



1895

The Country Club of Rochester

Articles

1911

SEPTEMBER.

The fourth annual tri-club championship will be held this year on the Oak Hill links. Date for qualifying round will be announced later. The clubs competing will be the Country Club of Rochester, Genesee Golf Club and the Oak Hill Country Club.

Labor Day—Eighteen-hole qualifying round for the club championship and consolation cup, 9 A. M., first sixteen qualify for championship, second sixteen for consolation. Match play as follows: First round on or before September 9th, second round on or before September 13th, third round on or before September 16th, fourth round on or before September 20th. On Labor Day afternoon at 4 o'clock there will be driving, putting and approaching contest and at 2 a nine-hole sweepstakes is scheduled.

OCTOBER.

7th—Sweepstakes contest, 2:30 P. M.

21st—Dinner match at 2:30 P. M. In the evening dinner is to be served and prizes for the season distributed.

PLAY IN FIRST ROUND OF FRIARS' CUP TOURNAMENT IS COMPLETED

Owing to the absence from town of several Country Club of Rochester golfers, play of the second eight in the Friars' cup tournament will not go by schedule, which called for the consummation of the first round on or before yesterday. The first eight completed their matches within the time limit, those played yesterday being somewhat below standard because of the downpour of the previous day, which made the greens slow.

Three who are counted on in the championship running easily survived the first round, although J. M. Rhett was hard pressed to win from Percy Mc-

Phail, who won the tri-city championship last year. Rhett won, however, as did Powers from Grant, 3 up and 2 to play, and Walter Will from William S. Morse, 9 and 8.

Some surprise was occasioned by the defeat of Joseph Curtis by R. R. Fitch, the former being counted on to give the acknowledged cracks of the club a battle. He lost, though, by a score of 3 up and 1 to play. The second round is supposed to be finished on or before Saturday that the survivors may fight it out for the silver trophy Memorial Day.

In the second eight Elston won from Bonbright and W. W. Dake defeated Poole.

FRIARS' CUP GOES TO JAMES M. RHETT

New Champion at Rochester Country Club.

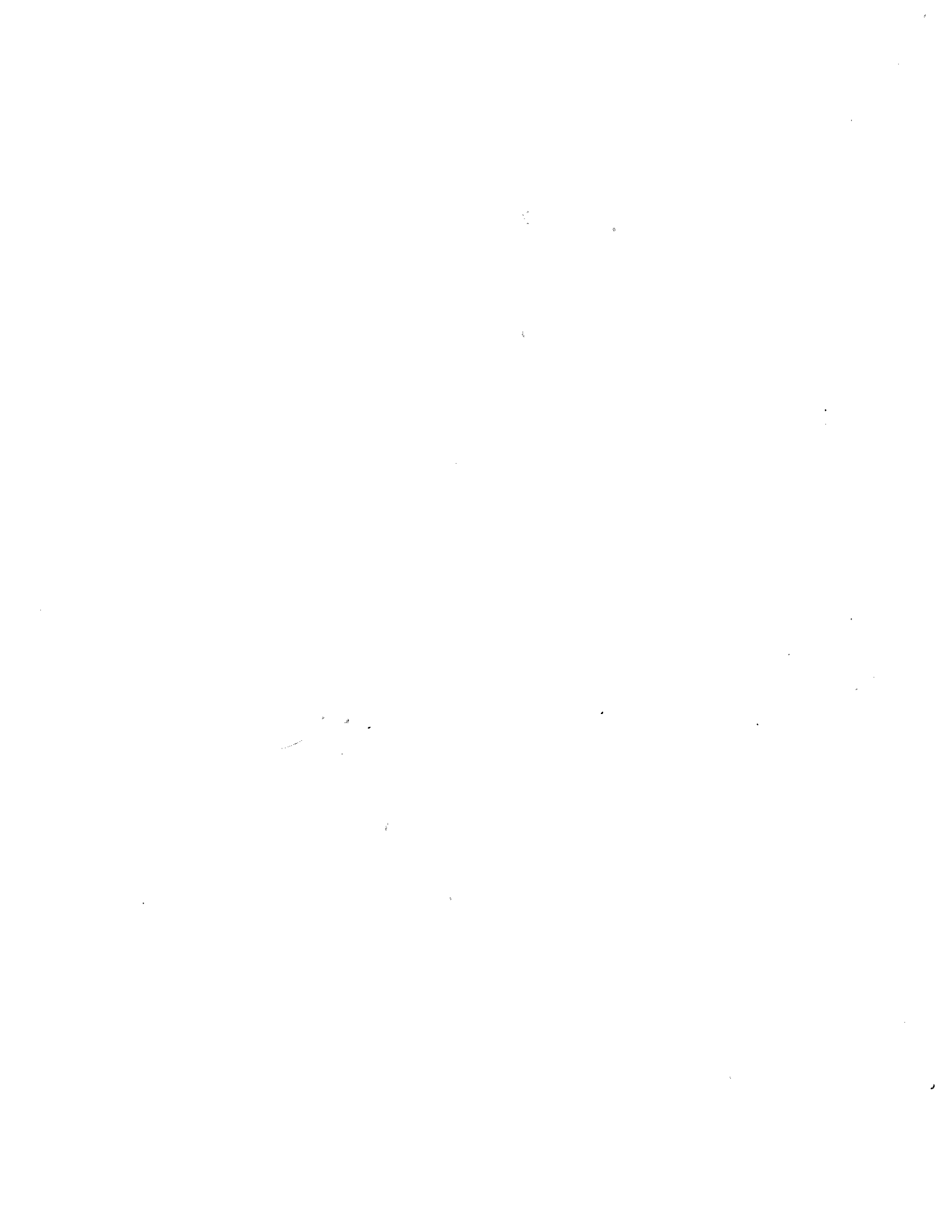
James M. Rhett is new champion of the Country Club of Rochester. He won the honor yesterday afternoon by defeating Walter Will, 8 up and 6 to play, in a 32-hole match. By winning the championship he obtained possession of the Friars' cup for a period of one year. The cup has been contested for annually for the last fifteen years.

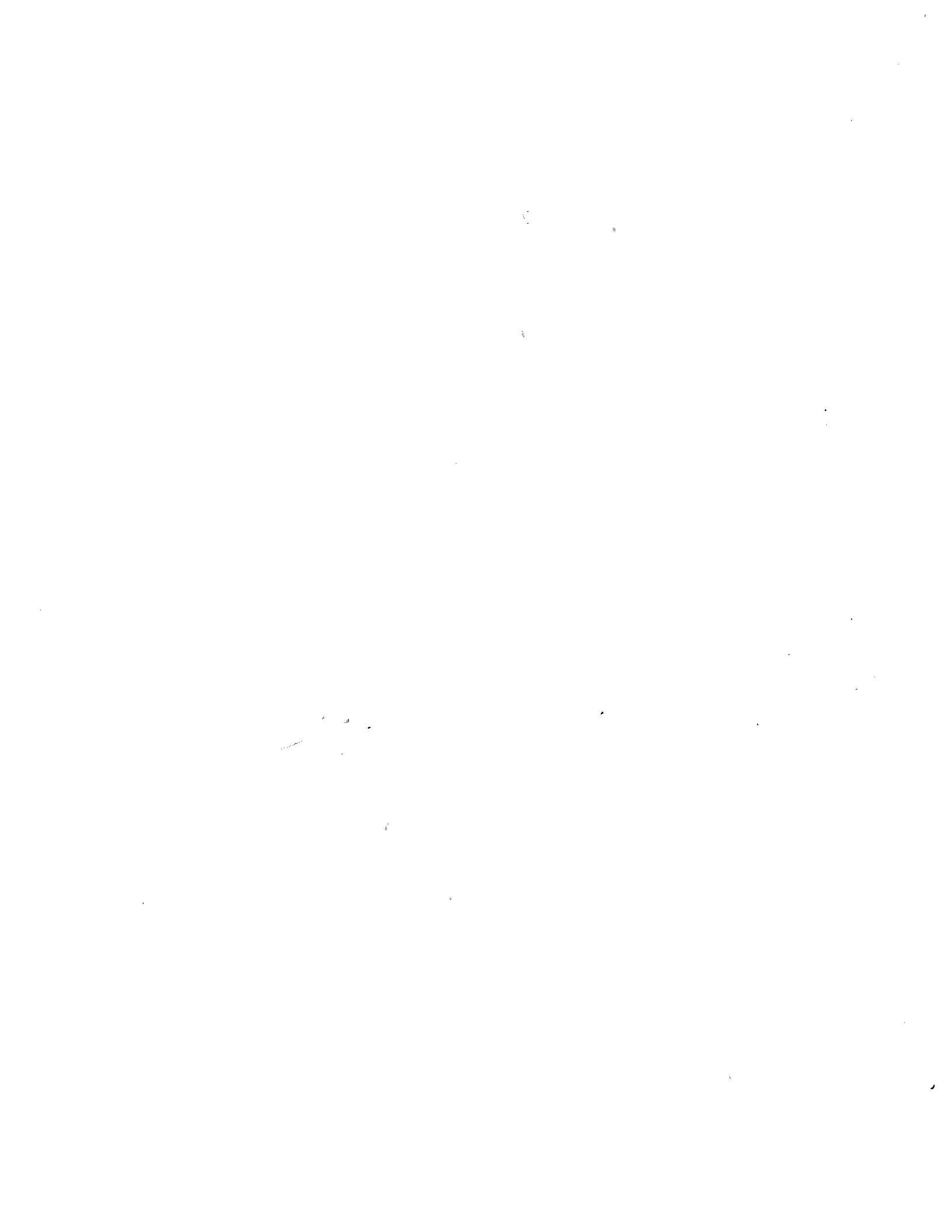
By defeating Harry K. Elston, 3 up and 2 to play, William B. Lee captured the honors of runner-up. Beckman C. Little finished third by defeating Frederick F. Church, 9 up and 5 to play.

Most of the club members, not engaged in competition for the Friars' cup, contended in the annual Memorial Day competition against bogey. Owing to the large number of cards handed in, the committee in charge deferred decision until to-day. The day was ideal for golf and some good cards were turned in.

*Friars
Cup =
Club Champion*

15 years





L.L.L.
1911
13th Annual

To Send Team to Tourney of League of Lower Lakes

Country Club of Rochester to Be Represented in Annual Championship Matches.

Members of the Rochester Country Club Golf team will leave Tuesday afternoon for Detroit, where the thirteenth annual meeting of the League of the Lower Lakes is scheduled to be held. The tournament will open Thursday morning and continue through Saturday.

Rochester's representatives entertain slight hope of capturing the championship, as several of the best players will be unable to make the trip. Gurney T. Curtis, who won the individual championship at Buffalo in 1906, has not recovered sufficiently from his recent illness to compete, and his absence will be felt keenly. Rochester has not won the club championship since 1901, when the tournament was held on the links of the Country Club. W. W. Powers, of this city, also carried off the individual honors that year.

There are four clubs in the league of the Lower Lakes, the Country Clubs of Detroit, Toronto and Buffalo being represented besides Rochester. Buffalo won the championship last year when the tournament was held in that city. W. H. Faust, of Buffalo, landed the individual title, at that time.

The programme for the tournament is as follows:

THURSDAY, JULY 13.

9:30 A. M.—Team match, first round, 18 holes.

2 P. M.—Team match, finals, 18 holes.

Players not playing in the team match, but entered for the individual championship, play 36 holes to qualify.

FRIDAY, JULY 14.

9:30 A. M.—First round, individual championship, 18 holes, match play.

10 A. M.—First round, second flight, 18 holes, match play.

2 P. M.—Second round, individual championship, 18 holes, match play.

2:30 P. M.—Second round, second flight, 18 holes, match play.

3:00 P. M.—First round, beaten eights of individual and second flight cups.

SATURDAY, JULY 15.

9:30 A. M.—Semi-finals, individual championship, 18 holes, match play.

10 A. M.—Semi-finals, second flight, 18 holes, match play.

10:15 A. M.—Semi-finals, beaten eights, 18 holes, match play.

2 P. M.—Finals, individual championship, 18 holes, match play.

2:30 P. M.—Finals, second flight, 18 holes, match play.

2:45 P. M.—Finals, beaten eights, 18 holes, match play.

Friday morning or afternoon, qualifying rounds, 18 holes, for two flights of eight, for cups presented by President F. M. Alger.

J. T. McMullan, Finals Saturday. Choice score of 36 holes, special handicap.

Driving, approaching and putting, and four-ball contests will be arranged by the committee and will be held on Saturday.

City Championship

REEKIE REACHES THE FINAL ROUND FOR TRI-CLUB TITLE

Victory over Dr. Comfort Gives Him Right to Play Winner of Curtis-Robeson Match on Wednesday for City Championship.

Competition in the tri-club tournament for the individual golf championship of Rochester has narrowed to the point where a match to-day between Gurney T. Curtis, of the Country Club of Rochester, and Fillmore Robeson, of the Oak Hill Country Club, will conclude the semi-finals. William Reekie, of Oak Hill, already has won his way to the final round by defeating Dr. C. V. C. Comfort by 8 and 6. Messrs. Curtis and Robeson will meet this afternoon and the winner will play Reekie on Wednesday for the title. Play will be at thirty-six holes, eighteen in the forenoon, starting at 10:30 o'clock, and eighteen in the afternoon, beginning at 2:30 o'clock. The officers of the Oak Hill Country Club extend an invitation to unattached golfers, as well as members of the Rochester and Genesee clubs, to witness the title rounds.

In the Reekie-Comfort match Dr. Comfort's weakness was his short game. He invariably played a good ball from the tee, but over-approached continually and over-ran his putts. Reekie's medal was 80 but should have been at least a 75. He threw away three strokes in the apple trees to the left of the fair green on the ninth and drove out of bounds on the fifteenth for the loss of a stroke, since he elected to play a second ball. His card was:

Out 4 3 4 0 4 5 3 4 7—41

In 4 5 5 4 2 0 5 5 3—39—80.

Reekie won the first three holes. Dr. Comfort was in trouble in the long grass to the left of the putting green on the first and couldn't do better than a 5. Reekie missed a putt for a 3 there. On the second Reekie got off the better ball and Comfort over-approached from a hanging lie and hid a long putt for a 3, which he missed. Reekie's approach was dead to the hole. On the third Reekie laid his opponent a partial stroke and was down in 4 to Dr. Comfort's 5.

Dr. Comfort won the fourth hole when Reekie rimmed a four-foot putt and had the honor for the first time. His drive from the fifth tee was hooked into the grass bordering the fence near the edge of the putting green and he lost two strokes there. Dr. Comfort came near gobbling the hole in 5 and Reekie rescued a short putt, taking a 5.

On the sixth both were in position for a 4, but both overran putts and Reekie went down in 5 to his opponent's 6. Reekie took a 4 for the seventh and another for the eighth, but lost the

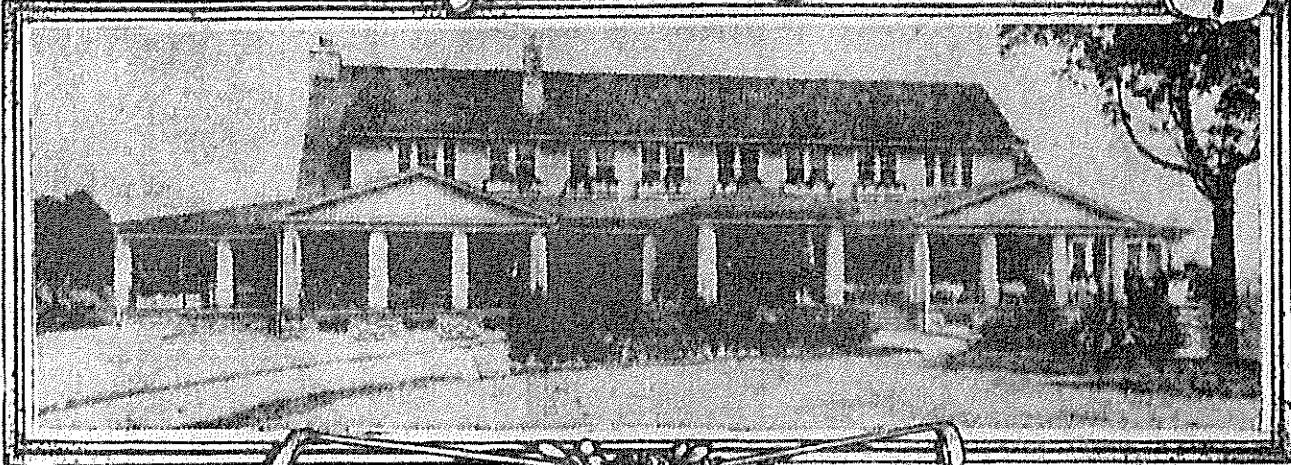
ninth when he took a chance with his brassie from a bad lie in the rough and the ball caromed off an apple tree. He played two more strokes before he was in a position for an approach and Comfort was down in 5. They turned with Reekie 5 up.

Dr. Comfort topped his drive on the tenth and Reekie won the hole. The eleventh also was his, making him dormy 7. By making the twelfth in 5 he won the hole and match, 8 and 6.

The thirteenth went to Dr. Comfort, 3 and 4. Reekie played a beautiful iron shot from the fourteenth tee and was dead in one. His opponent took a 3. On the fifteenth Reekie drove out of bounds and played a second ball. Dr. Comfort drove to the tall grass on the side of a hill to the left of the fair green and lost a stroke there, getting no better distance on his second shot than Reekie had on his second ball from the tee. They halved the hole in 6.

On the sixteenth Reekie drove into the pit to the right and short of the green. Both over-approached and Reekie played a better return, winning the hole. He took a three on the eighteenth to Dr. Comfort's 4.

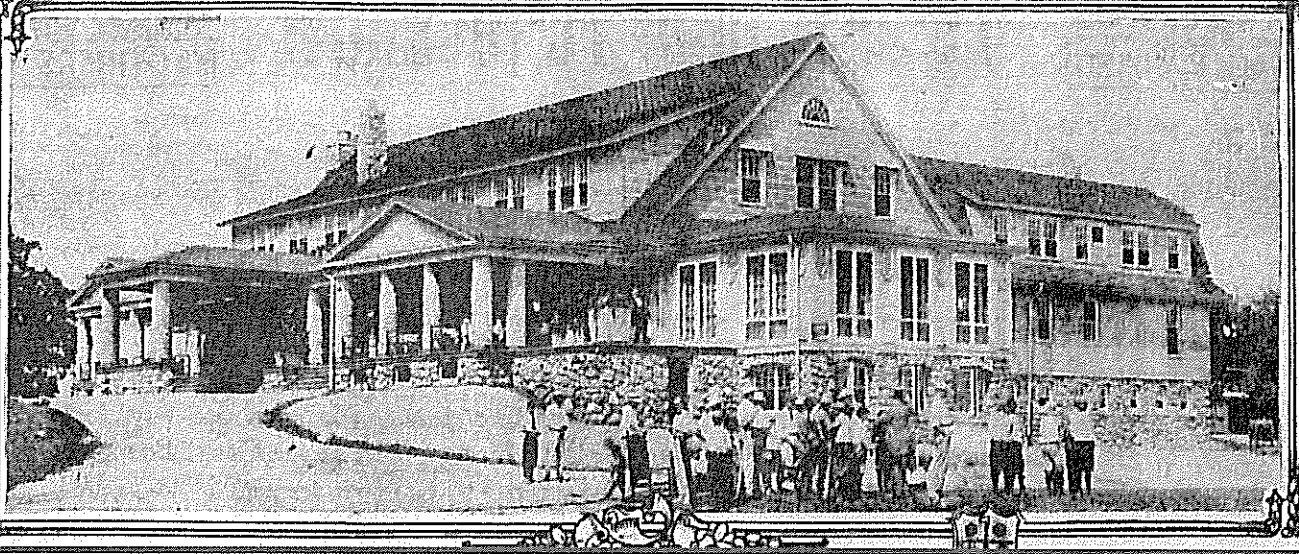
It seems to be the consensus of opinion that Mr. Curtis will win from Mr. Robeson to-day. The two-time city champion is a strong match player and if he meets Reekie on Wednesday and each is on his game, some brilliant golf should be the result. Each has strong backing and a large gallery is assured for the final round.



The Oak Hill Country Club, on the River road at Elmwood avenue, recently spent in the neighborhood of \$100,000 in the reconstruction of its buildings and golf course. Over the Oak Hill links the tri-club tournament for the individual golf championship of the city has been in progress for ten days. To-day William Reekie, of the home club, will meet Gurney T. Curtis, of the Country Club of Rochester, at thirty-six holes for the title. Eighteen holes will be played in the morning starting at 10:30 o'clock and the other round will start at 2:30 o'clock. The officers of the club extend an invitation to unattached golfers, as well as the members of the Country Club of Rochester and Genesee Golf Club, to witness the play. A large gallery is assured.

*River Course**City Championship*

Handsome New Home of the Oak Hill Country Club.



River Course

CURTIS, TWICE A CHAMPION, BEATEN FOR THE CITY TITLE

New Individual Golf Title-holder in Person of William M. Reekie, of the Oak Hill Coun- try Club — 2 up and 1 to Play.

NEITHER CONTESTANT ON HIS GAME, BUT MATCH INTERESTING TO CROWD

For the first time since the inauguration of the individual golf championship of Rochester, the Country Club yesterday called to be up in the final round. William M. Reekie, representing the Oak Hill Country Club, defeated Harry T. Curtis, of the Country Club of Rochester, at thirty-four holes for the title and other trophy by 2 up and 1 to play.

In the preceding round Mr. Curtis, winner of the tournament of 1909 and 1910, played the more combative game. The afternoon, however, witnessed a reversal of form. The tradition that, in the individual competition for the title, the victor is the one who is the most conservative in the spring, prevailed of course after the first eighteen and continued to favor a 4-wood. He was persuaded to play, against his own judgment and based on the second round progress. While it was evident that he was not playing the golf of which he is capable, it was quite apparent that Reekie, too, was off his game, and from a world standpoint, there was nothing brilliant about either round.

Reekie, who held the title 22 years ago, of 74, made the thirty-six holes in 104 strokes, while Curtis took 106. Curtis was out in the morning the first few holes were played in the shade of fog. They cleared and Curtis, 2 up, looking for Reekie, played up on the fourteenth, sixteenth and eighteenth and was down at the nine green. He missed some, especially the putt, however, at the seventeenth and eighteenth. Instead of halting these holes he should have been both and come to 3 up instead of 1 down.

In the afternoon he raised the match on the fourteenth. After he won the fourteenth at 4 and 1 he was always up. He had the same advantage at the twentieth and thirty holes. Curtis held upon the completion of the morning round, and public confidence which Curtis had in the thirteenth and thirteenth, was down 2 at the thirty-fourth and was the match by obtaining a halved at the thirty-fifth. The match for the individual title was 104, while Curtis took 106.

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Curtis loses

noon Curtis increased his lead to 5 up at the twenty-seventh, and won at the thirty-first by 7 and 5.

Curtis Repeated in 1909.

There was a remarkable decrease in entries for the tournament of the following year, which also opened in June. (It was not until this season that the clubs hit upon the wise plan of conducting the tournament in the fall, when contestants are best fitted to show their game). Genesee Valley Park, where the Genesee Golf Club has its home, was the scene of the 1909 tournament, which attracted a field of only twenty-four. Champion Curtis and Dr. Clifford V. C. Comfort were tied for low gross score with 79. Oak Hill and Genesee qualified five men each and the Country Club six for the first round at match play.

In the second round Curtis put Comfort out of the running, 3 and 2, and Genesee's representatives were eliminated. In the semi-finals Curtis and J. M. Rhett won from W. W. Dake and I. S. Robeson, respectively, leaving two Country Club of Rochester men to meet on June 23d in the thirty-six hole match for the title. Curtis made a runaway of it, winning from Rhett by 8 and 7.

New Champion in 1910.

Last year's tournament provided a new champion in the person of Percy R. McPhail, but the honor went to the same club that had won the title in successive years. The Country Club of Rochester entertained for the first time. Forty-five were in the field for the qualifying round and J. M. Rhett's 81 was good for the medal. The Country Club qualified ten men, Oak Hill three and Genesee one on the first day, five men being tied for the fifteenth and sixteenth places. The home club gained two more places on the play-off, giving it twelve representatives in the first round. The two-time Champion, Mr. Curtis, was not an entrant.

Oak Hill's three representatives fell by the wayside in the first round—Messrs. J. B. Bryan, C. V. C. Comfort and W. W. Winans—leaving seven

Individual Golf Championship Won by Reekie, of Oak Hill

Emil Broecker, Genesee	Curtis	6 and 5.		
Gurney T. Curtis, Rochester	Lane	4 and 2.	Curtis	2 up.
H. K. Eiston, Rochester	Robeson	6 and 4.	Robeson	3 and 2.
C. M. Lane, Oak Hill	Pierce	1 up, 19 holes.	Curtis	5 and 4.
Y.H. Robeson, Oak Hill	Montgomery	by default.	Reekie	2 and 1.
J. T. Sage, Oak Hill	Comfort	2 and 1.	Comfort	5 and 3.
W. S. Grant, Rochester	Mimmack	3 and 1.	Reekie	8 and 6.
Tom Pierce, Genesee	Reekie	5 and 3.	Reekie	9 and 7.
John Walker, Genesee				
G. S. Montgomery, Genesee				
C. V. C. Comfort, Oak Hill				
Andrew Ludolph, Genesee				
Joseph Curtis, Rochester				
Robert Mimmack, Genesee				
Harper Sibley, Rochester				
William Reekie, Oak Hill				

History of Tri-Club Championship.

Year	Course	Field	Qualified			Medallist	Champion	Runner-up
			Roch.	O. H.	G.			
1908	Oak Hill	40	4	10	2	G. T. Curtis, (R.) 83	G. T. Curtis, (R.)	W. W. Dale, (R.)
1909	Genesee	24	6	5	3	Tie (see footnote)	G. T. Curtis, (R.)	J. M. Rheit, (R.)
1910	Rochester	35	12	3	1	J. M. Rheit, (R.) 81	P. H. McPhail, (R.)	Fred Will, Jr., (R.)
1911	Oak Hill	39	5	5	0	W. M. Reekie, (O.H.) 83	W. M. Reekie, (O.H.)	G. T. Curtis, (R.)

Gurney T. Curtis, of the Country Club of Rochester, and Dr. Clifford V. C. Comfort, of the Oak Hill Country Club, tied at 79 in the qualifying round of 1908 for the medal awarded for best gross score.

City Championship
or
Tri-Club Championship

Rochester men and H. Woolley, a sole representative of Geneseo, to fight it out. The ability of the Valley Park man to last to the semi-finals prevented interest from lagging as it must have done if only Country Club men were left in the running.

On June 24th Mr. McPhail and Fred Will, Jr., both of the East avenue organization, met for the title. In the morning McPhail was 5 up. He held his advantage in the afternoon until, by obtaining a half at the thirty-second hole, he won the match and championship by 5 and 4. Whether Mr. Curtis would have won his third championship had he competed was a matter of much discussion.
