



A PART OF THE COURSE CARVED OUT OF THE PINE FOREST
Other holes extend along the shore of the sea—and along Lake Chiberta

The New Biarritz Course

By CHARLOTTE ANGEL

With the advent of the Chiberta Country Club, last autumn, Biarritz extended materially its golf facilities. One might also say magnificently, for the new pine forest course, on the way from Biarritz to Bayonne, is of a character to make one think of English perfection.

"Take Le Touquet, Sivinly Forest and Saint George's Hill and put them all together, add to it Wentworth Lake, a goodly bit of the Pine Valley, place it along the shores of the Atlantic, whence comes a gentle breeze, and you will have something of an idea of Chiberta." High praise indeed, but authoritative; these are the words of Bernard Darwin, written to *The Times* when he visited the course before it was opened.

"The greens," Mr. Darwin went on to say, "are marvelously clear and free from obnoxious weeds. The fairways are not yet at the same degree of perfection, and have given a great deal of trouble to the organizers. The first time that a course was started, a tempest of wind carried away all the seeds, and it had to be commenced again; then followed a hot summer, which scorched everything. At the present moment the grass grows in abundance, although a bit coarse and bunched in places; but as water abounds there will be no more tragedies of this nature. There are strokes which are essentially on the edge of the sea, like that which passes under the gigantic dune of the seventh hole, which Sandwich and Burnham would be proud to possess, perhaps the best hole of all the course. The twelfth is partly beside the sea and partly inland; the drive is on sandy and uncultivated ground on the border of the ocean, and the second stroke is above the valley, where the grass is bordered by pine trees."

When Mr. Simpson, the British golf architect, laid out the Chiberta

course he ingeniously made it so to extend over the stretch of dunes, along the shore of the sea and through the pine forest—from which numerous trees had to be removed—that there is no end of variety. The lake is like a great mirror reflecting the tall trees and offering a gentle contrast to the expanse of ocean on one side of the course; there are hills and dales and, in its own time of year, there is the gold of the furze to delight the eye of any player who has a well-developed idea of color. The roar of the sea is grateful music to another sense, and its salty breath to still another.

Around the course are springing up chalets of the Basque type, which add to the beauty of the picture in general as they "belong." They contribute distinct charm to a notable country development in the neighborhood of one of the most fashionable resorts in all France—a resort which has as many seasons as the year itself. The Duke de Valombrosa and Robert A. Poole were among the first to build chalets where golf is close at hand and the gayeties of Biarritz within easy reach.

The club house is a very substantial structure, with broad terraces for tea and the view over Lake Chiberta and the forested country. Quite a number of the tall pines have been left standing near it, in order to afford shade and a picturesque setting. The Prince of Wales and his brother, Prince George, were among the first to visit the club house, as well as to play over the fine course. From time to time one sees there all the most prominent personalities who frequent the Basque coast. At five o'clock in the afternoon it is a particularly favored rendezvous. And sometimes, of an evening, there is a fête—with the patio, terraces and

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TEA TIME ON THE BROAD TERRACE OF THE FINE CLUB HOUSE
Which at this hour is a favorite gathering place for Biarritz folk

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gardens ablaze with lights and perhaps the additional glamor of fireworks against a forest background. The riding contingent, which is so important at Biarritz, is much in evidence thereabouts; the golfers frequently see the equestrians making their way along the road.

The membership of the Chiberta Golf Club includes the names of many widely known Americans. Among them are Mr. and Mrs. Anthony J. Drexel, Jr., the latter before her marriage Miss Marjorie Gould, one of the daughters of the late Mr. and Mrs. George J. Gould. The Drexels are now making their home at Biarritz. Then there are Mr. and Mrs. Sam Park, who have lived there for years and are among the most hospitable of the residents. Mr. Park has done a great deal to help the resort to increase its golf facilities. Others in the list are Mr. and Mrs. Frederick H. Prince, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hunt Talmage. Mrs. Reginald C. Vanderbilt, J. Ridgely Carter, Bernard Carter, Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Hutton, Bertram Winthrop, Harry Hays Morgan, Townsend Martin, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Brewster, James Lanier, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Moyses and Mrs. Edward S. Bayer.
