

THE FIRST CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS

Mr. John Solomon plays with a mallet specially made by **JAQUES** to his own design. This same lightweight Lignum Vitae Mallet is available to all Croquet players and details of this and other Mallets are obtainable free on request from **JAQUES** makers of individual Mallets for over 100 years.



COMPLETE SETS or single items of Croquet equipment for TOURNAMENT, CLUB or GARDEN play from all good sports shops and stores. Illustrated Catalogue from **JOHN JAQUES & SON LTD.**

John Jaques
AND SON LTD.

Thornton Heath, Surrey. CR4 8XP

THE ECLIPSE CHAMPIONSHIP BALL

GUARANTEED 3 YEARS

CROQUET

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE CROQUET ASSOCIATION

Number 106

July, 1969



AUSTRALIAN TEST TEAM, 1969

Back (left to right): H. S. Clemons, C. S. Rogers, T. Howat.
Front: Mrs. Chapman, Mrs. McDonald, Mrs. Edwards, Mrs. Gibson, Mrs. Rudder.
Not present: Messrs. Magor, Gunton, Bell.

JQUES EQUIPMENT, WHEREVER CROQUET IS PLAYED

Calendar Fixtures 1969

| | | |
|-------|------------|---|
| July | 5 | Challenge and Gilbey—Budleigh Salterton |
| " | 7-12 | Budleigh Salterton |
| " | 14-19 | Men's and Women's Championships—Southwick |
| " | 21-26 | Open Championships—Hurlingham |
| " | 28- | Cheltenham |
| Aug. | 2 | Colchester |
| " | 5-14 | Hurlingham |
| " | 9-16 | Carrickmines |
| " | 15-17 | Cheltenham |
| " | 18-23 | Nottingham |
| " | 18-22 | Ladies' Field Cup—Compton |
| " | 25-30 | Southwick |
| " | 25-30 | Edinburgh |
| " | 29-Sept. 1 | Colchester—Week-end |
| Sept. | 1-6 | Southwick (non-official) |
| " | 1-6 | Hunstanton |
| " | 8-13 | President's Cup—Hurlingham |
| " | 8-13 | Chairman's Salver—Colchester |
| " | 8-13 | Surrey Cup—Cheltenham |
| " | 13-14 | All England Finals |
| " | 14-15 | Championship of Champions |
| " | 15-20 | Parkstone |
| " | 19-21 | Cheltenham—Week-end |
| " | 29- | |
| Oct. | 11 | Devonshire Park |
| " | 17-19 | Cheltenham—Week-end |

HANDICAP RECOMMENDATIONS

| Caversham Club | Budleigh Salterton |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Dr. C. A. Boucher 2 to 1. | Col. Laverty 1 to 1/2. |
| Compton | Dr. C. W. Evans |
| E. C. Tyrwhitt-Drake 1/2 to 0. | 16/D 14 to 14 D 12. |
| Brig. E. E. Mockler-Ferryman | Dr. W. R. Bucknall 3 to 2 1/2. |
| 8 to 6 1/2. | At own request |
| Cheltenham Week-end, May 5-7 | Cmdr. Beamish - 1/2 to 0. |
| J. A. Wheeler 4 1/2 to 3 1/2. | Peel Memorials, May 12-16 |
| W. de B. Prichard 1 to 1/2. | Rev. W. E. Gladstone 2 to 1 1/2. |
| M. J. Bushnell (Club recommendation) - 1 to 1/2. | Mrs. D. M. C. Prichard 1 to 0. |
| Hunstanton Week-end, May 11-14 | Brig. L. E. Bourke |
| J. A. Wheeler 3 1/2 to 3. | 16 to 14 to 14 to 12. |
| C. L. Palmer 12 to 11. | Mrs. G. T. Wheeler |
| | 16 D 14 to 15 D 13. |

INTER-COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

HURLINGHAM, May 27th-29th

1969 Final Position

Middlesex: 3 wins, 8 games.
 Devon: 3 wins, 7 games.
 Surrey, E. Counties: 2 wins, 7 games.
 Sussex: No wins, 1 game.

Results:

Middlesex beat Surrey 2-1 (w/o -25, +13), Sussex 3-0 (+21, +22, +10) and E. Counties 2-1 (+24, -22, +7).
 Devon beat E. Counties 2-1 (+17, +15, -7), Sussex 2-1 (+10, +20, -7 on time) and Middlesex 2-1 (-24, +5, +3).
 E. Counties beat Sussex 3-0 (+25, +8, +5) and Surrey 2-1 (+23, +2 on time, -1).
 Surrey beat Sussex 3-0 (+21, +17, +9) and Devon 2-1 (+3, +8, -9).

The Report of this Tournament was received late and appears on the loose leaf, with Directory of Clubs.

County Matches

| 1st Round. | Games |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| Surrey beat Sussex. | |
| A +21, B +17, C +9. | 3 |
| Devon beat E. Counties. | |
| A +17, B +15, C -7. | 2-1 |
| 2nd Round. | |
| Middlesex beat Surrey. | |
| A w/o, B +25, C -13. | 2-1 |
| Devon beat Sussex. | |
| A +10, B +20, C -7 on time. | 2-1 |
| 3rd Round. | |
| Devon beat Middlesex | |
| A -24, B +5, C +3. | 2-1 |
| E. Counties beat Sussex. | |
| A +25, B +8, C +5. | 3 |
| 4th Round. | |
| Eastern Counties beat Surrey. | |
| A +23, B +2 on time, C -1. | 2-1 |
| Middlesex beat Sussex. | |
| A +21, B +22, C +10. | 3 |
| 5th Round. | |
| Middlesex beat E. Counties. | |
| A +24, B -22, C +7. | 2-1 |
| Surrey beat Devon. | |
| A +3, B +8, C -9. | 2-1 |

Cheltenham, May 24-26

Mrs. H. F. Nalder 8 to 6.
 D. H. Moorcraft 4 to 3.
 W. B. Page 10 to 7
 R. W. B. Gladstone 10 to 9
 Mrs. K. Gladstone 10 to 12 } Non-Associates.

HANDICAPS

SOUTHWICK, May 17th-24th

Miss C. Cox 8* to 8.
 Mrs. N. B. C. Cox 9* to 9 D 8.
 D. Himmens 4 1/2 to 3.
 N. B. C. Cox 3 to 2.
 D. A. Harris 2 1/2 to 2.
 Mrs. P. Newton 11 D 9 to 10 D 8.
 G. G. Mayo 5 1/2 to 5.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 1969

Present: M. B. Reckitt, Lt.-Col. D. M. C. Prichard, E. P. Duffield, S. S. Townsend, I. C. Baillieu, D. C. Caporn, B. Lloyd-Pratt, Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins, Mrs. E. Rotherham, J. M. Rivington, Mrs. B. Sundius-Smith, Miss D. A. Lintern, J. W. Solomon, Dr. R. W. Bray, Maj. J. H. Dibley, Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey, Cmdr. G. Borrett, Rev. W. E. Gladstone, Judge A. D. Karmel, Prof. B. G. Neal, B. G. Perry, R. F. Rothwell, A. A. Reed, A. J. Oldham, G. V. Evans, Mrs. V. C. Gasson, G. N. Aspinall, Dr. A. L. Yoxall, Mrs. F. Bolitho, Mrs. A. W. Skempton, Miss W. Adey, Mrs. E. Bressey, Mrs. D. Isaacs, G. Warwick, Miss J. E. Warwick, Col. T. F. Laverty, Mrs. M. L. Thom, Mrs. A. D. Karmel, Maj.-Gen. Wilson Haffenden, Mrs. J. Solomon, A. J. Cooper, G. Williams, Miss B. Duthie, Mrs. H. F. Chittenden, H. Carlisle, R. A. Godby, Mrs. W. Longman, Mrs. M. Lightfoot.

Mr. Reckitt took the chair.

The minutes of the meeting held on May 27th, 1968, were taken as read and signed by the Chairman. Mr. Reckitt said everyone could read the report of the Chairman of Council and invited questions. There were none.

He said this was the time to mention members who had died in the past year:—

Mrs. Clarkson, of Parkstone Club—one of our leading ladies in her time.

Brig. Stokes-Roberts, ex-Chairman of Council and a regular Hurlingham player. He had done a great deal to get money for the previous Tour.

Col. F. E. Stobart, who had to give up croquet three years or so ago on account of heart trouble; a charming and popular man.

L. Kirk-Greene, who was a county tennis player and then a first-class croquet player, reaching international standards.

Col. Bird, of Budleigh Salterton, a very keen player who went regularly to the Devonshire Park Tournament.

W. B. Franklin, who literally died playing croquet.

Mr. Reckitt asked the assembled company to rise, and then continued:—

"Before asking our victorious Captain to report upon our Team's Tour in Australia I feel it to be my very pleasant duty to stress four things:

"1. That the conspicuous success of the Team, following upon its official recognition by the Sports Council, should—and surely will—vastly increase the prestige of croquet in Britain and show it to stand at the head of the world at this uniquely subtle, skilful—and completely amateur—game.

"2. That the bearing of all the Team's members, not only on the court but off, made a splendid impression on the many hundreds of Australians that they met in the five States and cannot fail to give a new impetus to croquet wherever it is played.

"3. That the truly remarkable hospitality offered, not only to the Team but to those of us who travelled with them, has set a standard which we must very soon be preparing to take as a model when acting as hosts to the two Antipodean teams when they visit us.

"4. That the captaincy of John Solomon, and the untiring efforts of Bernard Neal as Manager, reached a pitch of excellence which has perhaps never been equalled by any previous team, whether sent out from here or from the other countries with whom we compete for the Trophy."

Mr. Solomon was then asked to give his report. He first paid a tribute to Mr. Reckitt, who watched the matches by day and then went back to write up the report to be sent to England.

Mr. Solomon said they could not have had a more impressive welcome than they received on their arrival at Perth. They were transported wherever they wanted to go, hospitality was showered on them and they were taken sight-seeing, and no one minded if they wanted time to themselves.

(Continued on page four)

NOTES by ROVER

Grande Finale

Full circle. It ended as it had begun at the Hurlingham Club, where on January 22nd, on the eve of their departure to Australia in defence of the MacRobertson Shield, our Test Team and their wives were so generously entertained with a farewell party by Dr. and Mrs. Bobby Wiggins, and where on May 27th, mission successfully accomplished, they were entertained with a celebration dinner by an assembly of Associates, delighted to have this opportunity to show their appreciation of our Team's triumph. And what a splendid occasion it proved to be. Unfortunately Dr. and Mrs. William Ormerod were unable to be present, but all the other members of the Team were there, those fortunate enough to be married accompanied by proud wives. Naturally our President was in the chair, supported by two Vice-Presidents, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Council, the Treasurer, the Secretary and some 60 other Associates, including such famous names, reminiscent of past triumphs, as Elvey, Lintern, Longman, Rotherham, Stoker, Warwick and Wiggins. The enjoyment of the evening was further enhanced by the presence amongst the guests of two charming ladies from Australia, Mrs. Bolitho and Mrs. Parry. Maurice Reckitt is, of course, a born orator, and this night, when proposing the toast to the Team, he was at the top of his form. His fickle mallet may let him down occasionally on short roquets, his trusty thesaurus on apt quotations never. Some years ago he compared each member of our Team then visiting New Zealand to one or other of the ancient gods and goddesses. This year his nimble wit bedecked each member of our Team, and Daisy Lintern, with cleverly-chosen poetic allusion. After an eloquent tribute to our Team in general, our Captain in particular and to the great help rendered by Daisy, Anne Solomon and Liz Neal, Maurice had the pleasure of presenting, not only to each member of the Team, but also to Daisy and himself, a beautiful plaque commemorating the Tour, the generous gift of Gerald Birch, of Nottingham. Normally, if one hears one good speech in the evening one may consider oneself fortunate. This night we were privileged to hear three, for the speeches of John Solomon and Bernard Neal, who replied to the toast, were both quite delightful, full of interest and spiced with delicious little anecdotes. John placed great emphasis on the harmony which had existed among the members of the Team throughout the Tour, and the wonderful team spirit which had been such a major factor in our success. Bernard, while corroborating John's remarks about the wonderful team spirit, paid high tribute to John's magnificent leadership. All three speakers stressed very much the universal generosity and hospitality extended to them everywhere in Australia, and their hope that if, as expected, a team from Australia will be visiting us in a few years' time, we shall be prepared to act as equally generous and hospitable hosts. On conclusion of the speeches the company were entertained to a delightful exhibition of coloured ciné-film by Douglas Strachan, who displays the same skill and judgment for the right shot with a camera as he does with a mallet. A truly memorable evening. Mrs. V. C. Gasson, who as Secretary was responsible for all the excellent arrangements, deserves the warmest congratulations.

Australia takes a Look at Itself

Australia has some claim to be the leading sporting country in the world if one makes allowance for the size of its population. In the games traditionally played by England, Australia and New Zealand, such as cricket, tennis and golf, it has recently played a dominating part. There is much of billiards in the game of croquet and in that game the name of Walter Lindrum holds a place of its own. How comes it then that in the second last Test Match of the series England were able to beat New Zealand nine matches to love, and in the last Test Match of the series New Zealand beat Australia eight matches to one, the only Australian victory being in a match forfeited by New Zealand through illness when New Zealand were leading one game to nil? In the editorial column of the April issue of the Australian Gazette there appeared the following self-criticism:

"The Australian selectors sought safety in numbers by naming eleven players and, most unfortunately, letting it be known that all chosen would get a game. The almost certainly best six took the field for the doubles matches against a now confident England team with one victory already achieved. Nerves took their inevitable toll. However, in the singles next day they made a very much better showing. Confidence, the basis of all success, was visibly growing. It was doomed to immediate extinction, for, next day, they faced New Zealand with only two of the side retained. The team's two most successful exponents of the day before were dropped, an incomprehensible decision. The most important part of the team, its spirit and determination,

already weakened by a method of selection based on State representation, faded away." Moreover, the Editor thought fit in the same number of the Gazette to publish the following letter:

"I have an apology to make. For several years now I've been highly critical of the way croquet is administered in Australia, but after watching the English and New Zealand teams in action I've come to the conclusion there's nothing wrong with the game here.

"The Australian team was just as good as the other two and lost only because of the unsporting attitude of the latter.

"It must have been very distressing for the Australians to play against men in shorts and, horror of horrors, no hats. Jean Jarden is not blameless, either. Everybody says she is a great player but I'm sure it was only that her rather attractive short skirts distracted the Australians. Otherwise they would easily have beaten her.

"Surely our visitors know that it's not the game that counts; it's the way people dress. We all know our administrators feel very strongly about uniforms. Evidence of this is contained in a full page of instructions on how to dress issued to the Australian team shortly before the tests began. They didn't waste our players' time in discussing tactics or their approach to the game—dress was the important thing.

"And it obviously paid dividends. The Australians looked very smart, but unfortunately they didn't win a game.

"And they'll never win as long as those naughty Englishmen and New Zealanders practise their gamesmanship by upsetting our players by appearing in shorts and without hats. It's time our officials got tough and protected our players from such unsporting tactics."

BRUCE BUCHANAN.

Australia has won the Shield on two occasions, one in a straight contest against England and the second in a three-cornered contest in which New Zealand took part. In the preceding three-cornered challenge in New Zealand in 1963 Australia finished ahead of New Zealand. One hopes and expects that in the next challenge one will see Australia in its usual formidable rôle.

The Annual General Meeting of the Croquet Association

At the A.G.M. the Secretary announced that four new members had been proposed and seconded for election to the Council and as there were four vacancies all such members should be deemed to be elected under Rule VI of the Constitution. One of the four such members was Mrs. Devitt. Within seconds of the announcement it was further announced that Mrs. Devitt was unwilling to serve. Her seconder had been announced as Mr. Lloyd-Pratt. At this moment Mr. Lloyd-Pratt rose to his feet. One might have expected that he was about to offer some explanation how it came about that he had seconded a candidate who was not willing to serve. This was not so. He rose to explain that he had never seconded Mrs. Devitt. He stated that the candidate whom he had wished to second was Mrs. Elvey. At this moment it became apparent to everyone in the room that neither Mrs. Devitt nor Mrs. Elvey had been proposed and seconded in writing as required by Rule VI. It is not only vital that any proposal should be in writing. It is clearly desirable also that the willingness of the candidate to serve should be in writing. It is also manifestly desirable that any nomination should be published, for it is a matter of concern to all Associates. For this purpose there should be a notice board outside the C.A. Office announcing the names of the candidates. This may not be wholly satisfactory but it is infinitely preferable to the present situation. Mr. Lloyd-Pratt then urged the meeting to waive the fact that Mrs. Elvey had never been properly proposed and seconded and invited the meeting to elect her on the spot. No voice was raised in protest and one reason maybe is that Mrs. Elvey is universally loved and respected in croquet circles and no doubt all present were satisfied that she would make an excellent member of the Council. That is not the point. Croquet Associates under pressure should remember that both on and off the court they must not try to bend the Laws or the Rules or the facts to achieve the results which they so earnestly desire. This Rover who was present must share with others the responsibility and shame of this Gilbertian exhibition. The trouble was that it all came as such a quick surprise. A little thought would have disclosed that there really was no weighty problem confronting the Council, who formed the majority of those attending the meeting. The Council could have invited Mrs. Elvey to attend the Council meeting about to take place. It is hoped by the time the Council next meets there will be alteration in the Constitution which will enable the Council to co-opt Mrs. Elvey. Possibly the election can be regularised in this manner.

Although a wonderful experience, the Tour was hard work—only four to five really free days. All members of the Team were presented by Australia with an unexpected cheque to help towards their expenses. The Tour cemented friendships with Australia—friendships which will undoubtedly last. Mrs. Bolitho, one of our Australian hostesses, said Australia will never forget the visit of the Teams—and the Secretary has had letters saying what a great impetus their outstanding play has given to croquet.

Accounts. The Treasurer gave a brief review of the Accounts and made comments thereon. Mr. Rivington proposed the adoption of the Accounts and Mr. Rothwell seconded, and they were passed unanimously.

Election of Vice-President.

Col. Prichard said he wished to propose G. V. Evans be elected a Vice-President. He had had long service on the Council and had been a generous benefactor to the Croquet Association. Mr. Duffield seconded this and the meeting unanimously expressed their pleasure in electing Mr. Evans. Mr. Evans rose and said he very much appreciated the honour.

Election to Council.

The eight retiring members of Council stood for re-election. Mr. Rivington and Mr. L. E. W. Stokes-Roberts wished to retire; Capt. Nalder also sent in his resignation and, as he had to go abroad for three years, Dr. A. L. Yoxall also had to retire.

Cmdr. G. Borrett, proposed by Mrs. D. M. C. Prichard, seconded by J. G. Warwick.

B. G. Perry, proposed by J. G. Warwick, seconded by Col. Beamish.

Rev. W. E. Gladstone, proposed by Mrs. A. M. Daniels, seconded by Dr. A. L. Yoxall.

Mrs. H. J. Devitt had been proposed and seconded but withdrew her name two days before the meeting. (It subsequently transpired that she had not consented to stand at this election.) Mr. Reckitt said under these circumstances would the A.G.M. make an exception to the rule and allow **Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey** to be elected, as he felt she would be a valuable member on the Council. This was agreed.

Appointment of Auditors.

By general approval, the present Auditors—Messrs. Nicholass, Reid, Corney & Co.—on a proposal by Mr. Rivington, seconded by Cmdr. Borrett, were re-elected.

Mr. Oldham, seconded by Mr. Townsend, spoke on the increased subscriptions which he said the F. and G.P. hoped would see us through the next five years. They had been planned so that those who play most pay most. The age for Junior Membership was to be 24 years, not 27, because young men of that age had left universities and were earning a living. Overseas subscriptions were to be raised from one guinea to 30/- to cover the cost of "Croquet". The A.G.M. passed these alterations.

Any other business.

Mr. Carlisle proposed abolishing prize money at tournaments, but this was not agreed. It was pointed out that in some cases the prize money barely covered the cost of engraving the name of the winner on the trophy.

Mr. Warwick said that he had taken an informal vote last year among players in the counties and they were overwhelmingly in favour of advanced play instead of semi-advanced. He asked the Council to reconsider this.

In reply to Mrs. Elvey, Mr. Reckitt emphasised that no C.A. funds whatsoever had been expended on the Test Tour or the Dinner for the Team. The Test Tour was financed jointly by the special appeal fund raised by Mr. Gerald Williams, partly by the players themselves and partly by the generosity of the Australians. The Dinner was paid for by those attending. The rumours that C.A. funds had been squandered were totally unfounded.

Mrs. Sundius-Smith proposed Council should give a vote of thanks to Mr. Rivington and Mr. Stokes-Roberts—the latter had been of the greatest help in arranging for the Queen's visit in 1967 and Mr. Rivington's wisdom and suggestions will be very sorely missed in Council; he so often found a way out when framing a difficult proposition and was always a peacemaker.

C.A. Notes

Although subscriptions have been coming in better than usual, there are still a large number outstanding. Please pay yours now if you have not done so.

There is to be a special General Meeting for the purpose of discussing the revised Rules at 11.30 a.m., followed by a Club Delegates' Conference, on Saturday, November 22nd, at Hurlingham. Club Secretaries please note. We do hope every Club which possibly can will attend this meeting; Council is most anxious to get Club views on all matters concerning croquet and this is the only way we can do it. There will be lunch provided.

The first of the C.A. Tournaments to be played out of London

was the Peel Memorials—played at Cheltenham by kind permission of the Club and managed by Dr. A. L. Yoxall. It was, I understand, a very enjoyable Tournament and it was a pity more people didn't play in it.

The Inter-Counties Championship has just finished at Hurlingham. Middlesex were the winners. We only had five counties competing, which is a great pity and limits everybody's interest and enjoyment.

There was a very successful Dinner given in honour of our victorious Test Team, with very nice lantern slides of Australia, etc., shown by D. F. Strachan. I should like to emphasise that this Dinner was given at no cost at all to the C.A. I do not think every croquet player realises the great encouragement these Test Matches give—I have many proofs of this from overseas, and we have had a lot of new Overseas members—all this apart from the honour and glory to the British Isles.

It has been said "subscriptions" were raised to pay for the Tour—this is completely untrue. The Tour was financed by Government assistance and a fund raised by Mr. Williams from voluntary donations.

V. C. GASSON.

Notice of Special Meeting of the Croquet Association called pursuant to Rule IV

A special General Meeting of the Association will be held at Hurlingham at 11.30 a.m. on Saturday, November 22nd, 1969, for the purpose of amending the Constitution of the Association.

New Referees and Umpire

Professor B. G. Neal and B. G. Perry have been appointed examining referees. M. Granger-Brown has been appointed a referee. Mrs. B. L. Sundius-Smith has been appointed an umpire.

Next Issue of Gazette

The next issue will probably be published in late September or early in October.

NEW ASSOCIATES

Mrs. R. Belford—94, McCourt Street, W. Leederville, Western Australia.

Mrs. B. G. Bentley—Flat 7, 15, Collingham Road, S.W.5.

Lt.-Col. L. A. Davies and **Mrs. L. A. Davies**—17, King's Gate, The Avenue, Poole, Dorset.

Mrs. E. Douglas—2a, Clearview Avenue, Tuart Hill, Perth 6060, Australia.

Dr. C. W. Edwards—Westfield Lodge, Westfield Close, Budleigh Salterton, Devon.

Mrs. Grace Edwards—29, Sobroan Street, Shepperton, Victoria 3630, Australia.

Mrs. E. Good—5, Riverdale Grove, Launceston, Tasmania.

Mrs. E. E. Hawke—101, Tate Street, West Leederville, Western Australia 6007.

Mrs. W. J. Limpus—83, Woondooma Street, West Bundaberg Queensland 4670, Australia.

Mrs. E. A. Maconochie—47, Margaret Street, Toowoomba, Queensland, Australia.

Mrs. N. McKenzie—114, King Street, Sandy Bay, Hobart, Tasmania 7005, Australia.

Mrs. Ogdin Phipps—Whitney Drive, Roslyn, New York 11576.

H. J. Read—20, Waverley Avenue, Lenah Valley, Tasmania.

J. M. Ritchie—Bagley Wood House, near Kennington, Oxford.

R. W. A. Steane—40, Woodlands Street, Woodlands, Western Australia 6018.

H. A. Simon—49, West Kensington Court, London, W.14.

L. A. Taylor—22, Ponsonby Road, Parkstone, Poole, Dorset.

Mrs. D. G. Waterhouse—10a, South Cliff, Eastbourne.

Mrs. G. T. Wheeler—2, Withyholme Park, Cheltenham.

J. P. Winckworth—5, Redburn Street, Chelsea, London, S.W.3.

Mrs. Nora Dodd—23, South Road, Brighton Beach, Victoria 3186, Australia.

Mrs. M. Raphael—Flat 1, 256, Lennox Street, Maryborough, Queensland 4680, Australia.

Mrs. D. M. Templeton—Unit 1, 508, Sandgate Road, Clayfield, Queensland 4011, Australia.

Brig. L. E. Bourke—Withyholme, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham.

Mrs. H. Kirk-Greene—Flat 3, 74, Mount Ephraim, Tunbridge Wells.

NOTICE OF ALTERATION IN THE LAWS pursuant to Rule XIV

At their meeting on Monday, May 26th, 1969, the Council amended Law 13 (a) (ii) by substituting the word "BACKSWING" for the word "SWING" in line 2 thereof.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Attention is called to the proposed alteration to Law 13 which appears above. Let us assume that the striker is claiming that Blue is wired from Red and the alleged cause of the obstruction is an upright of a hoop which will not allow Red to pass Blue on the left-hand side. If those were the facts, the above amendment would not be relevant unless it was also the fact that the obstructing upright was a matter of inches in front of the striker's ball, and between the striker's ball, Red, and the object ball, Blue. In such cases the striker would place the right-hand edge of the mallet against the middle of the striker's ball demonstrating that, if he struck his ball in that fashion and followed through, the left-hand edge of the mallet would collide with the upright. For a long time referees have been differing about what rights the striker had in respect of a lift, because the follow through of a stroke might result in the mallet colliding with an upright. This dispute is now settled once and for all, and the settlement has been reached after agreement with Australia and New Zealand in talks that followed the Test Matches. The answer is that now the striker has no relief under the Law, because it now only applies to the Backswing. Surely this is only just. If the striker's ball can proceed past the obstructing upright to the left of Blue, so can the striker's mallet follow through. Since the diameter of the ball is larger than the width of an ordinary mallet, this should be a sufficient tolerance for the striker.

Question: What is the definition of "Quitting one's Stance"?

Answer: This is not defined in the Laws and it is dangerous at times to attempt to state in a few words what is involved in a term of art used in the rules of any game. This term of art is common to both golf and croquet, and in croquet it appears in Law 31, "Definition of a Stroke and the Limits of the Striking Period." The moment of quitting the stance fixes the end of the striking period. Why is it relevant to fix this period under the Laws? The reason is given in Law 31 (c), namely: "After this period no fault can be committed under the next law." The next Law is "Making a fault during the Striking", and the only relevant sub-law is:

"(xi) Touches a ball, other than his own ball, with the mallet or any part of his body or clothes, or allows his own ball to touch any part of his body or clothes or to retouch his mallet."

After the end of the striking period, the striker is not penalised for any clumsiness of foot which may result in an accidental interference with a ball, or for any confusion of mind which might result in a deliberate interference due to an aberration. It is otherwise during the striking period. In order to complete the investigation into the context in which this phrase appears, one enquires into when it might apply. Law 32 (xi) may apply when the striker is attempting to strike his ball with another ball in close proximity behind it. Any such collision could take place before the stroke. The law is most likely to be necessary when the striker is playing a hammer stroke, where the balls may at some stage be travelling towards his legs. In that case the striker is in peril of committing this fault. Of course, it most frequently occurs when the striker is attempting a difficult and close hoop when the striker's ball rebounds off the hoop on to the striker's mallet. The other occasion in which it may occur is when the striker is playing a forcing stroke off balance and may thereby stumble on to a ball nearby. I think that it is in this context that one must attempt to give a reasonable meaning to the phrase. I do not think that the movement of the feet is the final test. Here is an example. The striker makes a fine take-off from the first corner to two balls in the third corner. He relaxes his stance and calmly watches the progress of his ball towards the third corner and sees it dribble into the yard line area. He awaits the decision of those nearby to inform him that the ball is still on the court. He then moves forward and in doing so his foot collides with the ball from which he has taken off. I think clearly this striker had quitted his stance. He had perceptibly regained his balance after the exertion of the stroke. It would have been different if he moved his body whilst trying to force the ball across a waterlogged court and had half stumbled into the other ball. Now let us assume that the striker is playing a hammer stroke and, watching through his legs, sees one ball travelling in the direction of his left leg. He lifts his left leg and in so doing goes off balance. To recover his balance he hops on his right leg and as the right leg again makes contact with the ground it collides with another ball. In my view this striker has not quitted his stance. He had not perceptibly regained his balance after the exertion of the stroke. This test may not be exhaustive. But this is a ruling in two individual cases and it should be followed by referees until further notice. This has been set out at length so that the views of Australia and New Zealand can be ascertained with a view to agreeing a definition or ruling which all Councils can follow.

THE CROQUET ASSOCIATION COMMITTEES, 1969

| Laws | Tournament |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| I. C. Baillieu | Dr. R. W. Bray |
| Prof. B. G. Neal | Cmdr. G. Borrett |
| B. G. Perry | Major J. H. Dibley |
| E. A. Roper | Rev. W. E. Gladstone |
| R. F. Rothwell | B. Lloyd-Pratt |
| J. W. Solomon | Miss D. A. Lintern |
| Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins | E. A. Roper |
| | Mrs. E. Rotherham |
| | L. F. Rothwell |
| | Mrs. B. L. Sundius-Smith |
| Publicity | F. and G.P. |
| Dr. R. W. Bray | I. C. Baillieu |
| Cmdr. G. Borrett | D. C. Caporn |
| D. C. Caporn | Major J. H. Dibley |
| Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey | Miss D. A. Lintern |
| Miss D. A. Lintern | B. G. Perry |
| Prof. B. G. Neal | J. W. Solomon |
| A. A. Reed | Mrs. B. L. Sundius-Smith |
| Special Appeals | Handicap Co-ordinating |
| Judge A. D. Karmel | Major J. H. Dibley |
| Mrs. E. Rotherham | Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey |
| Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins | Miss D. A. Lintern |
| | E. A. Roper |
| | Mrs. B. L. Sundius-Smith |
| Handicap Appeals | |
| Mrs. E. Rotherham | |
| R. F. Rothwell | |
| Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins | |

The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Treasurer are ex-officio members of all committees except Handicap Appeals.

OBITUARIES

LT.-COL. F. E. STOBART (Late 18th (Queen Mary's Own) Hussars)

To the many people who knew Frank Stobart, his sudden death in March will leave a very sad gap.

He was a true "sportsman" in the best tradition of that word. In his younger days he played polo and hunted, but his health after World War I forced him to give these up, and later tennis and golf (at both of which he was above average) became too much for him.

He then discovered croquet—and how he enjoyed it!—and soon reduced his handicap to 1; but after a bad heart attack even this was denied him. Many men would have been soured by all these things, but not Frank. His cheerfulness and patience during these last few years have been quite wonderful, and he and Faith welcomed so many young men to their home for play on the beautiful lawn he made, and of which he was so proud, while he watched and joined in the fun of all the back-chat that went on. I never heard one word of complaint or self-pity; he was always bright and interested in other people's doings, and so kind in his attitude to everything—truly a "gentle" man.

All our sympathy goes out to Faith, who nursed him so devotedly during those early days after the attack when he was in bed for a long time. They would have celebrated their golden wedding this summer—a record of nearly 50 years of a supremely happy marriage. H. R.

MRS. M. McMORDIE

The East Dorset Croquet and Lawn Tennis Club has suffered a sad loss in the sudden passing of Mrs. McMordie. The committee met at her house only three days before she collapsed and died within half-an-hour.

Mrs. McMordie had been Secretary of the croquet section for many years, and visitors to the Tournaments knew with what dogged perseverance she attended to every detail.

For many years she played little, as her husband, the late J. A. McMordie, who had been a brilliant player, was an invalid. Her devotion to him was splendid. As a player Mrs. McMordie was herself a first-rate tactician and her stroke play was a model for young players. It gave her great happiness when her daughter, Margaret, recently took up the game and gives promise of a successful future on the lawns.

Her marriage was a romance—she and J. A. were playing doubles at Eastbourne and he proposed during the match. He was very deaf so she accepted with a nod. They won that match, and Mrs. McMordie even since his death tried to fit the Eastbourne Tournament into her programme. R. C. M.

L. KIRK-GREENE

The death of Leslie Kirk-Greene on March 25th has robbed Compton Croquet Club of its most senior member and the croquet world in general of a gifted player.

Leslie had played both ice-hockey and lawn tennis at a high level,

and when he turned to croquet his progress to the forefront of the game was rapid. His chief strength lay in his shooting ability, which was outstandingly good, and he played his breaks with an almost machine-like accuracy.

In 1956 he represented England on two occasions as a member of the Test team which played against New Zealand. In the same year he won the Doubles Championship in partnership with Freddy Stone.

Leslie's competitive play was confined almost solely to tournaments at Eastbourne and Southwick, and one can only guess at what his achievements might have been had he taken part regularly in the major championship events.

During the past four years increasing ill-health seriously curtailed his tournament appearances, and last season he was unable to play at all.

Leslie will be greatly missed at Compton, where he served on the committee for a good many years. His helpfulness to members whose play was of a very much lower standard than his own will also be missed, for he willingly played with high bisquers and generously gave them advice in addition to their allocation of bisques.

The deepest sympathy of all Compton members will go out to Helen, whose presence at the club has always been most welcome.

N. P.

CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editor:

The admirable letter from Mrs. Prichard on the urgent need for more Referees brings to mind a yet more threatening situation in respect of official Managers. It does not seem to be generally realised by associates how completely the pleasure, and indeed the very existence of their tournaments, depends not merely on the competence of these self-sacrificing persons but on an adequate number of them. Our roll of Managers has of late been steadily shrinking, as indeed is not at all surprising. Croquet is not only the most completely amateur of all our leading open-air games, but it is perhaps that which is most generally dependent on the services of volunteers. And surely of all these the man—or woman—who undertakes to manage our tournaments makes the largest sacrifice. Although he may, under Regulation 10(b) "receive payment in money whether by way of a fee or as an allowance for his services", there must be very few, or perhaps none, during the last half century who have ever done so. He must rise early every day and stay late, very late it may be in high summer and in very chilly conditions sometimes in spring and autumn. He is subjected all day to a series of inquiries which may be—though they are not always—justifiable, and is a target for what are all too often ungenerous complaints. Through all this he is expected to remain "genial" (a standing epithet for Managers deemed to be satisfactory) and rewarded only with a few free lunches and (one hopes) kind words from those competitors who remember to offer them. The wonder is not that we are now disastrously short of these officials but that we can still retain any at all.

Past, present—and future.

What, if anything, can be done about this? The fact is that the Manager today is in some ways an anachronism; his evolution began in a period of large country houses and a prosperous leisure class. Before 1914 he was, more often than not, offered generous and sometimes lavish hospitality, not only at the end but in the middle of the day. (The latter possibility recalls to mind the story of a Manager who, being asked by a victorious competitor at noon when she would be wanted again, got the answer that he didn't know. "Will you know after lunch?" she inquired, to receive the reply: "I never know anything after lunch!") Top class Managers at large tournaments were sometimes paid what were then substantial sums—the fee received by one of these at Devonshire Park was £25. Seeing that those days can never return, we have nothing to rely upon but the good will and public spirit of those who are ready to learn the job under competent instruction and qualify for inclusion in the list of such devoted persons. Odd as it may seem, some Managers do appear to derive a real interest in their apparently thankless duties, and find the planning this involves brings them no small satisfaction. May their number increase, for unless it does we shall find ourselves in a sorry plight. Meanwhile two things may perhaps be said. Club committees must realise—as in fact no doubt most of them now do—that it is neither fair nor wise to suggest that their secretary should be prepared, or allowed, to assume managerial duties, even in the unlikely possibility that he is ready to do this. He will have more than enough to do in a busy tournament week without having to shoulder such a burden as this, even if he is reasonably well qualified to do so. And secondly, all tournament competitors should remember how much their Manager has to think of and not make his task more difficult than it inevitably is by needless inquiries or (still worse) complaints. Even if he is not so good as one might like him to be, let us always realise that we are jolly lucky to have him at all.

M. B. RECKITT.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR RECENT VISITOR, MR. HAROLD CLEMONS

We are all enjoying ourselves, winners or losers, damp or dry, 97° or 79°. I told the New Zealanders in Hobart on January 29th that the English were not unbeatable, but that they would be hard to beat. I said less than I knew to be the case. The English are unbeatable. Nevertheless, there have been some surprises. Prince beat John +15+12 on February 5th and again +14+16 on February 12th. But yesterday Nigel, who is supreme, beat Prince +25+26. Roger's 3-ball break from 2 to the peg on February 19th after Prince had pegged out Nigel was masterly, though if any criticism is warranted I should say that he hadn't quite the same accuracy in placing the balls as Nigel has consistently shown. In that Doubles game John McNab played his ball into the game but did not have another shot. Nigel's supersonic bangs when he runs (say) the 1st hoop from near the yard line and his ball travels to the north boundary always brings a delighted Ooh, Ooh, Ooh! from the onlooking Australian ladies. The fact is that the normal sized lawn is too small for Nigel. He should be handicapped beyond his -5 by being required to play on one measuring 35 yards by 42 yards, his opponent having the option of bringing Nigel's balls on to the inner (normal) rectangular boundary and Nigel having to play from the outer but ending his turn if his ball (or the croqueted one) passes the inner. I haven't worked out the rest of the details, but they shouldn't be difficult. I summarize the results to date, though doubtless others have told you already.

I have not seen more than the triple peel (that often enough), but I was told that Neal did a quadruple. John S. did one of his miraculous 3-ball triples, but I believe could not peg out.

Yours,

HAROLD CLEMONS.

TRICK SHOT

Possibly Popular Pastime Providing Profuse Pleasure to People Possessing Patience, Perspicacity, and Painstaking Propensities for Propounding Peculiarly Preposterous Peels.

It was about a year ago by accident that I discovered this interesting shot of admittedly somewhat limited application. Let us begin with the position of you, the striker, playing Black, having rushed Blue to about four feet from the rover hoop on the playing side; however, by a slight error Blue is three feet or more to the side of a line between rover and peg. You wish to peel Blue on the croquet stroke at this otherwise impossible angle. It can be done by placing Black so that the far upright, Blue, and Black make a straight line, only just missing the near upright. The peeling stroke is a gentle full roll with fractional split, so that Blue hits the far upright, stays there temporarily until Black catches up and knocks it on the side. Blue ends up about six or more inches through, and Black on the opposite side of the hoop to which it started. There must be an unused ball nearby, preferably not on the same side of the hoop as you started, in case you are wired after the coup de grâce.

G. N. ASPINALL.

A SKETCH ON A SENIOR

Major G. F. Stone

He either fears his fate too much

Or his desserts are small,

That dares not put it to the touch,

To gain or lose it all.

In 1911, the year ended with a furious controversy on the subject of juvenile competitors, sparked off by the success of two schoolboys, W. E. R. Blood and a still younger player "Master Freddy Stone," who played in his first tournament at the age of 10. At 12 he was reported to have shown remarkably fine form at Torquay. It was said that at a seaside tournament he had to be brought up from the beach to play his game, and flinging down spade and pail by the side of the court proceeded to win it. This form was not universally appreciated by his venerable opponents. A letter appeared in the Gazette signed "Sixty years old" which regarded the presence of small boys as "a most unpleasant feature in croquet tournaments." When the writer was drawn to play one of the small boys he took him on to the court and in the course of a "dressing down," in which he told his innocent opponent that he proposed to scratch rather than play him, reduced the poor boy to tears.

C. D. Locock, the official handicapper, refused to reduce Freddy Stone's handicap, although he had won tournaments in two successive weeks, as he wouldn't have a small boy as a scratch player. In the second week, playing off $\frac{1}{2}$, he achieved a quadruple peel, although it was 20 years later that he did his first triple peel.

G. F. Stone was soon to make a name for himself by winning the Portsmouth Opens and so becoming, at 13 years of age, the youngest silver medallist in history. He entered the Army and when on leave from India, in 1933, won the Men's Championship, and was described as a player of quite unusual brilliance. It was sad that his movements were dictated by the War Office, and he was not free to

return to croquet until he retired in 1949. He then played twice in the President's Cup, coming third on both occasions. Always a forceful player and a hard-hitter, he delighted in taking risks. At one tournament a beginner was brought to watch him play, and although he made a break from the first hoop to rover, it was in such an unorthodox fashion that the beginner was removed, her instructor saying, "We won't stay here, he is doing everything wrong." At Budleigh he used to have a ball-boy, as his shots often travelled across several lawns, and once he lofted a stroke on to the Pavilion.

He was in the Test Team in 1956, in all five matches against New Zealand, and on top of his form right through the series. With Kirk-Greene, who also played in the Test Matches, he won the Doubles Championship.

JOCELYN SUNDIUS-SMITH.

THE SHIELD COMES HOME

(Overheard in the C.A. Office)

"So you're back again here," said the President's Cup to the MacRobertson Shield; "do you simply get homesick or don't they want you down there?"

"They want me all right, but they're just not worthy of me," said the Shield, with some hauteur.

"I suppose you know," continued the Cup, "that your holders had a certain amount of luck this time; at any rate their opponents did not."

"What do you mean, luck! Why, look at the figures for my chaps in our test matches—7-2 again and again, and 9-0 against New Zealand in temperatures of 98° which none of them had played in before. Not much luck about that, I'd say."

"Your chaps' indeed! They're all President's Cup players remember, and so more mine than yours really. You're an international Trophy, initiated by an Australian; be content with that. But I'm a British realist and I stick to my point. Things were on our side this year; we had some very narrow wins. It's quite arguable that the Antipodean teams weren't as strong as they might have been. Suppose that Peg Harrison and Ed Hunt had been playing for Australia; that John Magor had had a few more seasons' experience; and that Tom Howat, perhaps the best long shot in the world now, had been in a more fit condition to cope with the breaks that his shooting gained for him?"

"Very theoretical, all that, surely," the Shield rejoined.

"I don't see it like that at all," replied the Cup, "but take New Zealand then. Suppose that Ashley and Arthur and David Curtis had been free to play for them and young chaps, like Tony Stephens and Ralph Browne among others, could have kept in practice. The next contest may be a much closer thing, I suspect."

The Shield looked a bit dismayed by this onslaught. "I may be 'international', he replied, "and I'm jolly proud to be. But I've lived over here so long that I feel as if I'd taken out naturalisation papers."

"Well, of course we're glad to have you here," said the Cup, more graciously, "but don't take it for granted you'll be able to stop on indefinitely. Actually it might be a good thing for the game if you went overseas soon and stayed there for a bit."

"Very public-spirited of you I suppose, but here I am, and while I am I mean to play 'hard to get'. Our team—well, **your** team if you insist—were a splendid lot and I loved them all, but they don't exhaust England's strength by any means. Would they be quite certain, I wonder, to beat a side which included Keith Wylie, John Simon, John Bolton, Bryan Lloyd-Pratt, Bill Perry and the little leprechaun from Carrickmines—to say nothing of the great Patrick if he chose to play more often. 'Strength in depth', that's what England's got, as the play for your Cup has been showing for years now."

"You've a point there, I admit," said the Best Eight's spokesman, "if not all 26 of them. Of course we'd agree that the Antipodeans must try harder to get beyond the 'stick and four-back stage', as one of this year's winning team put it, a bit contemptuously—and perhaps inaccurately—when out there; they must learn not merely to tolerate but how to seek out and inspire the young, they must . . ."

"That's all old hat, or new white hat if you prefer," broke in the Shield impatiently. "I prefer to be a bit more positive, and poetical, whether you deny my right to do so or not. As a naturalised Englishman I adapt Shakespeare's lines (to include the young hopeful in South Africa)

Come the **three** corners of the world in arms

and we shall shock them . . ."

"All this 'we' of yours! What about the State Matches after the end of the tour. They shocked **our** Six a bit I suspect."

"An epilogue is not a drama," rejoined the Shield, a trifle sentimentally. "The English team were out of training by then anyway and entitled to ride on a loose rein. Besides, no victor ought to rub in his successes too much—that's merely a crude form of bullying."

Smiling rather sceptically at this, Cup wound up their dialogue thus:

"Speaking for England—if you'll allow me to do so for once—I'd urge that we ought to give our so friendly rivals a chance to get their breath back and recharge their batteries. But people are beginning to say that to wait till the Jubilee of the competition in 1975 is too long. They may want to be at us here before that. Anyhow, 'roll on the day', and may our President live to see it!"

With which unanimous aspiration the Cup retired to its safe, and the Trophy lay back, beaming happily from the wall.

SIDESMAN.

CROQUET ON THE MOVE

The Delayed Sextuple Peel

The delayed sextuple is not unknown in croquet. When the forward ball is unable to play into the jaws of 1-back at the end of the standard sextuple leave, the peeler often finds himself peeling 1-back after the second hoop and still continuing to try to peg out. The general idea is to peel 2-back before 4 or 5, 3-back before 6 or 2-back, and 4-back before 1-back, 2-back, 3-back or 4-back. One of the most appealing features of the delayed sextuple is that unlike the triple peel it relies so much on opportunism that there can be no "textbook" method, so that the audience and (more important) the player can never get bored. Another very important feature of it is that the cautious player can make a serious attempt to complete the peels while still arranging always to have balls by his current hoop and his next one. At the same time, players who are prepared to be adventurous have plenty of scope in the break for taking interesting risks with the promise of suitable rewards: for while a timid player will seldom have fewer than three straight peels to make at the end, a little effort can get this down to one and even, in theory, to none.

Hitherto, the delayed sextuple has only been tried as an imperfect standard sextuple. My aim in this article is to demonstrate that it deserves a place in the normal croquet repertory in its own right: the practical advantages of the delayed sextuple leave over the standard sextuple leave easily compensate for the poorer prospects it gives. The delayed sextuple leave is simple: as in the standard sextuple leave the player arranges to make 5 off an opponent's ball with the other two balls by the first hoop, and after 5 crosswires his opponent at the first and gets a rush to 6. However, after 6 he rushes his partner ball into the third corner and leaves it a rush to the second hoop. Students of the geography of the croquet court will discover that usually the two balls can be placed within two yards of each other in such a way that each is wired from exactly one of the opponent's balls, one by the third hoop and one by the peg. Also, any shot at an open ball has to go perilously near an obstacle.

This fairly obvious position used, I believe, to be a stock leave before the advent of lifts. Now, as then, there is no particularly satisfactory defensive shot (but more of that later). So much so that, as in the standard sextuple leave, the best course of action is to shoot at the balls in the third corner. But what a shot to have to take! Comparing the delayed sextuple leave with the standard sextuple leave:

The delayed sextuple leave is very much easier to make. One can also correct an imperfect crosswiring after the sixth hoop at hardly any cost, and small errors in the positioning of the balls in the third corner are not disastrous unless a lift by wiring is conceded. (In the standard sextuple leave, making 1-back and giving a double target are common mistakes and each one is caused by the smallest of errors.) The incentive to shoot is much the same—nearly a hundred per cent.—but the one shot is half as long again as the other, and has the psychological difficulties of nearby obstacles, the peg and the third hoop. The only advantage of the standard leave is that it provides a substantially better opportunity to peg out. For all that, it has yet to be done, and I fancy that if the delayed sextuple leave gains the favour that I think it deserves the first sextuple to be completed in a match will be a delayed one, bizarre though it may seem.

However, the delayed sextuple does not provide any great chance to go out: its chief merit is in saving lifts. The player who gets the first break can ensure that he keeps this advantage if he attempts some form of sextuple so long as he keeps his head and concentrates on keeping the break going and getting his own ball round to the peg, peeling his partner ball as a secondary interest. If he makes the delayed sextuple leave or if after a standard sextuple leave his opponent plays into the third corner, he should always succeed in completing three peels (at the worst, he peels 2-back straight and 3-back before or after rover) and often four or more. He is then in a position to peg himself out, with four points or less to make and an opponent who has spent an hour or so sitting down. If his opponent shot at him after a standard sextuple leave, the peeler should be a hoop or so better off when he pegs himself out. (Note that this is essentially the only risk that his opponent takes in shooting at him after the standard leave.)

The advantages of making the delayed sextuple leave and then pegging out the erstwhile backward ball over the well-known policy

Seven

of going to the peg in the first break are immense. If player A has gone to the peg and his opponent, B, makes a delayed sextuple leave and pegs out A's rover, the game is virtually over. Even if B fails to seize this gift, A encounters considerable difficulties as the out-player in trying to play defensively with four balls on the court. Against some players there is no truly defensive position with all four balls. On the other hand, after a delayed sextuple attempt, there would be only three balls left and A would have little trouble in playing defensively, biding his time before shooting, hitting and going out.

Perhaps in this context I should mention the strategy of pegging out the forward ball after a first break in which a number of peels have been made on the backward ball. (The usual number of peels is four.) This idea cannot be dismissed out of hand, but at the same time the resulting position does not really reflect the advantage of having got the first break. The player will end up with about nine points to make, compared with the four he might otherwise have had, and all he has in return for this sacrifice is the saving of one 30-yard shot.

Naturally, how to keep the advantage of having made the first break is by no means the only problem which the delayed sextuple helps to solve. For instance, if your opponent is on 2 and 4-back, then as long as there are four balls on the court he is theoretically within one shot of going out. If you hit in and can subsequently achieve a position where you are pegged out and for 4-back while he is still for 2 and 4-back without your having allowed him a short shot, it is obvious that there is much to be said for the method. Another common and difficult position occurs when you have a four-ball break by the fourth hoop but your partner ball is for, say, the fifth hoop. (To be for 4 and 5 is tactically worse than being for the first hoop with both balls.) Now you crosswire your opponent at the fifth hoop just after you have made it, rush your partner ball to 6, and afterwards leave it a rush to 1-back in the third corner—not so good as the ordinary delayed sextuple leave but the best in the circumstances. Your opponent now probably shoots and, we hope, misses, and you end up by trying a straight sextuple peel. Don't laugh! Everything is under control at 1-back, so you can do a good hard peel sending your partner ball up the court towards 2-back. You will probably not be able to peel 2-back straight, but will almost certainly do the peel immediately after 2-back. Then you do the 3-back peel before or after rover, and peg yourself out. Considering that when you were for 4 and 5 you were in very real danger of having to concede two lift shots, the delayed sextuple has paid off handsomely. If your opponent already had a clip on 4-back, you will have done very well indeed. There are some occasions when the delayed sextuple is a sensible thing to try, especially when your opponent is shooting well, since after the two main breaks his shooting is no longer relevant to the game. There are also times when it would be silly to try it, in particular when your opponent has both clips well advanced or when he is a bad shot.

Finally, a quiz, which I shall answer in the next issue. Contrary to what the textbooks may say, it is pointless to play into any corner after the standard sextuple leave, as it also is after the delayed sextuple leave. However, there is a little-known and sensible defensive shot which can be used in each case. What is it?

K. F. W.

NOTES FROM CLUBS

HOVE LAWNS CLUB

This year the club is arranging for croquet instruction on two mornings each week throughout the coming season by our President and Vice-President, who will also be assisted by Mrs. Turketine, of the Southwick Club. We hope that our members will be able to reach a standard that will enable them to compete in the Club Tournaments in the near future. We also held our annual Club Dinner, which was a great success and enjoyed by all.

CHELMSFORD AND COLCHESTER

Last season was marked by two outstanding events. The first was Roger Bray's success in winning both the Handicap and the Open at Hurlingham (statisticians, is this a record?), gaining a place in the President's Cup, being included in the Test team and completing the tour without losing any singles match. Fortunately he has returned to us, unlike our representative in the last Test team, David Curtis, who is, of course, still over yonder.

The second was the rather sad decision to close the Chelmsford ground in view of the very little use which has been made of it during the last two years. However, it was disposed of for a very satisfactory price, which we hope will enable us to make substantial improvements at Colchester. In view of this closure it was decided at the Annual General Meeting to change the name of the Club to "The Colchester Croquet Club".

At that meeting it was reported that the annual growth in membership had been maintained and the number of members was now 76 compared with 50 in 1965. The officers and committee were re-elected for the present season, which promises to be a busy and successful one.

Eight

Match HUNSTANTON v. CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY April 27th

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Hunstanton | Cambridge |
| B. Lloyd Pratt lost to G. Slater -26. | Mrs. J. N. Rolfe beat G. Taylor +22. |
| J. A. Wheeler lost to M. Bushnell -3. | Miss S. Hampson beat D. Archer +19. |
| H. Green beat S. Hemsted +7. | |

Doubles

B. Lloyd Pratt and Miss S. Hampson beat M. Bushnell and G. Taylor +17.
J. A. Wheeler and H. Green lost to G. Slater and M. Hemsted -23.
Mrs. J. N. Rolfe beat D. Archer +11.

Hunstanton won by 5 games to 3.

CHELTENHAM REPORT

The first Tournament of the season was held over the Easter week-end under cloudless skies, which did much to make one forgive the chilly wind, and even this gave place to a beautiful, warm day on the Monday. The lawns were in wonderful condition after all the work put in by Colonel Wheeler and his helpers, and the "new look" of the buildings was much admired.

Of the block winners, in a couple of hours before lunch Will Prichard disposed of his mother and Whittington +26 and +24, formidable opponents, in the quarter and semi-finals respectively, but could not find touch in the final when he was well beaten by a relentless J. A. Wheeler. The winner will doubtless continue to win games even with the customary reduction of handicap following this well-earned success!

Of the 25 entries only five had handicaps of more than +3; it seems a pity that more "B" and "C" class players do not avail themselves of this opportunity of a veritable feast of competitive croquet early in the season.

The Tournament was managed with all the combined Yoxall efficiency and bonhomie.

CHELTENHAM AMERICAN HANDICAP SINGLES April 5th-7th

BLOCK WINNERS

Block A.—W. de B. Prichard (1) beat G. E. P. Jackson (-2½) +13, M. J. Bushnell (-1) +26, Mrs. A. L. Yoxall (3) +5, Miss M. G. Anderson (7½) +14.

Block B.—J. A. Wheeler (4½) beat Lt.-Col. D. M. C. Prichard (-2½) +15, Dr. A. L. Yoxall (-½) +4, G. Birch (0) +21, Miss W. K. Allardyce (8) +17.

Block C.—Mrs. D. M. C. Prichard (1) beat R. F. Rothwell (-2) +10, Col. G. T. Wheeler (-½) +16, S. R. Hemsted (1) +14, L. G. Ayliffe (6) +2.

Block D.—R. O. B. Whittington (0) beat P. W. Hands (-2) +20, J. N. Robinson (-½) +5, R. D. C. Prichard (2) +10, lost to Mrs. G. H. Wood (6) +8.

Block E.—C. H. L. Prichard (½) beat Miss K. M. O. Sessions (-2) +18, P. W. Elmes (-½) +10, Rev. W. E. Gladstone (2) +15, lost to Mrs. K. M. Lowein (12) +10.

Play-off of Block Winners

First Round

W. de B. Prichard beat Mrs. D. M. C. Prichard +26.

Semi-Finals

J. A. Wheeler beat C. H. L. Prichard +9.

W. de B. Prichard beat R. O. B. Whittington +24.

Final

J. A. Wheeler beat W. de B. Prichard +9.

HUNSTANTON WEEK-END TOURNAMENT April 11th-14th

Our Vice-President, Mr. Gerald Williams, who has joined the Hunstanton Club as a country member, is to be congratulated on winning the Butlin Cup so early in the season.

With a strong contingent of Cambridge undergraduates and a most welcome visit en masse from the go-ahead Ipswich Club the tournament attracted the maximum entry and was, as usual, an extremely enjoyable week-end.

HUNSTANTON AMERICAN TOURNAMENT April 11th-14th (21 entries)

HANDICAP SINGLES

Block A (7 entries).—Winner: G. Williams (-1) beat G. Hopewell (-1) 26-13, B. Lloyd Pratt (-3) 26-0, Miss K. Sessions (-2) 26-18, G. Slater (-½) 26-14, Col. G. T. Wheeler (-½) 26-12 and lost to P. D. Hallett (-1½) 15-26.

Block B (7 entries).—Winner: J. A. Wheeler (3½) beat D. Archer (0) 26-13, Miss S. Hampson (3½) 26-17, Mrs. J. N. Rolfe (1½) 26-19, Mrs. R. Simpson (1) 26-0, Miss L. Allardyce (8) 26-13 and lost to R. Simpson (0) 20-26.

Block C (7 entries).—Winner: C. R. Palmer (12) beat Miss M. E. Day (9) 26-7, W. J. Millie (14) 26-7, Mrs. W. J. Millie (16) 26-21, A. W. Greenham (12) 23-9 (on time), Miss I. M. Wood (14) 26-4, Mrs. Zinn (11) 26-13.

Play-off

J. A. Wheeler (3½) }
C. R. Palmer (12) } C. R. Palmer +7 } G. Williams +8
G. Williams

COMPTON WEEK-END TOURNAMENT April 17th-20th

The system under which this tournament is played, whereby players are given a large say in when they will play and when they will not, always proves popular. But it means limiting the numbers to 20 and, as usual, a few entries regretfully had to be refused. In spite of somewhat indifferent weather the tournament was so enjoyed that there were many requests for another later on, and it is hoped this will take place September 11th-14th.

It was remarkable that no one managed to win all four games in his block.

Block A.—Winner: D. Jesson Dibley (1½) beat Mrs. Chittenden (-½) by 6, Mrs. Elvey (-½) by 13, Mrs. Perry (2½) by 2, lost to D. J. V. Hamilton-Miller (-3½) by 4.

Block B.—Winner: E. Tyrwhitt-Drake (½) beat G. Borrett (-2) by 3, C. S. Phillips (10) by 13, Miss Parker (2½) by 15, lost to D. A. Harris (2½) by 1.

Block C.—Winner: Mrs. Temple (2½) beat D. L. Allen (6½) by 15, D. Himmens (4½) by 6, Miss Clarke-Lens (8) by 4, lost to S. G. Stoker (6½) by 3.

Block D.—Winner: Miss Anderson (7½) beat Mrs. Waterhouse (16) by 11, Mrs. West (12) by 13, Miss Cooke (14) by 3 on time, lost to R. Ellis (14) by 2 on time.

Semi-Finals

E. Tyrwhitt-Drake beat Mrs. Temple by 11.

D. Jesson Dibley beat Miss Anderson by 13.

Final

E. Tyrwhitt-Drake beat D. Jesson Dibley by 9.

BUDLEIGH SALTERTON

Most competitors were emerging for the first time after hibernation, and what a good opportunity for practising one's skills. To give everyone more play the blocks were larger this year, with only one play-off between the two "A" blocks and one between the two "E"s—a handsome cup being awarded for each. No one won all his games, block winners being decided by the plus-minus count recommended by the Laws Committee. When it was understood that the point count was only resorted to where two (or more) players had the same number of wins it was generally agreed that this was the fairest system. A player should remember that withdrawal from an American tournament cancels all his matches which can affect other players' results, so that competitors should be prepared to play right through—even if winter does encroach on spring.

The Crocks Block was again well supported; it was won by Col. Heathcote, but it was rather sabotaged by the success of most of the Crocks (so-called) in the Doubles. Freddie Henshaw strained his wrist and had to scratch, otherwise he too with Laverty would surely have been there at the finish. Atchley won the long-bisquers block and was in contention in the Doubles under the brilliant direction of Mrs. Briggs. He was run close by Mrs. Shiel, who goes all out for four-ball breaks—a policy which will soon pay off. Colonel and Mrs. Steel both showed improved form and nobly traversed Dartmoor daily. Mrs. Wood, the only successful visitor, continues to improve but was not equal to the accurate break control of Bucknall in the "B"s. Perry and Laverty have played croquet almost throughout the winter, consequently their game was sharper, the latter just having the edge in the play-off. Warwick and Cooper also played (and looked) well—perhaps for the same reason.

No one has the edge on Col. Cave in running an American tournament: he plans in advance, redeploys quickly and makes every effort to indulge our idiosyncrasies but not at the expense of efficiency. Thank you, Budleigh, from the 11 visitors you made so welcome—once anyone plays in a tournament here he is hooked for life.

BUDLEIGH SALTERTON MAY TOURNAMENT The Godfrey-Turner Cup

AMERICAN HANDICAP: Two Blocks, winners play-off.
(16 entries)

A Block

B. G. Perry (-3½) beat Mrs. E. Rotherham +23, Miss Warwick +15, Col. Prichard +15, J. G. Warwick +13, Col. Healing +4, lost to A. J. Cooper -26 (5 wins).

Col. W. R. Healing (-½) beat Mrs. E. Rotherham +23, Miss Warwick +9, Col. Prichard +13, J. G. Warwick +23, lost to A. J. Cooper -17, B. G. Perry -4 (4 wins).

A. J. Cooper (-3½) beat B. G. Perry +26, Mrs. Rotherham +13, Miss Warwick +10, Col. Healing +17, lost to Col. Prichard -8, J. G. Warwick -25 (4 wins).

L. G. Warwick (-2) beat A. J. Cooper +25, Mrs. Rotherham +23, Col. Prichard +19 (3 wins).

Lt.-Col. D. M. C. Prichard (-2) beat A. J. Cooper +8, Mrs. E. Rotherham +10, Miss Warwick +4 (3 wins).

Miss E. J. Warwick (-3) beat Mrs. Rotherham +15, J. G. Warwick +22 (2 wins).

Mrs. E. Rotherham (-3), no wins.

B Block

Lt.-Col. T. F. Laverty (1) beat E. H. Shelton +15, Mrs. Prichard +7, Comdr. Beamish +14, Dr. Smartt +15, Mrs. Smartt +17, lost to Mrs. Rolfe -11 (5 wins).

Mrs. D. M. C. Prichard (1) beat E. H. Shelton +8, Comdr. Beamish +25, Dr. Smartt +2, Mrs. Smartt +5, Mrs. Rolfe +14, lost to Col. Laverty -7 (5 wins).

Mrs. J. N. Rolfe (1½) beat E. H. Shelton +21, Col. Laverty +11, Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish (-½) beat E. H. Shelton +4 (1 win).
Dr. Smartt -6 (4 wins).

Dr. R. B. N. Smartt (1) beat Comdr. Beamish +5, Mrs. Smartt +4, Mrs. Rolfe +6, E. H. Shelton +4, lost to Col. Laverty -15, Mrs. Prichard -2 (4 wins).

Mrs. R. B. M. Smartt beat E. H. Shelton +14, Comdr. Beamish +21 (2 wins).

Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish (-½) beat E. H. Shelton +14 (1 win).
E. H. Shelton (-½) no wins.

In the play-off between the winners of A and B Blocks: Lt.Col. T. F. Laverty (1) beat B. G. Perry (-3½) +4.

J. K. Brown Cup (15 entries)

C Block (7)

W. R. Bucknall (3) beat Mrs. Vincent +7, Sir L. Daldrey +4, Miss J. Cooper +8, J. Lee +15, G. R. Mills +19, lost to M. Granger Brown -20 (5 wins).

Sir L. Daldrey (2½) beat Mrs. Vincent +4, Miss J. Cooper +23, G. R. Mills +8, M. G. Brown +17, lost to W. R. Bucknall -4, J. Lee -10 (4 wins).

J. Lee (2½) beat Sir L. Daldrey +10, Mrs. Vincent +1, Miss Cooper +18, G. R. Mills +5, lost to W. R. Bucknall -15, M. G. Brown -17 (4 wins).

Mrs. M. H. Vincent (2½) beat Miss J. Cooper +15, G. R. Mills +8, M. G. Brown +12 (3 wins).

G. R. Mills (4) beat Miss J. Cooper +9, M. G. Brown +12 (2 wins).

M. Granger Brown (5) beat W. R. Bucknall +21, J. Lee +17 (2 wins).

Miss J. Cooper (3) beat M. Granger Brown +4 (1 win).

D Block (6)

Mrs. G. H. Wood (6) beat L. G. Ayliffe +11, Mrs. R. C. Hawkins +13, Miss D. L. Latham +16, Miss E. G. Clarke Lens +8, lost to C. Edwards -6 (4 wins).

C. Edwards (10) beat Mrs. Wood +6, Mrs. R. C. Hawkins +24, Miss D. L. Latham +19, lost to L. G. Ayliffe -4, Miss Clarke Lens -4 (3 wins).

L. G. Ayliffe (6) beat Mrs. Hawkins +10, Miss Latham +16, C. Edwards +4, lost to Mrs. Wood -11, Miss Clarke Lens -1 on time (3 wins).

Miss Clarke Lens (8) beat L. G. Ayliffe +1 on time, Miss Latham +17, C. Edwards +4, lost to Mrs. Wood -8, Mrs. Hawkins -12 (3 wins).

Mrs. Hawkins (6) beat Miss Latham +23, Miss Clarke Lens +12 (2 wins).

Miss D. Locks-Latham (7) no wins.
In the play-off Dr. W. R. Bucknall (3) beat Mrs. G. H. Wood (6) +2.

L. G. Walters Long Handicap Trophy (6 entries)

Maj. R. St. G. Atchley (10) beat Mrs. Harris +15, Col. Steel +14, C. W. Evans +6, Mrs. Sheil +14, lost to Mrs. Steel -7 (4 wins).

Mrs. F. A. Sheil (10) beat Mrs. Steel +14, Mrs. Harris +7, Col. Steel +11, C. W. Evans +12, lost to Maj. Atchley -14 (4 wins).

Col. G. R. Steel (15) beat Mrs. Steel +7, Mrs. Harris +14, Dr. Evans +10 (3 wins).

Dr. C. W. Evans (16) beat Mrs. Steel +14, Mrs. Harris +11 (2 wins).

Mrs. G. R. Steel (14) beat Maj. Atchley +7 (1 win).

Mrs. H. Harris beat Mrs. Steel +6 (1 win).

Maj. R. S. G. Atchley won the Long Handicap Trophy.

"Crocks" Block

Maj. E. C. Heathcote beat Miss Ault +7, Mrs. Briggs +10, F. Henshaw +1.

Mrs. F. R. Briggs no wins.

F. Henshaw beat Miss Ault +13, Mrs. Briggs +6.

Miss K. Ault beat Mrs. Briggs +5.

Nine

Miss A. E. Mills and Dr. G. Laurence retired.
Maj. E. C. Heathcote won the "Crocks" Block.

DOUBLES
(18 entries)

First Round

A. J. Cooper and Mrs. W. Nash (3½) beat Mrs. E. Rotherham and Miss E. G. Clarke Lens (5) +9.
J. G. Warwick and Mrs. G. H. Wood (4) beat Col. G. R. Steel and Mrs. G. R. Steel (25) +14.

Second Round

W. R. Bucknall and J. Lee (5½) beat Col. W. R. Healing and Miss J. Cooper (2½) +10.
Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish and M. Granger-Brown (4½) beat Mrs. D. M. C. Prichard and Mrs. M. H. Vincent (3½) +4 on time.
Mrs. F. R. Briggs and Maj. R. St. G. Atchley (14) beat E. H. Shelton and Mrs. Harris (12½) +9.
A. J. Cooper and Mrs. W. Nash (3½) beat Lt.-Col. D. M. C. Prichard and Mrs. G. E. Cave (3½) +5.
Lt.-Col. T. F. Lavery and F. Henshaw (7½) beat J. G. Warwick and Mrs. G. H. Wood (4) +9.
Mrs. J. N. Rolfe and Miss A. E. Mills (5) beat Mrs. R. B. N. Smartt and Mrs. D. J. Bird (8) +15.
Maj. E. C. Heathcote and Dr. C. W. Evans (17) beat Dr. R. B. N. Smartt and Mrs. F. A. Sheil (9) +1 (T).
B. G. Perry and C. Edwards (4½) beat Miss E. J. Warwick and L. G. Ayliffe (3) +9.

Third Round

W. R. Bucknall and J. Lee (5½) beat Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish and M. Granger-Brown (4½) +19.
Mrs. F. R. Briggs and Maj. R. St. G. Atchley (14) beat A. J. Cooper and Mrs. W. Nash (3½) +4.
Mrs. J. N. Rolfe and Miss A. E. Mills (5) w/o (opponents scratched).
Maj. E. C. Heathcote and Dr. C. W. Evans (17) beat B. G. Perry and C. Edwards +9.

Semi-Final

W. R. Bucknall and J. Lee (5½) beat Mrs. F. R. Brigg and Maj. R. St. G. Atchley (14) +2 on time.
Maj. E. C. Heathcote and Dr. C. W. Evans (17) beat Mrs. J. N. Rolfe and Miss A. E. Mills (5) +12.

Final

W. R. Bucknall and J. Lee beat Maj. E. C. Heathcote and Dr. C. W. Evans +1 on time.

CHELTENHAM, May 12th-16th

The Peel Memorials

In the glorious setting of the Cotswolds the lawns were made ready to receive visitors and were given much care and attention. The Peel Memorials were being played at Cheltenham for the first time and a big entry was expected. Disappointingly, only small numbers came and were welcomed to the Club with a champagne party, which was a great success.

They had to work hard to provide high bisquers to partner the minus players, even going so far as persuading people to join the C.A. so as to be eligible to play.

One of these was Brigadier Bourke, who struck his first croquet ball on April 29th. Aply guided by last year's winner of the Chairman's Cup, Mr. Edgar Jackson, they proceeded to win the Doubles, after a series of entertaining games. They narrowly defeated the wily Miss Lintern and Mrs. Macmillan and provided great excitement for spectators, as the innings frequently changed hands and there were many mishaps and much cogitation between strokes.

In one round Colonel Wheeler, with a gleam in his eye and using several bisques, peeled and pegged out Mr. Adcock's ball, leaving his wife who, although almost a beginner, played splendidly in a dutiful wifely game to defeat Mrs. Sundius-Smith, who was left on her own and not in a hitting mood!

Mrs. Prichard played consistently well to win the Women's Event; she triumphed in both Draw and Process. The play-off for second place was between Mrs. Povey and Mrs. Lightfoot, the former showing particular promise all the week to become the winner.

The Rev. W. E. Gladstone used his bisques effectively and did extremely well to win both Draw and Process. After years of playing on his own lawn, he has now retired to Cheltenham and looks like winning many tournaments in the future. Mr. Adcock was another player who has great promise; he beat Mr. Jackson in one half and lost to him in the play-off for second place.

The Club owes a great deal to its dedicated helpers: Dr. Yoxall managed, with kindly understanding, his small troupe of players. There were lots of friendly games between matches; let us hope that next year another event will be added to the Peels and so attract a much larger entry. Miss Armstrong and her band of helpers provided excellent lunches and teas, which was extremely kind as some weren't even croquet players.

Mrs. Jackson presented the prizes, and everyone sent messages to Mrs. Daniels, the President, who was unable to be there through illness and was much missed by her friends.

MEN'S HANDICAP SINGLES

DRAW

First Round

A. R. Adcock (3) beat G. E. P. Jackson (-2½) +4.
Dr. A. L. Yoxall (-½) beat Col. G. T. Wheeler (-½) +23.
Lt.-Col. D. M. C. Prichard (-2½) beat Brig. the Rev. A. G. F. Forbes (0) +14.

Semi-Final

A. R. Adcock (3) beat Dr. A. L. Yoxall (-½) +7.
Rev. W. E. Gladstone (2) beat Lt.-Col. D. M. C. Prichard (-2½) +5.

Final

Rev. W. E. Gladstone (2) beat A. R. Adcock (3) +12.

PROCESS

First Round

Rev. W. E. Gladstone (2) beat Dr. A. L. Yoxall (-½) +24.
Lt.-Col. D. M. C. Prichard (-2½) beat A. R. Adcock (3) +3.
Brig. the Rev. A. G. F. Forbes (0) beat Col. G. T. Wheeler (-½) +19.

Semi-Final

Rev. W. E. Gladstone (2) beat Lt.-Col. D. M. C. Prichard (-2½) +23.

Final

G. E. P. Jackson (-2½) beat Brig. the Rev. A. G. F. Forbes (0) +10.

Play-off for Second Place

Rev. W. E. Gladstone (2) beat G. E. P. Jackson (-2½) +10.

WOMEN'S HANDICAP SINGLES

DRAW

First Round

Miss K. M. O. Sessions (-2) beat Mrs. B. L. Sundius-Smith (0) +7.

Second Round

Mrs. J. Povey (6) beat Mrs. E. M. Lightfoot (½) +7.
Miss K. M. O. Sessions (-2) beat Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey (-½) +26.
Mrs. D. M. C. Prichard (1) beat Mrs. N. A. C. McMillan (1) +11.
Miss D. A. Lintern (1) beat Mrs. A. L. Yoxall (3) +5.

Semi-Final

Mrs. J. Povey (6) beat Miss K. M. O. Sessions (-2) +3.
Mrs. D. M. C. Prichard (1) beat Miss D. A. Lintern (1) +8.

Final

Mrs. D. M. C. Prichard (1) beat Mrs. J. Povey (6) +11.

PROCESS

First Round

Mrs. J. Povey (6) beat Miss D. A. Lintern (1) +17.

Second Round

Mrs. D. M. C. Prichard (1) beat Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey (-½) +23.
Miss K. M. O. Sessions (-2) beat Mrs. J. Povey (6) +12.
Mrs. A. L. Yoxall (3) beat Mrs. B. L. Sundius-Smith (0) +14.
Mrs. E. M. Lightfoot (½) beat Mrs. N. A. C. McMillan (1) +11.

Semi-Final

Mrs. D. M. C. Prichard (1) beat Miss K. M. O. Sessions (-2) +25.
Mrs. E. M. Lightfoot (½) beat Mrs. A. L. Yoxall (3) +2.

Final

Mrs. D. M. C. Prichard (1) beat Mrs. E. M. Lightfoot (½) +12.

Play-off for Second Place

Mrs. J. Povey (6) beat Mrs. E. M. Lightfoot (½) +15.

HANDICAP DOUBLES

First Round

Miss D. A. Lintern and Mrs. N. A. C. McMillan (2) beat L. G. Ayliffe and Miss K. M. O. Sessions (4) +6 on time.
G. E. P. Jackson and Brig. L. E. Bourke (11½) beat Brig. the Rev. A. G. F. Forbes and W/Cdr. E. M. Smith (2) +7.
A. R. Adcock and Mrs. B. L. Sundius-Smith (3) beat Rev. W. E. Gladstone and Mrs. D. M. C. Prichard (3) +7.

Second Round

W. J. Sturdy and Mrs. E. M. Lightfoot (5½) beat Dr. A. L. Yoxall and Mrs. B. de C. Mathews (2) +11.
G. E. P. Jackson and Brig. L. E. Bourke (11½) beat Miss D. A. Lintern and Mrs. McMillan (2) +2.
Col. G. T. Wheeler and Mrs. Wheeler (13½) beat A. R. Adcock and Mrs. Sundius-Smith (3) +6.
Lt.-Col. D. M. C. Prichard and Mrs. J. Povey (3½) beat Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey and Mrs. A. L. Yoxall (2½) +14.

Semi-Final

G. E. P. Jackson and Brig. L. E. Bourke (11½) beat W. J. Sturdy and Mrs. E. M. Lightfoot (5½) +12.
Col. G. T. Wheeler and Mrs. Wheeler (13½) beat Lt.-Col. D. M. C. Prichard and Mrs. J. Povey (3½) +6.

Final

G. E. P. Jackson and Brig. L. E. Bourke (11½) beat Col. G. T. Wheeler and Mrs. Wheeler (13½) +12.

CHELTENHAM

WHITSUN AMERICAN TOURNAMENT

May 16th-18th

When the sun shone Cheltenham was at its best—the hills, the

DIRECTORY OF REGISTERED CLUBS

A.E.R.E. Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: Chem. Eng. Div., Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell, Didcot, Berks.

All-England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: Church Road, Wimbledon, S.W.19.
(Tel. WIMbledon 2244.)

Barnes Sports Club

Hon. Secretary: (Croquet Section), Lonsdale Road, Barnes, S.W.13.

Barnstaple Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: Miss E. I. Efemy, 3, Victoria Lawn, Victoria Street, Barnstaple, Devon.

B.C.U.R.A. Croquet Club

(Randalls Road, Leatherhead, Surrey.)
Hon. Secretary: F. V. Bethell, 9, Blackthorne Road, Great Bookham, Surrey.

Beecham's Research Sports & Social Club

(Croquet Section).
Hon. Secretary: Beecham's Research Labs., Brockham Park, Betchworth, Surrey. (Tel. Betchworth 3202.)

Bentley (Brentwood)

Hon. Secretary: F. Stanley-Smith, Hatch House, Pilgrims Hatch, Brentwood, Essex. (Tel. Coxtie Green 456.)

Birmingham (Edgbaston)

Hon. Secretary: F. R. Meacham, Flat 70, Chadbrook Crest, Brook Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham 15.

Bowdon

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. Joan Walker, Gadebrook, Chapel Drive, Hale Barns, Cheshire.

Bristol Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: Miss B. E. Setter, 38a, Westover Road, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol. (Bristol 625980.)

Bristol Aeroplane Corporation Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: S. W. Tonkin, 22, Downs Park East, Bristol, 6.

Brooke Bond Research Labs. Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: Dr. V. Long, Brooke Bond Research Labs., Blounts Court, Sonning Common, Reading, Berks.

Budleigh Salterton

Hon. Secretary: Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave, Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, Budleigh Salterton, Devon. (Tel. Budleigh Salterton 2548 Private 3447.)

Burley Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: Burnt Axon, Burley, Ringwood, Hants.

Cambridge Municipal Parks Croquet

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. P. E. Heley, 40, Newton Road, Cambridge.

Cambridge University Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: D. W. Archer, 510, King's College, Cambridge.

Carmel College Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: S. Silver, Carmel College, Mongewell Park, Wallingford, Berks.

Carrickmines Croquet & Lawn Tennis Club

Hon. Secretary: F. Regan, 38, Silchester Road, Glenageary, Co. Dublin.

Cassiobury (Watford)

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. K. Clark, 113, Cassiobury Park Avenue, Watford, Herts.

Caversham Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: Dr. C. A. Boucher, 8, Derby Road, Caversham, Reading, Berks.

Chelmsford and Colchester Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: E. Whitehead, Cherwell, Mill Lane, Danbury, Essex.

Cheltenham Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: Miss W. K. Allardyce, Cheltenham Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham, Glos. (Tel. Cheltenham 52650.)

Clevedon Community Association Croquet Club

Sunhill Park, Clevedon, Somerset. (Clevedon 2712.)
Hon. Secretary: Miss M. Cleveland-Smith, Highlands Cottage, Park Road, Clevedon, Somerset.

Colworth Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: C. Hitchcock, Unilever Research Labs., Colworth House, Sharnbrook, Bedford.

Compton (Eastbourne) Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: H. C. S. Perry, Hockington House, Willingdon, Eastbourne, Sussex. (Tel. Eastbourne 52656.)

Coombe Lodge Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: Coombe Lodge, Blagdon, Nr. Bristol, BS18 6RG. (Tel. Blagdon 503.)

Cranford (Exmouth) Croquet & Lawn Tennis Club

Hon. Secretary: The Club House, Cranford, Exmouth.

Crouch Hill Recreation Club

(Club House, Hillrise Road, N.19.)
Hon. Secretary: Mrs. H. S. Webb, 55, Roseberry Gardens, Crouch End, N.4.

East Dorset Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club (Parkstone)

Salterns Road, Parkstone, Dorset.
Hon. Secretary: Miss M. D. McMordie, Yapton, Delhi Close, Parkstone, Dorset. (Parkstone 2814.)

Edinburgh Croquet Club (Lauriston Castle)

Hon. Secretary: Miss A. M. Murray, 3, Bonnington Grove, Edinburgh, 6.

Ellesmere Bowling, Tennis & Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. K. M. Wolstencroft, Oak Gate North, 223, Old Clough Lane, Worsley, Nr. Manchester.

Folkstone/Hythe Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: P. Staines, 59, Bouverie Road West, Folkstone, Kent. (Imperial Hotel, Hythe).

Glasgow Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: P. J. Martin, 20, Ailsa Drive, Giffrock by Glasgow.

Glenochil Croquet Club

Scottish Grain Distillers Ltd., Glenochil Research Station, Menstrie, Clackmannanshire.

Hon. Secretary: Dr. A. M. Brown, Briar-Mount, Doune Road, Dunblane, Perthshire.

Harrow Oak Croquet Club

Harrow Recreation Ground, Hindes Road, Harrow.
Hon. Secretary: P. J. Owen, 33, Tewkesbury Avenue, Pinner, Middlesex.

Hove Lawns Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: L. W. A. Brown, 5, Stanford Avenue, Brighton, 6, Sussex.

Hull University Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: W. N. Yates, Hull University Union, The University, Hull, Yorks.

Hunstanton

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. A. N. Rolfe, "Weathercocks," Heacham, King's Lynn, Norfolk. (Tel. Heacham 233.)

Hurlingham

The Games Manager: Cmdr. D. E. Jenkins, M.B.E., R.N. (Retd.), Hurlingham Club, London, S.W.6. (Tel. 01-736 2662.)

Incorrribles Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: Francis X. V. Norton, 364, Albert Drive, Pollokshields, Glasgow, S.1.

Ipswich & District (Arboretum) Croquet Club, Christchurch Park

Hon. Secretary: Miss Edith Wood, 65, Gleneagles Drive, Ipswich, Suffolk.

Langside College Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: Davos, 364, Albert Drive, Glasgow, S.1.

Leamington Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club

(Guys Cliffe Avenue, Leamington Spa.)
Hon. Secretary: R. A. Lewty, 42, Heath Terrace, Leamington Spa. (Tel. 24518.)

Littlehampton Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. M. A. Whillier, Ranmore, Pigeon House Lane, Rustington, Sussex. (Tel. Rustington 5506.)

Lytham St. Anne's Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: Col. J. L. Walsh, 7, Ryeheys Road, St. Anne's, Lancs. (Tel. St. Anne's 21633.)

Marmullane Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. H. Gorsuch, Pembroke House, Passage West, Co. Cork. (Tel. Marmullane 841149.)

Monmouthshire Croquet & Lawn Tennis Club

(Penpergwm, Abergavenny, Mon.)
Hon. Secretary: Lt.-Col. D. M. C. Prichard, Gobion Manor, Abergavenny, Monmouthshire.

Mullards (Salfords) Sports Club (Croquet)

Hon. Secretary: R. W. Gibson, Mullard Research Laboratories, Cross Oak Lane, Salfords, Nr. Redhill, Surrey. (Tel. Horley 5544.)

Norton Hall Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: Norton Hall Croquet Club, Norton-on-Tees, Co. Durham.

Nottingham Croquet Club

(Highfields-University Boulevard, Nottingham.)
Hon. Secretary: Miss E. C. Brumpton, 72, Davies Road, W. Bridgford, Notts (88981).
Tournament Secretary: C. W. Haworth, The Garth, Rothley, Leicestershire.

Oxford University Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: J. Simon, Jesus College, Oxford.

Oxford Croquet & Lawn Tennis Club

Hon. Secretary: Dr. K. W. Lewis, Botany School, South Parks Road, Oxford (57858).

Parsons Green Sports and Social Club (Croquet Section)

Hon. Secretary: Broomhouse Lane, London, S.W.6. (REN 1401 & 3698.)

Peterhouse Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: Peterhouse, Cambridge.

Phyllis Court Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: W. H. R. Dewey, Phyllis Court, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon.

Preston Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club

(Preston Drive, Brighton, 6.)
Hon. Secretary: Mrs. H. Clements, 22, Clermont Terrace, Brighton, BN1 6SH.

Radbroke Croquet Club

Hon. Treasurer: B. Slater, Nuclear Power Research Group Ltd., Radbroke Hall, Knutsford, Cheshire.

Reigate Priory Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: H. E. Gould, Whitings Cottage, The Clears, Reigate, Surrey. (Tel. 43033.)

Roehampton

The Games Secretary: Roehampton Club, Roehampton Lane, S.W.15. (Tel. PRO 5505.)

Ryde Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: Miss K. A. Wade, "Norwood," 10, Partlands Avenue, Ryde, Isle of Wight. (Tel. Ryde 2512.)

Sidmouth Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club (Fortfield Terrace)

Hon. Secretary: P. A. Tunmer, Fourways, Stevens Cross, Sidford, Sidmouth, Devon.

South London Bowls Club (Croquet Section)

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. P. Smith, 107, Magdalen Road, S.W.18.

Southport & Birkdale Croquet Club

(Victoria Park, Southport, Lancs.)
Hon. Secretary: Mrs. J. D. Weir, 16, Virgin's Lane, Thornton, Liverpool.

Stokesay Croquet Club

(Craven Arms, Salop, Shropshire.)
Hon. Secretary: P. T. Cunningham, 2, Newton Street, Craven Arms, Salop, Shropshire.

Sussex County (Brighton) Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: W. J. Baverstock, 30, Kinsale Court, Palmeira Avenue, Hove, Sussex, BN3 3GF. (Tel. Brighton 776432.)

Tunbridge Wells Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: S. G. Stoker, "The Linnets," 8, The Lane, Fordcombe, N.d. Tunbridge Wells.

Unilever Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: R. Burrell, Unilever Research Labs., 455, London Road, Isleworth, Middlesex.

University of Essex Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: R. K. Price, University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, Essex.

University of Sussex Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: D. J. Lewis, Falmer House, Falmer, Brighton, Sussex, BN1 9QF.

Uppingham Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: Miss J. K. Samuel, The Beeches, 44, Wiston Road, Uppingham, Rutland.

Upton Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: E. Brighouse, 27, Heath Road, Upton, Wirral.

Windsor Bowling Club (Croquet Section)

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. D. D. Bowen, 23, Cwrt-y-vil Road, Penarth, Glamorgan.

Woking Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: D. Temple Page, c/o Croquet Club, Pine Road, Hook Heath, Woking, Surrey. (Tel. Woking 574.)

Worton Hall Recreational Club (Croquet Section)

Hon. Secretary: V. Sexton, Worton Hall, Isleworth, Middlesex. (Tel. Isleworth 2166.)

Wrest Park Croquet Club

Hon. Secretary: A. C. W. Davies, c/o N.I.A.E., Wrest Park, Silsoe, Beds. (Tel. Silsoe 305.)

INTER-COUNTIES

Once again the correspondent for this historic tournament must report that only five teams competed, that an impressive array of "ministry" produced an equally unimpressive amount of negative play, but that the handful of spectators witnessed many a close game.

A week-end in mid-week, the event barely covered two-and-a-half days. On Tuesday morning, amongst the showers, our President, in his fortieth consecutive appearance for Surrey, strode determinedly on to the lawn and, despite good shooting from Sussex, led his team to a convincing victory. Meanwhile on the other courts some precocious play from the youthful Eastern Counties team, including the only attempt of the week at a triple, was thrashed by Devon, who were obviously not in the mood for such nonsense. Indeed, re-invigorated by new blood (Laverty) and with the Warwicks happily playing in top form, the Devon team looked as though they were at last going to "pull it off".

The afternoon saw a perfect matching between the play and the weather: it poured with rain.

But in warm sunshine on the following morning and, no doubt, with minds full of epic tales from across the seas told the previous night at the dinner in honour of the Test Team, the players began to produce some interesting croquet. Aspinall and Cotter and Bray and Price despatched their games within the hour. The Warwicks looked to be in the same position when Rothwell and Caporn, particularly with the latter's shooting, began a remarkable recovery which, but for a "penultimate shot" from Guy, would have succeeded. The deciding game between Middlesex and Devon proved too dramatic even to allow the spectators to visit the bar, the innings changed hands four times in the tussle for the last hoop before a steadily made turn by Laverty decided the issue.

Wednesday afternoon's play followed the pattern of the morning's, but this time the two close games were between E. Counties and Surrey. One tactical problem, which in the event was not solved correctly by the players, was posed during Karmel's last turn: with one ball from each side pegged out, Karmel hit a 20-yard shot at Camroux's ball, a rover lying near the peg, and proceeded to take off and make the rover hoop; Karmel's ball went two feet beyond the rover and had a clear shot back at the peg, but Camroux's ball was lying some three yards west of the penultimate hoop—what should Karmel have done?

Before the final session Devon had won all three of their matches but were due to play Surrey, their *bête noire*. Surely enough, Surrey denied Devon victory: Perry and Cooper lost their grip on an almost certain game for Devon after conceding a lift from a wired ball and Neal and Gilbert deservedly broke the Warwicks' run of wins. Meanwhile Middlesex had won the first game and lost the second against E. Counties. Thus, with both these teams having won two matches before the final round but with more individual games than Devon, the championship depended on the last game of the event. The last half-hour proved a dour struggle: Hallett and Heap were unable to hit the long shots; Godby and Townsend doggedly made a few hoops and separated the opponents. Their seconds sat tight-lipped at opposite ends of the court until the final click was heard: Middlesex had won.

REPORT FROM AUSTRALIA

| The results of the teams contest for the Interstate Cup were: | | | |
|---|-----------|----------|------------|
| Victoria | 5 matches | 21 games | 735 points |
| South Australia | 4 | " 23 | " 689 |
| Tasmania | 3 | " 16 | " 630 |
| Queensland | 3 | " 11 | " 561 |
| N.S.W. | 2 | " 7 | " 547 |
| West. Australia | 0 | " 8 | " 493 |

The English Silver Medal was won by Mrs. S. McDonald, W.A., undefeated; Mr. C. Rogers, Vic., winning the Bronze Medal.

The Australian Singles Championship was again won by Mr. T. Howat, Vic., undefeated; runner-up, Mr. C. Rogers, Vic. The Doubles Championship was won by Mr. C. Rogers and Mrs. T. G. Merrylees, Vic., undefeated; Mrs. E. Rudder and Mrs. L. Thomas, Queensland, being runners-up. The A. B. Morrison Memorial Trophy for the Junior A player winning the most games in the Singles event went to Mr. T. Aurisch, Vic.

A lady from Kovorosik

Went off back to bed with a bisque

When they said, "Is that moral?"

She said, "You've no quarrel,

It's just a security risk."

M. B. R.

| | |
|--|-----|
| Abridged Handbook, 1968-1970 | 6/- |
| C.A. Handbook, 1964 | 5/- |
| Know the Game. Croquet | 3/6 |
| Simplified Laws. E. A. Roper | 1/6 |
| Instructions to Beginners | 1/- |
| 12 Hints to Beginners | 1/- |
| 2nd Edition of the Laws incorporating all amendments to date. Price 3/6—Associates 2/6 | |

trees and, of course, the lawns. Hot sun or pouring rain though, Doris Yoxall smiled her way through a charming Whitsun tournament. "Your lawn is waterlogged," she chuckles, "but I'm sure there's another for you." And there was. We all got in plenty of games—and plenty of tea in true Cheltenham style.

It was a joy to watch Aspinall win all his matches. In an exhibition match he picked up a beautiful break from all four corners, but Paul Hands used his bisques well and didn't allow him another innings, except with his forward ball. Hands was beaten in the play-off by Mrs. Nalder, who will find her handicap lower now. She made many all-round breaks, using bisques only to get started. Mr. Morecraft played some beautiful croquet to win his block but was beaten in the other play-off by another long-bisquer, Barry Page, who'd only played on his father's lawn before this tournament, and we hope to see a lot more of him. There was a long, incident-full final.

Mrs. Nalder got ahead, but Page pegged her out when she was for rover. Once Mrs. Prichard and Col. Wheeler were lying on the ground testing a wire which gave Mrs. Nalder her chance. Then she stuck in rover and after a hard, exciting struggle Page won. It was a climax to an enjoyable tournament, and our thanks go to all concerned at Cheltenham.

AMERICAN HANDICAP SINGLES
(23 entries; three days)

Block A.—Mrs. H. F. Nalder (winner) (8) beat Col. G. T. Wheeler (-½) +25, C. H. L. Prichard (½) +26, Mrs. D. J. Yoxall (3) +23, D. M. Horne (5) +9.

Block B.—P. W. Hands (winner) (-2) beat G. F. Hallett (2) +13, Capt. H. F. Nalder (3) +19, L. G. Ayliffe (6) +5, Mrs. F. E. Pearson (10) +19, lost to Mrs. E. L. Richardson (7) +12.

Block C.—D. H. Moorcraft (winner) (4) beat R. D. C. Prichard (2) +6, Mrs. J. Povey (6) +14, G. Scott Page (7) +15, R. A. Lewty (10) +18, lost to Miss K. M. O. Sessions (-2) +8.

Block D.—W. B. Page (winner) (10) beat J. N. Robinson (-½) +23, C. H. O'D. Alexander (2½) +22, F. E. Pearson (4) +17, Mrs. D. H. Moorcraft (14) +14, lost to K. A. Ross (2½) +7.

Block E (two days).—G. N. Aspinall (winner) (-5) beat G. E. P. Jackson (-2½) +14, Rev. W. E. Gladstone (1) +7, Dr. A. L. Yoxall (-½) +13, W. J. Sturdy (5) +16.

Semi-Final

Mrs. H. F. Nalder (8) beat P. W. Hands (-2) +17.
W. B. Page (10) beat D. H. Moorcraft (4) +9.

Final

W. B. Page (10) beat Mrs. H. F. Nalder +2.

**SOUTHWICK
NON-OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT
May 19th-24th**

The first essentials for a successful Croquet Tournament are threefold—good courts, good food and a warm welcome, all of which were amply provided by the Southwick Club for their Unofficial Tournament in May. Add to these the efficient, kindly but firm management of Col. G. Cave and the competitors' cup was full.

As usual, the main interest for the spectators was provided by the Doubles. Never in the field of Croquet Doubles has so much been given by so many to so little purpose—chance after chance was offered and refused, offered again and once more refused. The quarter-finals must have approached a record—all four games being won on time, three by one point and one by two. Let us hear less of the inequities of the Official handicappers in the future.

The "X" Doubles event was won by W. G. B. Scott and D. E. Buckland, who defeated their opponents E. C. Tyrwhitt-Drake and Mrs. W. A. Naylor by 11. Unfortunately Mrs. Naylor was not wearing her shooting boots (or should it be running shoes?) on this occasion.

In the final of the American Handicap Singles the accuracy of D. Himmens proved too much for even Mrs. Prichard to make one of her spectacular recoveries from an apparently hopeless position. Himmens, who has come down from 14 to 3 in two seasons, should prove a great encouragement to those who take up the game when "not so young".

The "Y" Doubles was won by W. E. Moore and Mrs. S. J. Turner and the Extra Event by Comdr. G. Borrett.

AMERICAN EVENT No. 1**The Singles Play-off**

Block winners.—A, M. E. Moore; B, W. H. Austin; C, N. W. T. Cox; D, Mrs. D. M. C. Prichard; E, D. Himmens; F, Mrs. N. E. Elvey; G, D. H. Harris; H, C. E. Mayo.

Play-off: D. A. Harris beat Mrs. N. E. Elvey, D. Himmens beat W. H. Austin, Mrs. D. M. C. Prichard beat W. E. Moore, N. W. T. Cox beat C. G. Mayo.

Final.—D. Himmens beat Mrs. D. M. C. Prichard.

"X" DOUBLES**First Round**

Maj. Driscoll and Miss Johnston (6) beat Miss C. Cox and Miss M. Woodward (17) +9.

Mrs. Chittenden and Miss N. W. T. Cox (8½) beat W. H. Austin and Miss M. Taylor (7) +16.

Mrs. Prichard and C. G. Mayo (5½) beat Prof. A. S. C. Ross and Mrs. A. S. C. Ross (9) +17.

Second Round

E. C. Tyrwhitt-Drake and Mrs. W. A. Naylor (5½) beat D. A. Harris and Mrs. E. Temple (5) +1.

Comdr. Borrett and Mrs. P. Omond (7) beat H. A. Sheppard and Miss G. V. Pirie (8½) +8.

Mr. Newton and Mrs. P. Newton (8) beat Miss H. D. Parker and Miss M. Tyrell (11½) +15.

Mrs. Chittenden and Mrs. N. W. T. Cox (8½) beat Maj. Driscoll and Miss E. Johnston (6) +3.

Mrs. Elvey and Mrs. E. Thompson (7) beat Mrs. Prichard and C. G. Mayo (5½) +2 on time.

Miss D. A. Lintern and Mrs. E. A. Neal (9) beat Mrs. Speer and W. J. Baverstock (9) +6.

W. G. B. Scott and D. E. Buckland (10) beat H. A. Green and Mrs. C. G. Wells (5) +5.

N. W. T. Cox and Mrs. S. Tucker (9) beat W. E. Moore and Mrs. S. Turner (4) +1 on time.

Third Round

Miss Lintern and Mrs. E. A. Neal (9) beat Mrs. N. E. Elvey and Mrs. Thompson (7) +2 on time.

E. C. Tyrwhitt-Drake and Mrs. W. A. Naylor (5½) beat Comdr. Borrett and Mrs. P. Omond (7) +1 on time.

Mrs. Chittenden and Mrs. N. W. T. Cox (8½) beat Mr. P. Newton and Mrs. P. Newton (9) +1 on time.

W. G. B. Scott and D. E. Buckland (10) beat N. W. T. Cox and Mrs. S. Tucker (9) +1 on time.

Semi-Final

E. C. Tyrwhitt-Drake and Mrs. W. A. Naylor (5½) beat Mrs. H. F. Chittenden and Mrs. N. W. T. Cox (8½) +3.

W. G. B. Scott and D. E. Buckland (10) beat Miss Lintern and Mrs. E. A. Neal (9) +13.

Final

W. G. B. Scott and D. E. Buckland (10) beat E. C. Tyrwhitt-Drake and Mrs. W. A. Naylor (5½) +11.

"Y" DOUBLES**First Round**

W. H. Austin and Miss M. M. Taylor (7) beat Miss C. Cox and Miss Woodward (17) +13.

Prof. A. S. C. Ross and Mrs. A. S. C. Ross (9) w/o (opp. retired).

Second Round

Mrs. E. Temple and H. A. Harris (5) beat H. A. Sheppard and Miss V. G. Pirie (8½) +10.

W. H. Austin and Miss Taylor (7) beat Miss Parker and Miss Tyrrell (11½) +3 on time.

Prof. A. S. C. Ross and Mrs. A. S. C. Ross (9) beat Mrs. Speer and W. J. Baverstock (9) +18.

W. E. Moore and Mrs. Turner (4) beat H. A. Green and Mrs. C. G. Wells (5) +4.

Semi-Final

W. H. Austin and Miss Taylor (7) beat D. H. Harris and Mrs. E. Temple (5) +7.

W. E. Moore and Mrs. S. Turner (4) beat Prof. A. S. C. Ross and Mrs. A. S. C. Ross (9) +1.

Final

W. E. Moore and Mrs. S. Turner (4) beat W. H. Austin and Miss M. Taylor (7) +3.

HUNSTANTON WEEK-END**May 24th-26th**

Though the numbers for this week-end tournament were small the players all enjoyed six games in three days and were well satisfied. The weather was kind and no rain fell until after tea on the last day and only one game to finish. It was nice to see Miss Susan Hay venturing as far as this and she played better each game. The Nottingham players distinguished themselves by Miss C. Brumpton winning the cup with C. Haworth as runner-up.

RESULTS**1 Block (7 entries).**

Winner: Miss C. Brumpton (5 wins), 1 loss to C. Haworth.

2nd: C. Haworth (5 wins), 1 loss to Miss S. C. Hampson.

3rd: Mrs. J. N. Rolfe (4 wins), 1 loss to Miss C. Brumpton, 1 loss to C. Haworth.

4th: Miss S. C. Hampson (3 wins), 3 losses.

5th: Miss S. Hay (2 wins), 4 losses.

6th: Miss M. Brumpton (1 win), 5 losses.

7th: Miss M. Mactin (no wins), 6 losses.