

Lesson #20

THE CHIP OR RUN UP SHOTS

These were the shots of the fine old timers, such fellows as Jerry Travers who could play this shot into the cup more often than he'd miss it. They made a science of it because the clubs and balls of those days weren't as powerful as our present day equipment, and they quite often found themselves five or ten yards short.

Since we don't always hit the greens on our seconds either it's a mighty handy shot to have up our sleeves, and I know of no shot which will so quickly break an opponent's heart.

This is a hand and wrist shot only. The feet should be close together and should remain flat on the ground. A 5 or 7 iron will be found to work equally well but stick pretty well to the one you choose.

When you start practicing this shot just take your club head back like you do your putter carefully along the line. Hit the ball crisply; don't baby it; hit it freely and loosely, and gradually increase your back stroke as you wish to increase the distance, and before you know it you'll be getting the feel and touch.

Most good chip shot players prefer to hit the ball off of the right foot or pretty well back, and you'll find that your flight will be just about equal to your roll.

An easy way to quit trying too hard is to play for an imaginary two foot circle around the cup, and for the good of the game don't accept those gimme putts they'll soon be giving you - but hole them all out.