

# QUAKERS ELATED OVER GOLF VICTORY

## For First Time in Eight Years Pennsylvania Carries Off Much Coveted Trophy De- feating Metropolitan Men in Decisive Fashion

Special to The Inquirer.

The sensational victory of the Pennsylvania team in the Lesley Cup competition was a great source of satisfaction to Philadelphians, for the Quaker City players were prominent factors in bringing the celebrated trophy to this State for the first time since Robert W. Lesley, the president of the Golf Association of Philadelphia, gave it eight years ago. Since 1905 the Philadelphians were in the finals but once, defeating Massachusetts in 1907, but succumbing to the prowess of the metropolitan team.

In 1909 the Pennsylvania team was substituted for the local team, something which should have been done when the cup was first contested for, as the Massachusetts team was able to fall upon golfers from any part of that State, while the Metropolitan team had New York City and State, part of New Jersey and Connecticut to call upon for players. Up to 1909 Philadelphia was restricted to players belonging to clubs affiliated with the local golf association.

When the Pennsylvania team entered the lists in 1909 it made a most auspicious start by defeating Massachusetts in the first match. The curious feature of the finals was that although Pennsylvania won every one of the five foursomes, the Metropolitan team in the morning had captured eight of the ten matches at singles, so that it was not really necessary to play the foursomes at all. Except on these two occasions both the Philadelphia and Pennsylvania teams never figured in the final result, Massachusetts and the Metropolitan fighting it out for the chief honors.

For years even before the Lesley Cup matches were started, when Philadelphia and the Metropolitan teams used to meet in home and home matches, singles and four-ball matches used to be the order of the day. For years the teams were made up of twelve men each, and it was not until 1904 that the number was cut to ten. The four-ball matches were continued until 1907, when the present system of foursomes was introduced.

With the exception of the Massachusetts team and a few members of the Metropolitan aggregation, the rest of the players have strongly opposed the foursomes. These were substituted for the four-ball matches on the request of the Massachusetts players. The four some in which two players play the same ball, striking it alternately, is a Scottish idea and while played more or less extensively in Great Britain has never attained any popularity in this country. It has been voted as dull and stupid and is so dependent upon both players playing with clock-like regularity that if either is off his game the good work of his partner is entirely nullified. It has a certain popularity around this city on a holiday when it takes the form of a mixed foursome, in which a man and woman strike alternately. It makes a pleasant, sociable match and that lets it out. There are thousands of four-ball matches played around Philadelphia every week, while the number of foursomes played can be counted on the fingers of both hands.

Perhaps the most cheerful part of Pennsylvania's victory over Massachusetts in the first day of the tournament was the fact that the Bay State players, who make a specialty of this form of play, did not win a single match. In fact, their record in the Lesley Cup matches, so far as the foursomes are concerned, is rather poor. In 1907, for instance, they won but one out of five against Pennsylvania. In 1908, while Massachusetts won the majority of the singles from Philadelphia, they lost the foursomes by two points to three. They, however, did win four of the five foursomes from the Metropolitan, but the New Yorkers only needed one of these to capture the cup. In 1909 Massachusetts won three of the five foursomes from Pennsylvania and in 1910 when they captured the cup for the first time they won four of the five foursomes from Pennsylvania and lost by two to three to New York. Last year they lost again to the Metropolitan by the same score. Out of

40 matches in foursomes played by Massachusetts since 1907 the Bay State players have won but 18. Metropolitan out of 35 matches played in the same period won 17. Philadelphia and Pennsylvania, counting them both as one team, out of 45 matches won 25. It will be seen that Pennsylvania's record in the foursomes is much superior to that of Boston and, at that, both Philadelphians and Pittsburghers have never taken kindly to the foursome style of play. It is generally believed that Massachusetts' overwhelming defeat by Pennsylvania will effectually dispose of the foursomes for all time and that the much preferable four-ball matches will be substituted.

It has been a most successful year so far as Philadelphia golfers are concerned. Last year the only bright spot in it was Mrs. Barlow's victory in the Eastern Women's Golf Association tournament. This year the women captured the Griscom cup. Mrs. Barlow repeated her victory in the Eastern Women's tournament. Mrs. Fox won the Berthelwyn cup while the men aided by the Pittsburghers have at last brought the Lesley cup back to the home town. While this is written two days before the finish of the Women's National tournament it would not be at all surprising if Mrs. Barlow were to win the championship, which will fill Philadelphia's golf cup to overflowing.

Every golf club has at least one good one shot hole. Usually the eighteen hole courses have several. Of the smaller clubs in the local association the Country Club of Lansdowne has in its fourth hole one of the best. The hole is slightly over 125 yards long and the shot is made from the top of a hill. A couple of years ago it was a blind hole, but this difficulty was easily overcome by moving the tee forward. The green is on a plateau. The front of this was cut down and the grass in front of it was allowed to grow long, but not too long. Directly back and above the green is the rough. Pits on either side are well placed to catch sliced and hooked shots. The green is rather hard to hold as it is not quite large enough. When the green is baked it takes a well played ball to hold it. To the right beyond the pit the ground has quite a descent and a sliced ball is apt to hunt and find trouble.

With the wind from the wrong quarter the hole is rather troublesome. Many use a mashie niblec, while others employ a mashie or midiron. The par is three, but it has frequently been made in two and there have been plenty of four registered. Five or six years ago a one was made, but while thousands of players since have punched the balls on the green from the tee, not another one has been made up to date.

This hole is the beginning of a triangle, which, while not hard, makes a splendid combination. The other two are slightly over 200 yards in length. The fifth is up hill and a ditch, trees to the right, and rough for some distance from the tee, furnish the hazards. The hole is also a good mental hazard and usually the mental hazards present more difficulties than the actualities. The green is protected by a transverse bunker, and a pit in the rear makes things interesting for the player who over-approaches. The sixth hole is frequently driven and is the easiest of the three, the hazards not having been placed to an advantage.

The ninth hole, while interesting in several particulars, is unfair in others. It is 325 yards in extent and 100 yards from the tee, and right in the middle of the course is a large tee, which frequently penalizes a straight drive that is low. To the right extend a ditch and rough grass. The green winds in around the green and owing to its peculiar conformation the second shot, unless it gets fairly well past the ditch, is apt to drop back in the ditch. This makes the second shot depend entirely too much upon the kick the ball gets, and this, combined with the tree in middle of the fairway, makes the hole, which would otherwise be good, decidedly unfair in a match where the settlement depends upon the last hole.