

## G O L F I L L U S T R A T E D

### A PROPOSED NEW COURSE AT EAST ISLIP, L.I.

There is at present under consideration a new eighteen-hole course at East Islip, L. I., which in certain features will be absolutely unique on this side of the Atlantic.

Sometime ago Harry Vardon in an article in one of the magazines complained that the American courses were not so laid out as to develop good players: that the bunkers were so placed as to make the courses too easy.

Had he been as familiar with conditions here as a complete year of residence would have made him, it is quite likely, he would not have made this criticism. It must be utterly impossible for the average foreigner who spends a month or two playing golf on our courses to realize what a tremendous difference there is in the way they play between the average June first and the average August first. The ordinary American course which is very difficult on the earlier date becomes a comparatively easy matter by the latter one. This, of course, is explained by the fact that our fairgreen becomes baked during the summer, lengthening the average drive by fifty or seventy-five yards, so that, second shots which early in the season required a full iron, can be negotiated with a little mashie pitch.

At the proposed course the conditions are such that there will always be sufficient moisture round the roots of the turf to prevent any abnormal roll.



One of the lakes to be used as a hazard upon the proposed new course at East Islip, L. I.

## GOLF ILLUSTRATED

In fact, it can safely be promised that on this course during the entire playing season the player will get the exact value of each shot he plays and not a yard more.

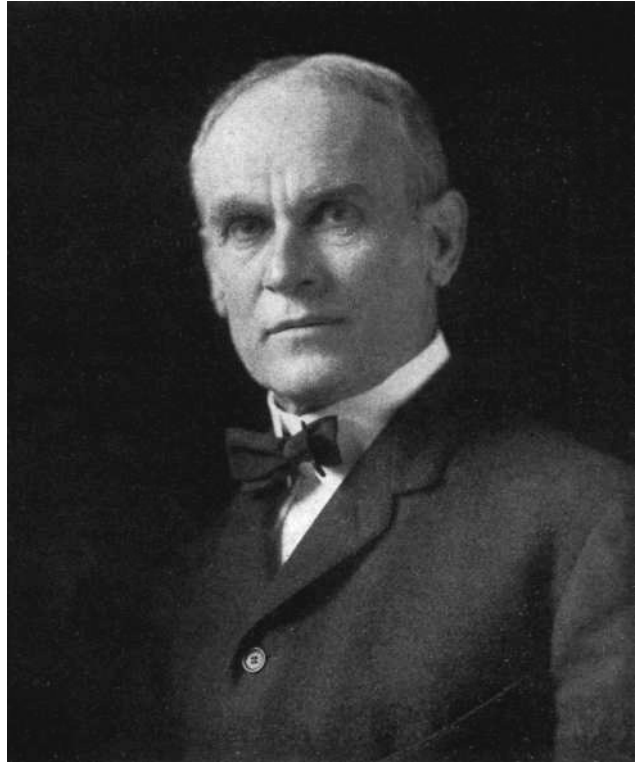
The land on which it is proposed to build this course lies in what is known as a Tidal Marsh and extends to the beach of the Great South Bay. It is proposed to reclaim the required acreage by enclosing it with a dike and by using a system of sluices to make the difference in level between high and low tide draw down the water to the necessary point. This of course is exactly the system by which Holland has added so many thousands of fertile acres to its territory.

The St. George's course at Sandwich, England, is partly located on a piece of land that at one time was reclaimed in just this way. Even the famous St. Andrews course is protected from the sea only by a line of sand dunes, and at very long intervals an exceptionally high tide in connection with strong northeasterly gales is likely to inundate the course.

The land at East Islip is at present covered with a very heavy turf of the grasses that when cured make what is known as salt hay. In the bulletin of the United States Department of Agriculture entitled "Tidal Marshes and Their Reclamation," there appears on page 56 the following paragraph:

"Little of value is obtained from land less than one foot above the water table. At slightly higher elevations—from one to one and a half feet, June grass and other natural grasses come in and with white clover afford excellent pasturage."

That this statement is correct is well borne out by the fact that on the proposed course wherever the land is a little above the ordinary level, Blue Grass, Red Top, Creeping Bent, White Clover and Red Fescue are found, all of which are just the grasses



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that produce the very best possible golfing turf.

The course is to be so designed as to take full advantage of its location. There will be greens guarded by inlets from the sea and several of them will be located at the water's edge. The prevailing wind is from the southwest and has an uninterrupted sweep over miles of ocean before it reaches the course. The location in fact is superb and everything points to the new club being a success from the start.



The sandy shore of Great South Bay, one of the contemplated hazards upon the proposed new course at East Islip, L. I.