

## Burning Over the Rough

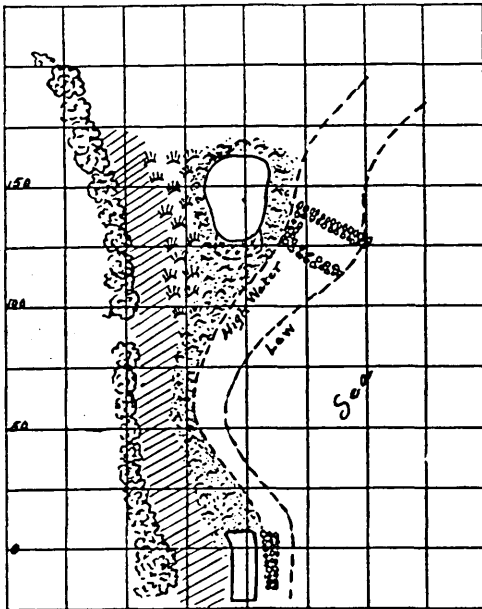
By Maynard M. Metcalf, Oberlin Golf Club, Oberlin, Ohio.

In THE BULLETIN for January, 1923, page 24, is the statement, "Burning over the rough in fall or winter is probably good practice. It doesn't harm the grass and does kill a lot of bugs." Without questioning the wisdom of burning the rough upon most courses, may I tell of an experience on the course of the Leland (Michigan) Country Club, where burning the rough caused injury?

The soil on that course is gravelly sand and its rough is by far the best I have ever seen on any course,—clean Canadian bluegrass, a moderately thick stand, yet thin enough to make it very easy to find balls. The stalks of the grass are so wiry that it is almost impossible to force any club through it. One has to select a well-lofted club, preferably a heavy one, and come down upon the ball from above at a high angle, lifting the ball at once out of the grass, for it can not be forced ten feet through this wiry grass. The greenkeeper, in burning waste late in the fall, inadvertently let fire run through a considerable area of the rough. The following year the grass on this area was too thin, not nearly so good as on the unburnt portions, and it took two years for it to recover and become about as good as before burning. This experience suggests only that burning Canada bluegrass rough on a very light sandy soil may cause injury. It does not argue against the practice under other conditions.

## Instructive Golf Holes XIV

No. 3, Kittansett Club, near Marion, Mass. (145-165 Yards)



The new golf course of the Kittansett Club is one of outstanding excellence. Our illustration shows a mashie hole, the shot for the green being over a course of sea beach. Essentially the putting sward is a raised island surrounded by a waste of sand, a very simple but a very effective hole. The beach and the water are primarily mental hazards. Either a slice or a pull invites a lot of trouble.