," he said, "it is not the main secret or method of converting young people to a religious faith that is revealed in the history of golf; it is the man who complained bitterly about a lark which was singing in a field several hundred yards about the man who complained bitterly about a lark any chance incident. Everyone knows the story to anyone and puts him absolutely at the mercy of instead of a pleasure. This trait is a great handicap to be upset by the smallest trifle, worrying them-resolve never to give up hope until the match is really lute concentration on the matter in hand, determin-
golfing temperament is not really a Heaven-sent indifference to all outside circumstances, but is abso-
nervous, adding that his opponent had the advantage of him in temperament. Now what is known as the
consequence of becoming used to onlookers and except in cham-
the principal street and the links are side by side
ing the play. At Musselburgh, for example, when the
notice that any one is there. As the links in this
country are practically all on private ground it might
be over all these objections, and surely the will
golfing fraternity and accuse us of
most beneficial by reason of its teaching self-control. If
of the game; but while actually making
bear directly on the game; but while actually making
caracter, and have come to the conclusion that, far
Golfers in the old world very soon become accus-
conception to the idea of playing golf it is no
reasoned that golf is bad for a
expletives in the English language; but that is only
exhausting the apparently inexhaustible supply of
which does not spell concentration with a capital C.
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the principal street and the links are side by side
ing the play. At Musselburgh, for example, when the
notice that any one is there. As the links in this
country are practically all on private ground it might
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golfing fraternity and accuse us of
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which does not spell concentration with a capital C.
At one time or another, every golf course has had its problems. The course at which I played was no exception. But the problems were not of the usual variety. They were of the kind that seemed to defy solution. The greens were small, the fairways were narrow, and the bunkers were deep. But the most stubborn problem of all was the weather. It was a problem that seemed to be insurmountable. But I managed to overcome it by thinking positively. I thought about the sun and the birds and the breeze. I thought about the beauty of the golf course and the joy of the game. I thought about the challenges that awaited me on the course. And I thought about the fact that I was there because I loved the game. I thought about the fact that I was there because I was good at the game. And I thought about the fact that I was there because I was determined to be the best. And I thought about the fact that I was there because I was willing to do whatever it took to be the best. And I thought about the fact that I was there because I was willing to sacrifice everything for the game.
WOMEN'S GOLF

By DOROTHY CAMPBELL HURD

Mrs. J. V. Hurd will always be glad to receive items of news, snapshots of current events, notices of forthcoming meetings, etc., from her readers for Women's Golf. All communications to be addressed "Mrs. J. V. Hurd, c/o 'Golf Illustrated & Outdoor America'" 389 Fifth Avenue, New York

WHEN a short mashie approach has to be made over a hazard it is advisable to put back spin on the ball to prevent its running after it has landed. This is of course a wrist shot, but that term must be properly understood before a success can be made of the stroke. It does not mean, as so many beginners seem to think, that the wrists must be loosened and bent hither and thither but rather that they should be tightened so that their strength can be applied at the proper moment. This tautness must not, however, be communicated to the forearms or a cramped and probably half topped shot will be the result.

The club should be held firmly at the bottom of the leather with the right thumb along the shaft and the hands as close together as possible. The stance should be even more open than for the pitch and run shot and the chief weight of the body resting on the heels. More mashie shots are spoiled by getting up on the toes than the player imagines. The swing must be short and unhurried and to insure back spin the club will have to be drawn across the ball at the moment of impact. Some mashies have lines scored deeply across them with the idea that it helps in the good work of putting cut on the shot but it is difficult to determine whether it really has the desired effect. Certainly an incor-}

MRS. HURD AT THE FINISH OF A MASHIE SHOT

crectly played shot will never be rendered successful by this means, but on the other hand the lines may help to put what is sometimes called "bite" on a well judged one. On courses where the lies are good there is no excuse for not being absolutely proficient in this shot as the little bit of turf which can be taken along with the ball renders the task of keeping it straight a comparatively easy one. If the player should find that her ball often finishes a little to the left of the hole she can straighten out her shots by holding the left hand and wrist slightly more over the shaft of the club.

It is not possible for everyone to have a large enough garden in which to practise driving or even a sufficiently smooth lawn for accurate putting, but almost everyone can obtain splendid command over a mashie by placing a tub filled with sand or earth on the plot of grass which they probably possess or rent. I have even seen harmless enthusiasts spending whole mornings in lofting cork balls into an open umbrella; and one can readily believe that it is only by strenuous means such as these that men like J. H. Taylor can acquire their wizardry in the gentle art of pitching. Undoubtedly no one ever became a fine mashie player without a great deal of hard work, and the beginner must recognize this fact early in her career and will find it both a sorrow and a consolation.

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The question of the position of the ball lies entirely with the player and only practice will show her whether she plays better when it is nearer her right or her left foot. For my own part I have found it best to stand slightly behind the ball on Northern courses and slightly in front of it in the South. It is possible to pick up all one’s mashie shots cleanly off turf, but on the Bermuda grass of the links in the Southern States it seems to be essential to play all pitches with a forcing motion. A thing to be guarded against is dropping the right shoulder, more common with a mashie than with any other club. This is apparently caused by over-anxiety and attempting to put force into the shot by moving the body and dropping the right knee during the downward swing.

There is one deadly evil which can attack even the best of golfers through the medium of her mashie and that is socketting. There is nothing in the world more exasperating than after taking careful aim for a short approach to see the ball go off at right angles to the green. It is the worst of all miseries which can afflict the golfer and is alas! one of the most difficult to cure. And it really seems at times that there is no permanent cure for the disease as it will make its appearance at the most unexpected moments. What makes it such a hard matter to put right is that no two people seem to be agreed on the cause of it. Some teachers tell us that the best thing to do is to stand further from the ball. But on trying this it often has the result of confirming the habit as the player who reaches out with her mashie will generally fall forward unconsciously at the moment of hitting. To stand nearer the ball than usual is no more successful a solution of the problem as that mechanically brings the socket and the ball into a line. Probably the primary reason is looking up, but it cannot be
entirely that as I have experimented and counted five before looking up from the ground and yet made as wretched a socket as though I had kept my eyes on the blue vault of heaven all through the shot. For many years I suffered from intermittent attacks of this disease (which the light of longer experience seems to show were caused by a nervous movement of the head and not necessarily the eyes during the shot) and stupidly did not do the sensible thing and buy a socketless mashie because kind friends told me that this course would be a confession of weakness. So I made socket shots in Autumn and was told that I was "stale" and in early Spring when lack of practice was given as a reason and again in Summer when there seemed to be no excuse at all, until one sad day when in the final of a National Championship I socketted wildly twice in succession at a most critical point in the game—which I most deservedly lost. After that I put my pride in my pocket and bought a patent mashie which can top and pull shots if not properly treated, but cannot make a humiliating shot off the shank for the simple reason that it possesses instead a swan-like neck that is incapable of the task of hitting the ball and has perforce to leave that to the proper medium of the blade. Certainly it is not an object of beauty and is slightly less powerful than one of the ordinary make, but is a most dependable person if even fairly well wielded. Therefore one can save the amount of will power which would go towards trying to keep from socketting and put it into, say, holing putts, instead. And as golf is a game of conservation as well as of strength and skill this little point is worth noting. But with any mashie and all varieties of mashie shots there is one very, very important rule—that the ball must be hit in a crisp and decisive manner.
THE art of getting out of hazards successfully is not very much studied, yet is one which amply repays any time that is spent on its cultivation, for the golfer is not yet born who can stride victoriously around the links without encountering at the least a few of them.

The most common hazards to be met with are sand bunkers and traps, ditches wet and dry, roads, rushes and ponds. Long grass, which is just as difficult to get out of as many hazards, is no longer counted as one, so we can now reap the benefit of being able to ground our club when the ball finds a resting place therein. Local feeling and prejudice sometimes make special rules for roads, paths, etc., but on most courses they are counted as territory on which the soling of a club is forbidden fruit. Sand bunkers vary a great deal according to their size, shape, depth and the consistency of the sand which has been used in their construction. A ball deeply embedded in wet sand is much harder to dislodge than when it is on the light, powdery kind and even when it is lying nicely it seems easier to get good distance from a spot where the sand is dry. Wet sand is of a peculiarly clinging nature which is very baffling to almost every golfer.

Owing to the kindly habit that greenkeepers in this country have of raking the bunkers almost daily it is seldom that a player gets a lie that prevents her from getting out in one shot, provided that she uses a reasonable amount of intelligence in the attempt. In the land of golf’s greatest popularity a raked bunker would be considered a pampering of the flesh, and disheartening indeed are the heel marks and holes which are to be found on almost every Scottish course. And in a bunker full of heel-marks it is dearly almost impossible for even the best intentioned ball to avoid finding its way into one. Probably it was those which gave rise to the round shape of the small headed niblicks which were the only kind to be seen fifteen or twenty years ago. Then a bunker shot was a serious affair and not to be attempted in a light hearted manner with a mashie-niblick or any other of the strange hybrid weapons out of which the twentieth century professionals make small fortunes.

The thing of paramount importance when in a bunker is to make certain of getting out in one shot. To that axiom all other considerations must be subservient. To judge from results it would appear that the majority of feminine golfers step into traps in a flurried frame of mind, and with no clear idea of how they intend to set about extricating the ball. Yet there is no shot in golf which repays good judgment and practical knowledge more fully than this one does. Therefore it is very well worth while to bring all one’s intelligence to bear not only on the technique of the various bunker strokes but on the choosing of which will at the moment, put the ball in the most advantageous place for the next shot. There is obviously nothing to be gained by playing the longest shot of which our concentrated strength is capable when the result is that the ball finishes in the rough fifty yards beyond the hole, and yet how often do we see that done. Or again how common an error it is for a player to send her ball out of one trap into another, from a constitutional prejudice against playing sideways. A reasonable amount of experience ought to show us pretty clearly what we are capable of accomplishing, and once we know that, it ought to be easy to avoid making the above mistakes. Of course we are some-
times cheated by the amount of resistance in the sand, which may possibly vary from day to day on account of weather conditions or because of the direction or strength of the wind. These things ought to be taken into consideration before starting to swing, and a player will soon discover that this determining of which are the best tactics to pursue makes bunker play far from being the most uninteresting part of a round.

There have always been conflicting opinions as to whether a full swing or only a half swing should be used in a trap. The majority of professionals take rather a curtailed stroke and practically no follow through and certainly achieve splendid results by taking a great deal of sand and making the ball rise almost perpendicularly into the air. James Braid is said to take almost a bucketful with certain of his shots, and Gil Nickolls will often be seen expelling enough sand from a trap to make a miniature hazard by itself. These are, I suppose, what Mr. Bernard Darwin characterizes as "explosions" and which he says are the best shots of all to make in a bunker.

There are, however, very few women who have sufficient strength to get the ball out in this way but the rest need not despair, as there are other methods which are almost as effectual. The two golden rules for bunker play apparently are: "Do not try for too much" and "Do not pull away from the ball on the downward swing." We all know the maddening feeling of having been tempted by a nice clean lie to use a mid-iron and try to get a hundred and fifty yards, and after having used every ounce that is in us, we top the ball and it strikes the bank of the bunker and falls back into the sand. How much wiser is the golfer who takes a niblick and makes certain of getting out. It is only after a great deal of experience has been gained that a player ought to attempt to make a mid-iron shot, and it should never be tried if the lie is at all hanging or the ball is close to the far bank.

A firm grip and stance are essential in sand, indeed there should be a feeling of tension all through the body. There must not be an instant's slackness from start to finish. Some people contend that the right spot to look at is at least two inches behind the ball, but I personally get better results by keeping my eye on the sand immediately behind it. The swing must be deliberate and as forceful as the player's muscular strength allows. Above all there must be none of that straightening up of the body just as the club is descending which is the cause of nine-tenths of the feeble, topped shots that one sees. A full swing is quite allowable
but care must be taken to bring the club back in a more vertical fashion than at other times.

Mrs. R. H. Barlow, who is a shining exception to the rule that women are ineffective creatures when they find themselves in hazards, has a splendid bunker shot which enables her to soar nicely out of even the most hopeless-looking places. She takes a very full swing even when lying closely under a bank or for a short shot on to the green, and it is seldom indeed that she is not perfectly successful with her first attempt. Her swing is at all times rather an upright one, so she does not have the disadvantage of needing to make a very radical change in it for bunker play. Miss Gladys Ravenscroft is also very good in bunkers but her swing is a good deal shorter than Mrs. Barlow's and she seems to rely more in the power of her forearms.

Whatever length of swing is used it is essential to hit hard. When the ball is lying well in a trap close to a green it is a great temptation to make a nice little lady like shot with a mashie which we intend shall have the same result as if it were played from the turf. In this we may succeed once or perhaps twice out of twenty times, but the other eighteen will result in weak little fluffed shots which remain in the bunker and make us heartily wish that we had been sensible, and taken a good firm swing with a niblick and lots of sand.

In one respect the swing which is taken in a hazard differs very sharply from all the others and this difference lies in the amount of use that should be made of the right hand and arm. All teachers try to impress very firmly on their pupils’ minds the poor results that follow a preponderance of right hand in a shot and it is certainly obvious to even a novice that if the left hand and arm do not do their fair share of the work that a bad slice will invariably follow. The bunker shot is an exception to the rule and the accompanying picture will show that the right hand and arm have, in racing parlance, "taken charge" and with evidently good results.

It can be taken as a general rule that the niblicks which women use are too light. Probably they are bought in the belief that a light club minimizes the amount of exertion required in a bunker but that is really a mistake. With a light club the player has to use a tremendous lot of strength to move the ball at all if it happens to be lying badly. Every quarter ounce of weight added to a niblick gives it a great deal more driving power and loosens the difficulty of playing a forcing stroke.

The players who are in the habit of topping their bunker shots will find that a decidedly open stance and a distinct bend in both knees will help them to curb this tendency. Not only does a topped ball nearly always remain in the sand but it generally has a mocking smile on its painted face left by the edge of the niblick. And that is very annoying.

There are times when a full swing is inadvisable, such as when the player has to stand outside a trap and bend down to her ball, or, as occasionally happens, when the ball is on a level with the waist line and the lie necessitates a sideways shot. In the first place a long swing may overbalance the player, and in the second the angle of the swing is so unusual that the shorter it is the more hope is there for success. In either case it is best not to try for too much and just to aim at getting on the fair green.

There are some places where there seems to be but little chance of a good shot for even the most thoughtful student of bunker play; I mean on these courses where the resources of the club do not run to the purchase of sand and where they dig deep pits and then leave them in a state of nature with clay bottoms baked as hard as the nether millstone. In lies of this kind an ordinary niblick is not of much use, and if we are in the habit of visiting such courses it is wise to always carry a special club, not necessarily heavy but with a very much lofted face and a keen edge. With a niblick of this kind and a swing like that of a man chopping wood it is possible to get the better of even these unpromising lies.
WOMEN'S GOLF

By DOROTHY CAMPBELL HURD

ALTHOUGH Scotland is the home of golf, the Scottish women, strange as it may seem, did not hold a championship until nearly a decade after the American National meeting was instituted. When the British Championship was held at Gullane, near Edinburgh, in 1897 the number of Scottish entrants was comparatively small, and although the winner and runner-up were both local players it was the general belief that Scottish women did not care to play golf in public.

This idea was considerably strengthened the following year when the champion, Miss E. C. Orr, did not go to Great Yarmouth to defend her title; and as none of the other Scottish players who had distinguished themselves on the East Lothian course put in an appearance, the officials of the Ladies' Golf Union not unnaturally determined to be in no great haste to cross the border again.

Of course, the Scottish players were handicapped by being denied access to some of their finest courses, such as Troon and Prestwick but, on the other hand, could pay their shilling on many public links and find an equal standing with the supposedly superior sex. Still, there were many old-fashioned parents even then who considered that playing on public courses was too conspicuous a pastime for their daughters and accordingly restricted them to the little rabbit Warren travesties called "Ladies' Links" which were only one degree better than those of Arcadian simplicity given over to caddies and nursemaids, who played laboriously with their infinitesimal charges.

England, although in comparison poor in natural golf courses, was beginning to realize the immense pleasure to be got out of artificial ones, and every year saw numbers being laid out all over the country. Those were usually of a semi-private nature and, owing to the lack of artisan golfers, golf not being the English national game, the courses were so little congested that women were allowed many privileges.

In Ireland the game was more or less in its infancy but the province of its greatest activity, Ulster, possessed as a rallying point for all the women golfers in the district the excellent 18-hole course at Portrush, which produced a greater number of championship winners than any other links in the Kingdom.

And so it came about that the conservative Scots did not take the place they were entitled to in the world of golf for many years after their English and Irish sisters were enjoying club matches, county matches, and championships. Perhaps the underlying Presbyterianism which is at the root of most things Scottish made them feel that tournaments of a semi-public nature were too much of an innovation to be entered into lightly. At any rate, even after they had proved the excellence of their game during the British Championship in 1897 they seemed perfectly willing to rest on their laurels and allow the cup to be taken next year by an English player without any struggle on their part to retain it.

The next occasion on which we read of Scottish women's golf raising up its head is in 1902 when a new venture is started that brings great consequences in its train. It had always been the custom for the English and Irish players to hold an international match prior to each championship, and at Deal, in 1902, it was found that the entry list comprised enough Scottish players to form a team of ten. Miss Agnes Grainger, a well known St. Andrews player who had always taken a keen interest in Scottish golf, was elected captain, but, in spite of all the encouragement given by her to the representatives of her country, the team suffered a heavy defeat. This was rather unmerited, owing to the fact that the players were so nervous that they failed to do themselves justice and were badly beaten by both the English and Irish teams, which had each served the useful apprenticeship of playing inter-club and county matches which were then quite unknown in Scotland.

This lead Miss Grainger to think that if the Scottish women could hold a championship of their own it would not only further the interests of golf in Scotland but would result in preparing the Scottish players to meet those from England and Ireland on an equal footing; the best course, therefore, was to institute this without delay. In the autumn of 1902 Miss Grainger talked the matter over with the committee of the St. Paul's Club, St. Andrew's, and interviewed the secretaries of most of the influential clubs in Scotland, and her proposal to hold a championship in the spring of 1903 was met in every case with much enthusiasm. The Scottish clubs and some private individuals subscribed sufficient money for initial expenses and to procure a challenge cup and die for medals, so it was decided to proceed with the venture.

The next move was to fix on a links which had sufficient prestige to induce players to enter, and when the Royal and Ancient had signified their intention of granting a request for facilities for playing, it was universally agreed by all interested in the
matter to choose St. Andrew's as the venue of the first Scottish championship.

The tournament, which took place during the third week in June, 1903, proved a great success, and the arrangements were carried through by the committee of the St. Paul's Club, with help from some members of the Royal and Ancient. Much interest was taken in the various matches and the play was of a high standard, especially in the final which was between Miss G. A. Graham and Miss Alex Clover; and although the ex-British Champion was the more experienced player she was beaten on the last green by Miss Clover, who had the honor of being the first woman champion of Scotland.

As sufficient interest was now taken in the venture to justify its being made an annual affair, the Prestwick St. Nicolas links were chosen on which to hold the next year's championship. As this tournament put so much extra work in connection with the arrangements on the shoulders of the local club, it was decided to form a Scottish Ladies' Golfing Association which would undertake the management of the championships, and so relieve the pressure on the officials of the clubs on whose links future meetings might be held. The working expenses of both championships had been covered by the entrance fees, but it was thought probable that if at any time the tournament were held on an inaccessible course that the entry would be a comparatively small one, which would result in a deficit to guard against. Thus it was necessary to obtain a uniform yearly income, and particulars of the project in view were issued to all the women's golf clubs in Scotland. The circulars meet with a hearty response and most of the largest clubs joined immediately. The Countess of Eglinton consented to act as the president of the Association, and the vice-presidents chosen were Miss Agnes Grainger and Miss G. A. Graham.

This marked the turning point in the history of Scottish women's golf, as their team won the International Shield the next year and even retained it for three successive seasons. At Ranelagh, too, they were successful several times in securing the Gold Cup on a course as unlike their native links as could be imagined.

Since then county matches have been inaugurated which have proved a splendid training school for young players and have helped to break down the conservative dislike of the Scots for taking part in competitions outside their own clubs. All this has gone towards raising the standard of the game to an unbelievable degree.
Of necessity be so uninteresting in comparison with those that have been written before that I can only plead as an excuse that I have very often been asked to put down all that I could remember about golf in the far off days when it was just beginning to be considered a proper pastime for women.

It so happened that the fates decreed that I should be fairly impregnated with a golfing atmosphere from the very beginning, even if the family fable that I cut my teeth on the head of a cleric be not true. For were not half the months that made up my youthful years spent within a hundred yards of a famous links; while the other half were spent chiefly in a nursery where the barred window looked over a sweep of roofs and distant sea, whose furthest shore was the Kingdom of Fife, that "beggars cloak with a fringe of gold," whose golden fringe is not now, as in the days of King James, its prosperous fishing villages, as much as the chain of splendid golf courses which rings its coast.

How would it be possible to avoid taking an interest in the game, even if one wanted to do so, when the most insistent reminiscences of infant summer days are the click of golf balls and the shouts of "fore" as we were shepherded three times daily across the links by an anxious nurse on our way to the shore? And how plainly were the thrills to be met with in this absorbing game brought home to us when one of our small flock was carried back to the house howling dismally, as a result of having received a full drive with a guttie ball fair and square on the jaw, which, as she proudly explained after the worst of the pain was over, had made a "boot-button on her chin."

For the part of the North Berwick links which lay between our house and the sea is very narrow and the holes lie parallel on a strip of land which seems barely wide enough to allow of play in even one direction. There a little rocky cape juts out into the sea and on its sloping sides are the first and seventeenth holes—"Pointgarry Out" and "Pointgarry In." How heartless was our childish glee when mild-faced elderly ladies, chiefly English of course, used to seat themselves on this hallowed spot and guilelessly admire the view, to be quickly assailed by a perfect storm of expletion in broadest Doric from the next caddies who appeared over the edge of the rise. Our scorn was intense that anyone could actually see a putting green without instantly recognizing it as such. We felt that the intelligence of the English nation was so far below ours that surely the account of the Battle of Flodden in our history book must be purest invention.

Of course there was no golf played there on Sundays and on that day our favorite spot, Pointgarry, saw a different scene, as a children's service was held in the afternoon just at that place amongst the rocks was an old church tower of the fourteenth century, which was apparently built of stone, and in the shadow of the ancient walls, now covered with ivy, stood the Congregational Church to which we were so attached as to have been present at every religious service. And so the afternoons were like Pelion piled upon Ossa for the tide always seemed to be at the most fascinating height for wading and the wind just called to us to fetch our shrinking nets and get a big haul. There was more than a little envy in the shocked surprise with which we used to peep furtively at the little English children who were actually allowed to carry spades and buckets without reproof for breaking the "Sawbath" and who played quite gaily within earshot of our mournful Presbyterian hymns.

The days when there were big matches were red letter ones for us as our nurse generally yielded to a little coaxing and would take us to follow amongst the gallery for the last two holes. The first of these that I can remember was a tie for either the New Club or Talanton Club medal between the late A. M. Ross, a very well known Scottish golfer of the old school, and Jack Mc Culloch, afterwards my brother-in-law, who about that time published a clever little book called "Golf in the Year 2000." I cannot remember anything about the play in this match but very fresh in my memory is the awe and admiration I felt for people who could do anything well enough to be followed by a crowd so large that it had to be kept in order with a rope! Equally keen was our disappointment when our favorite was beaten. As several clubs played their tournaments there, hardly a week during the summer passed without at least one match which hundreds of people would follow.

I have often been told that my devotion to a club and ball began at the age of two when I used to disport myself on the links outside our garden gate attired in the then fashionable stiffly starched attire of babyhood. It was then that the late Robert Chambers, head of the famous Edinburgh publishing house told my mother that I should be a great golfer some day—a harmless pleasantry that hugely pleased her although a Sassenach and one whom to this day does not know a niblick from a brassie.

At that time North Berwick was very different from what it is now for its sudden popularity in the early nineties shook it out of all semblance to the peaceful, sleepy, picturesque place as I like to think of it still. Then it was just a straggling long line of red sandstone houses set down haphazard on the East Lothian shore, uncarved since a couple of decades before when Robert Louis Stevenson used to build a bielyd spot on the shore and hold his playmates spellbound with his wonderful tales, as they munched green apples by the light of a smoky "bouat."

The links then were principally as Providence had fashioned them, with perfectly natural bunkers and a great many little hills and hollows which made excellent hazards. They were on common ground as far as the third green where the Dalrymple and Hamilton-Ogilvie properties "marched" and were divided by a stone wall. Past that one could not go without paying a shilling to the peri at the gate, one Anderson, known generally as "Bob" although I do not know whether that was his real name or only a reference to the coin he demanded. His son afterwards came to America and was made professional to the Oakmont Country Club.

I believe that the first woman who played on the links at North Berwick was Miss Violet Chambers and I have often heard my mother say that she was almost mobbed when she first started as the sight was such a surprise to the conservative people of the town. Later on the daughters of the English Church clergyman took it up and gradually enough people became interested to warrant the making of a ladies' course: which was shortly afterwards laid out in a field of a few acres, to the west of the Marina Hotel.

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By DOROTHY CAMPBELL HURD

THE FRAMINGHAM GOLF CLUB

360 Fifth Avenue, New York
I was not made a member until I was twelve years old and until then had to be contented to play with our faithful nurse, Marion McSwan, on the small links relegated to the caddies. This was a course of the roughest description, with holes innocent of tins or even of flags and whose only caretakers were the cows who occasionally condescended to browse there. Sometimes we would mark out a little course of our own on the wet sand after the tide had gone out, our playmates at that time often being Lady Victoria and Lady Isabel Kerr, Young Cameron of Lochiel, the children of the Duke of Montrose and other children none of whom ever became distinguished on the links but who died very bravely in Northern France or cheerfully gave their husbands and brothers to do so.

I have only got a very indistinct recollection of the first real match I ever played which is not surprising as I was only five years old at the time. It was a two ball foursome in which I had as partner a Mr. Arthur Dewar, who was afterwards member of Parliament for some place in Scotland, I forget exactly where. Our opponents were the two sisters who came nearest in age to me and when I look back on it I think that our playfellow must have been endowed with the kindest of hearts and the greatest possible amount of patience, as my sole weapon was a driver guiltless of lead or bone with a grip composed of a strip of grey flannel, with which I cannot imagine covering much ground—even with the concentrated effort of five years behind it. The course was considerably shorter than it is now as its Western boundary was the Eel Burn but before the end it seemed painfuly long to me, as I was so weary that I had to be carried on my partner's shoulder between shots. Even so, with the inherent stubbornness of the Scots we finished our round and actually won the match on the eighteenth green. Somehow this performance did not find favor in the eyes of our nurse, for after I was tucked up in my crib that night I heard her confide in the under nurse that she would like to take the nose of my recent partner and "gie it a guid pull through his hair for such daft-like capers!"