

Jacques de Sieyes, Sir George and Lady Colthurst, Comte de Limburg Stirum, Major Langton, M. Kerkhove, Prince and Princess of Montenegro, Lady Watts, M. Bazin, Prefect du Var, Miss Victoria Campbell, Mrs. Hume, Sir Mieczslas and Lady de Routkowski, Mrs. Galbraith Horn, Sir William and Lady Milton, Mrs. Bennett Morrison, Miss Maud Butler, Vicomtesse des Garets, Miss Townshend, Comtesse Cahen d'Anvers, Mr. Holland, Mr. Stephen R. Philpot, Miss Bruce, Mrs. Weir, Mrs. Cuthbertson, Miss Tower, Mrs. Ormsby, M. Jouannet, Mrs. and Miss Franklin Singer, Mme. de St. Senock, Mr. Talbot Taylor (captain Nice Golf Club), Major Generals Fowler, Lumley, Diggles, Harbord, Langfitt, Brigadier-Generals Kramhoff, Weir, Seecomba, Robertson, Dawes; Colonels Brazier, Creagh, Pollard, Scott, Knowles, Butler, Lister, Hartley, Fawcett, Woodcock, Bowditch, Boyd, Quekmeyer, Campbell Stuart, Harrison, Playfair, Stern, Fullerton.

THE PAR OF GOLF COURSES

(By R. Stanley Weir, K.C.)

I HAVE read with interest Wm. Kinnear's article in the "*Canadian Golfer*" for December last, and with much, that he has written so well, must cordially agree. But I confess myself unable to see how the par of any hole can be reckoned by anything else than a certain number of strokes. How, for example, can we put the par of any hole at $3\frac{1}{2}$ strokes? One may, indeed, play a half-stroke more or less imperfectly, but it must count *one*. If every stroke from drive to finish putt counts *one* in the computation of par or bogey or any match whatever, how can we ever say, under any circumstances, that the par is $3\frac{1}{2}$ or $4\frac{1}{2}$ or any other such number? Unless I am, myself, thick-headed on the subject I think there is some confusion of ideas here.

Again, it must be remembered, even if we compute par on other strokes by whole numbers, as I fear we must, that par on a day of windy weather is by no means the same as on a windless day. If, therefore, a player's handicap is based upon, say, three scores, all played in Euroclydon weather, and his scores are compared with the par of placid June days the resultant handicap would be unjust. There should, therefore, be a Par for normal weather and a Par for milder weather. I remember one day last season when the third hole at Kanawaki, which usually calls for a half-mashie, resisted mightily a full iron! Probably the proper par of that short hole was not altered by the stiff wind, but the proper par of the longer holes was decidedly altered. This shows, I think, that other considerations than mere length must be reckoned with in fixing par. Sapient committees might do this: Appoint certain days for obtaining scores for handicap purposes and fix the par for each day according to the wind conditions. Even then it will be seen that comparisons between the handicap of Brown, of Winnipeg, and the handicap of Jones, of Montreal, offer no certainty as to the relative merits of Brown and Jones. But is that a very serious matter, anyway?

Writing on the same subject Mr. R. C. S. Bruce, President of Norwood, Winnipeg, says:

That was a very interesting and well thought out article of Kinnear's on par. I thought of writing you fully on the subject, but did not, as I have no use for par nor par $\frac{1}{2}$ s in scoring. I cannot see where the value of a hole comes in on a distance basis only. To me the physical obstacles are what count principally."

