Three-Shot Holes

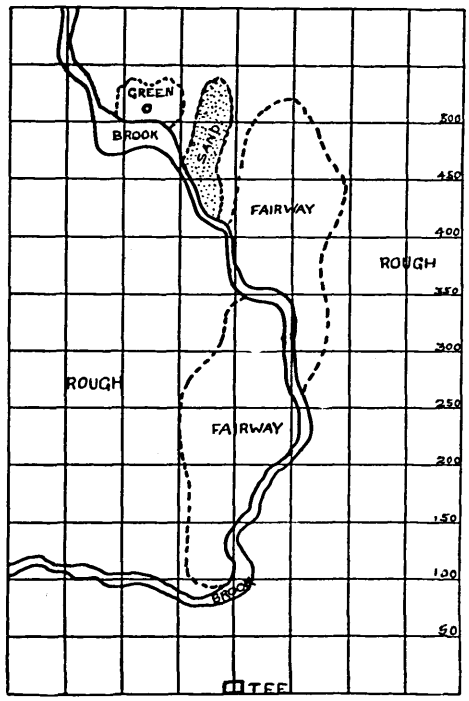

Diagram of an excellent 3-shot hole

One of our correspondents enters an objection to the finality in which the Peripatetic Golfer expresses himself in the June, 1925, number of the BULLETIN, page 144, relative to three-shot holes. He contends that there are such things as commendable holes of this type and he submits as an example the diagram herewith.

In answer it must be admitted that every categorical or absolute statement in biology or in art necessarily involves an exaggeration. The only excuse for such is to impress the idea on the reader. There are some splendid three-shot holes, such as the seventh at Ekwanok and the seventh at Pine Valley. The diagram here presented is excellent. Most three-shot holes, however, have no other excuse than yardage. We must remember that to 90 percent of the players the long two-shot holes require at least three shots to reach the green, and such holes are usually eight or nine out of the eighteen. If a three-shot hole is built it should admittedly be a test for the 10 percent of experts and have some distinctive feature besides length.

The Elongated Putting Green

For a maximum variety of play the putting green more or less approaching a circle in outline is, of course, to be preferred. There is no reason, however, why every green on a course should be of such a type. Considerable variation in the outline of the greens adds much charm to the landscape of the course. In this way also the extent of the putting sward can be reduced on many of the greens, thus effecting a considerable saving in the expense of upkeep. To provide for a long putt, one of the greens could well be constructed long and narrow, perhaps up to 60 yards in length. Mr. Max H. Behr, of Pasadena, Calif., describes a green of this character. "Only a perfectly placed drive gets the length of the green to play to," Mr. Behr writes; "and in proportion that the drive is sliced or pulled does the length of the green become smaller. Furthermore, one of the most difficult and delightful shots to play in golf is a long run-up putt to the hole. Why should golf be robbed of this shot because of that arbitrary principle that the size of a green should be in proportion to the length of the approach?"