

# GOLF ON THE PACIFIC COAST

By G. O. WEST

WHILE Dr. O. F. Willing's failure to qualify in the National Amateur championship was a keen disappointment—although he was in excellent company with Cyril Tolley, Jess Sweetser and Chandler Egan, another bright light of the Pacific Coast golf—the success of George Von Elm, only twenty-four years young, was very gratifying. Von Elm and Willie Hunter were tendered a banquet by the Rancho Golf Club on their return from Philadelphia, and both lads gave interesting accounts of their experiences. They have had a wonderful year side by side, contending in all the leading tournaments of Southern California and vying constantly with each other for medal honors, both lads usually refraining from the match play. The former British champion is regarded as the longer-headed match player, while Von Elm has been a shade more successful against the pencil. Von Elm attributes his success at Merion largely to Hunter's coaching in the fine arts of single combat.

leaving accommodation for more than three hundred guests, and work has already been begun on building a new "heart" for the hotel.

GEORGE DUNCAN and Abe Mitchell will arrive in Seattle December twentieth, where they will commence their third tour of the United States and Canada. After playing several exhibition matches in the Northwest, they will come to San Francisco about New Year's Day and have both entered for the California Open championship to be held in that locality early in January. Macdonald Smith returned from his four months' European trip during October and will defend his title of California Open champion. The course for the event has not been selected as yet, but the Olympic Country Club is a candidate, proposing to hold the seventy-two holes of play on its thirty-six holes, two rounds of the Ocean links and the Lake course. Such a journey would mean very strenuous golf, for both courses can be stretched



**PART OF THE NEW CALIFORNIA GOLF CLUB'S COURSE AT BADEN** Forced to vacate their layout at Ingleside, it is planned to have this one ready by September. This cross-section of three of the fairways during the first week of construction indicates the natural advantages of the property and also the inspiring view from practically all portions of the course

THERE is not much doubt that one of the two would have won the California championship had they been contenders, although Captain Bullock-Webster on his own home course was quite a match for either. The captain will probably still be "out west" in defend his title next year, as he has been appointed on the managerial staff of the Hotel Del Monte. The destruction by fire of the central building of this famous hotel late in September while one hundred and fifty members of the Olympic Club, of San Francisco, were enjoying their fifth annual outing tournament at Del Monte, closes a historic chapter in the annals of California golf. For nearly thirty years, in fact since the infancy of golf on the Pacific Coast, the Hotel Del Monte had been the mecca of golfers from all over the world, and each year the gathering point of California players for their annual championships. The old familiar haunts, the famous lobby whose walls echoed with a million plaints of golfers and where many a famous player was "sold" in a Calcutta pool has gone up in smoke. But the two fine courses at Del Monte and Pebble Beach are better than ever, and Seth Raynor has been out here for Charles B. Macdonald to plan two more links at Moss Beach, where the Del Monte Properties Company is projecting a wonderful country club. Golf will go stronger than ever at Del Monte in 1925 and subsequent years. The hotel's wings were untouched by fire,

to six thousand seven hundred yards, and there is considerable climbing on both, making a test of endurance during the forty-eight hours of competition.

MAC. SMITH after playing in the California open and probably in several matches against Duncan and Mitchell will take in the annual Florida-Carolinas round of tournaments along with the most eminent of the brethren. Mac's elder brother, George, one of California's pioneer professionals, is teaching golf in an indoor school in San Francisco. His first engagement in this country was with the San Rafael Club in 1899. His daughter is one of the best women players in the country, but her father does not encourage her to play in tournaments. Alec Smith's daughters are also excellent golfers, but unknown in public competition.

SENIORS' tournaments have become very popular on the Coast, and the recent gathering of the Pacific Northwest Seniors' Association at Victoria was entirely successful and enjoyable. One hundred and fifty of the elderly golfers had a merry three days and some excellent competition at the Colwood Country Club. This month the Northern California Seniors' Association will hold its first annual tournament at the San Francisco Golf and Country Club. A gold cup, valued at five hundred dollars, pion—at thirty-six holes medal play, will be awarded outright to the champion—at thirty-six holes medal play.