



Opening Day, Bowling Tournament, Niagara-on-the-Lake.



Bowling at Niagara-on-the-Lake



TO understand the fascination of a game of bowls, one must be a bowler. It is impossible to understand it from the outside. As well try to enter into the delights of a pipeful of fragrant tobacco while watching another man smoke it. The bowling fever, like that of golf and curling, seldom overtakes a man before he is thirty, but when it does catch him, it is with a whirlwind rush. Thereafter he lives in a perpetual atmosphere of cool, green sward, white linen suit and nice round bowls with everything else subsidiary thereto. Business and social obligations become so many irksome duties that have got to be disposed of between successive games of bowls, once the season is on.

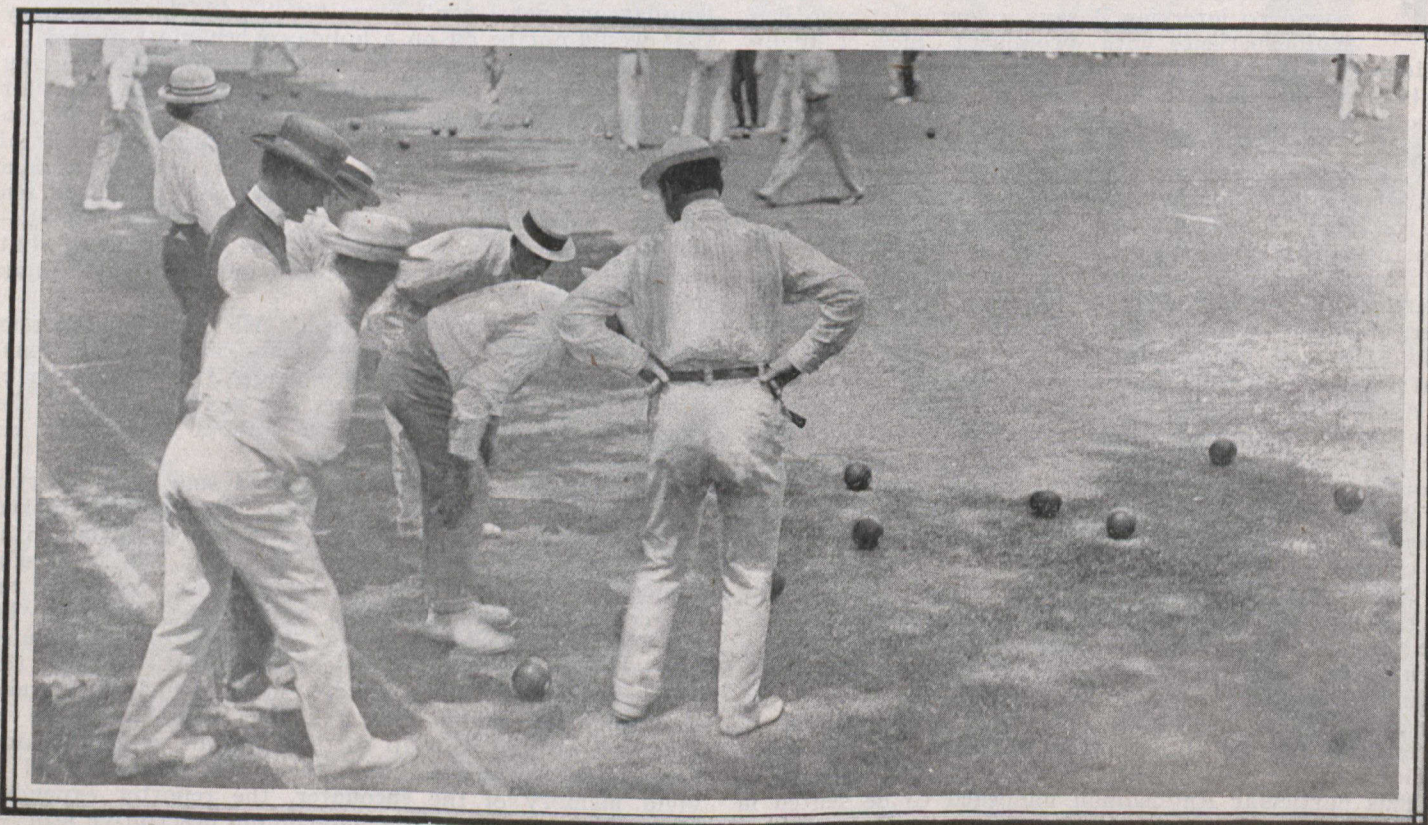
Staid business men who were never known to do anything more ferocious than dictate commercial correspondence or add up long columns of figures, have been converted in a night into riotous, rampaging citizens whose shouts and antics on the green become positively alarming. Try to talk to a bowler who has smelt the scent of battle, about half past four on a fine afternoon during the season, and you will be fortunate if you can hold on to a button to talk to.

Lovers of the royal game in Ontario had their fill

at Niagara last week. It was the nineteenth annual tournament of the Ontario Bowling Association, and for three or four days the historic sward presented a picturesque scene, with a small army of white attired individuals industriously dancing in and out among the polished spheres. Rain interfered somewhat with the play towards the close of the tournament, but it could not drive off the lawn the more enthusiastic players who scoff at the elements.

The remarkable feature of the week was the success of the players from the Canada Club, Toronto. Mr. J. S. Willison of the Canadas won the trophy competition after a hard game with Mr. J. J. Warren of Parkdale. Mr. Thomas Reid of the Canadas won the association by defeating Mr. McNee of the London Rowing Club. Mr. Pole of the Canadas won the Consolation. Thus all three leading competitions were won by this club.

A good sized gallery watched the progress of the tournament in the early days when the weather was fine, and quite a few enthusiasts who were unable to participate in the matches, crossed the lake to witness a few of the exciting games, and to encourage their favourite rinks.



A Close End, Bowling Tournament, Niagara-on-the-Lake.