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July 25—30	HURLINGHAM	Ladies' Field Cup
Aug. 11—20	ROEHAMPTON	Challenge and Gilbey Cups
Sept 5—10	ROEHAMPTON	President's Cup

*For dates of other events see calendar on page 2*

*Read "CROQUET", the official organ of the C.A. published monthly, April to October and December. 1/- per copy or 7/6 a year post free. ORDER from your newsagent or direct from the Croquet Association.*

Write to the Secretary  
CROQUET ASSOCIATION, 4 SOUTHAMPTON ROW, W.C.1.

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*In Our August Number—*

**BEGINNERS, PLEASE!**

**A QUESTION OF LAW**

**YOUR TURN TO PLAY**

**NOTES FROM THE CLUBS**

**TOURNAMENT RESULTS**

**BRIDGE**

By E. P. C. COTTER

## TOURNAMENT FIXTURES

1955

- July 2 Match, England v. Eire (Hurlingham).  
 ,, 4 Croquet Championships (Roehampton).  
 Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.  
 ,, 4 Exmouth. Hon. Sec., Miss A. E. Mills, Grey Friars, Budleigh Salterton.  
 ,, 11 Budleigh Salterton. Hon. Sec., L. G. Walters, 1 Braywick, Budleigh Salterton.  
 ,, 18 Cheltenham. Hon. Sec., F. Langley, Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham.  
 ,, 25 Ladies' Field Cup and Silver Jubilee Cup (Hurlingham). Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.  
 Aug. 1 Hurlingham. The Games Secretary, Hurlingham Club, London, S.W.6.  
 to 10 All England Handicap Final Stages (Roehampton).  
 ,, to 12 Challenge Cups and Gilbey Cup. Golf Croquet, Ascot and Delves Broughton Cups (Roehampton). Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.  
 ,, 22 Brighton. Hon. Sec., F. E. Corke, 60 Southwick Street, Southwick, Sussex.  
 ,, 29 Hunstanton. Hon. Sec., Mrs. B. C. Perowne, 65 Victoria Avenue, Hunstanton.  
 ,, 29 Parkstone. Hon. Sec., Mrs. L. H. Ashton, The Orchard, Parkstone.  
 Sept. 5 President's Cup and 2nd VIII (Roehampton). Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.  
 ,, 19 Roehampton. Games Secretary, Roehampton Club, Roehampton Lane, London, S.W.5.  
 ,, 26 Eastbourne, Devonshire Park. Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.  
 Oct. 1 Match. Men v. Women (Devonshire Park).

### NON-OFFICIAL FIXTURES

- Aug. 29 Brighton. Hon. Sec., F. E. Corke, 60 Southwick Street, Southwick, Sussex.  
 Sept. 12 Cheltenham. Hon. Sec., F. Langley, Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham.

### HANDICAPS CONFIRMED OR ALTERED BY THE HANDICAP CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE

July 23rd, 1955

#### MEN'S AND WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS.

Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave 1½ to 1.  
 Mrs. N. A. Fotiadi 1½ to 1.

#### RYDE TOURNAMENT.

Miss E. E. Bennett 12 new handicap.  
 Miss E. E. Bennett 12 to 14 (D 12).  
 Mrs. A. R. Brown 13 to 11.  
 Mrs. C. R. Farnsworth 7 to 6½.  
 Mrs. C. F. Rand 2½ to 3½.  
 S. S. Townsend 4 to 3.  
 Miss E. M. Watson 6 to 5.

#### LEAMINGTON TOURNAMENT.

Mrs. E. M. Gill 14 (D 12) to 12.  
 F. S. B. Lawes 5 to 4.  
 A. J. Parkes 6 to 4½.  
 E. C. Penny 6 to 4½.  
 Mrs. T. G. Stevenson 14 (D 12) to 13 (D 11).

#### WOKING TOURNAMENT.

T. F. Dalton 3 to 2½.  
 Mrs. C. R. Farnsworth 6½ to 6.  
 Miss M. M. Morgan 9 to 8½.  
 A. E. Roper 4½ to 3½.

#### HURLINGHAM CLUB.

W. I. Cheavin 3½ to 2½.  
 D. E. Buckland 3½ to 2½.

#### ROEHAMPTON CLUB.

Mrs. S. Adler 11 to 9.  
 Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts 4 to 3.  
 Rev. C. W. Wordsworth 5 to 7.

## CROQUET ASSOCIATION NOTICES

The Annual Subscription of £1 10s. 0d. is due on January 1st. Cheques should be made payable to "The Croquet Association" and sent to The Secretary, C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

\* \* \*

Change of Manager Budleigh Salterton Tournament, Mrs. E. Reeve.

\* \* \*

### NOTICE TO TOURNAMENT HANDICAPPERS

It would appear necessary to remind these officials of their duties under Regulation 19 (b) and (c). It is essential that Handicappers should make certain that in respect of any competitors whose handicaps they propose to alter (i) that the Secretary of any tournament in the following week to which such a competitor may be going should be informed immediately by post of the alteration; (ii) that, whenever possible, the competitor himself should be told of the alteration.

Competitors should note that under Regulation 23 the responsibility for playing at his correct handicap rests finally with the competitor himself. All players therefore meeting with success at a tournament should inquire of the Handicapper whether any alteration in their handicap is contemplated.

\* \* \*

### ELECTION OF ASSOCIATES

Miss E. E. Bennett  
 Mrs. M. Francis

\* \* \*

### ENTRY FORMS FOR TOURNAMENTS

Pads of 25 price 2s., can now be obtained from the Secretary, C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

\* \* \*

It has been suggested that Associates who are not members of clubs, or who do not live within easy access to a club might like to be put in touch with others similarly situated. The Secretary would be pleased to publish names and addresses of such persons.

\* \* \*

### LAWS OF CROQUET (1955)

Associates, 1s. 6d.  
 Non-Associates, 2s.

LORN C. APPS,

Secretary.

### EDITORIAL PANEL OF "CROQUET"

Miss D. A. Lintern  
 E. P. Duffield  
 M. B. Reckitt  
 Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury

## Writers and Readers

THE arrival of the March number of the *New Zealand Croquet World* has led us to reflect afresh upon the functions of a journal devoted to the interests of the game which means so much to so many of us. We wonder, by the way, how many readers Mr. Heenan's vivacious and outspoken periodical has in this country. It ought to have a goodly number, especially at this time, not only on account of its inherent interest and readability, but because of all the information it gives of the game in a country which is shortly to send its first Test team to these shores. Readers of our own periodical already owe a debt to Ashley Heenan for the lively and informing contributions he has made to its pages, the latest of which appears in this issue. By sending us these articles he does much to keep players here *en rapport* with what is going on in his dominion; equally he keeps his New Zealand readers well informed about Croquet in England by the considerable space he devotes to events here, and in particular by the individual studies of our leading players which have been a feature of his journal from the beginning. His paper deserves its title, for its interests are by no means parochial, and he never forgets that Croquet, if not literally a "world-wide" game, is at least a concern of two hemispheres.

Mr. Heenan's situation as an editor is somewhat different from our own in that his is in no way an "official" publication. The N.Z. Croquet Council publishes such a periodical of its own, and thus relieves the *Croquet World* of the obligation to print a good deal by way of information and report to which those interested in the game have access from another source. His unofficial standing has a further advantage—or so it may seem to some of us: it enables him to be more forthright and outspoken in expression of opinions than is possible for writers in a more formally responsible position. (For how frank he can be referring to criticisms even of himself see p.9 of the March issue.) Again, the editorial panel of this journal may be forgiven for envying Mr. Heenan in having to produce only two, and not as many as eight, numbers a year. He is not under the same temptation as we are to repeat ourselves, or if he or his contributors should in fact do so, his readers are not very likely to notice this.

When *Croquet* was launched at the opening of last season we had in mind broadly four functions which it should exist to perform. These could be described as Propaganda, Information, Instruction and Entertainment. The old *C.A. Gazette*, in recent years at any rate, had very little room for any but the second of these; in any case a "gazette" is by definition primarily a record, a setting forth of what needs to be known and what has been achieved. In attempting to expand the functions of the Association's periodical those encouraged by the Council to take the new initiative were not unaware that they might be biting off more than they could chew. Perhaps in some respects this may be thought to have been proved only too

true. Considerable capital resources and a potentially large reading public are needed if a periodical is to gain a wide display upon the book-stalls, and we were never under much illusion that anything very substantial was to be expected in this way in our own case. Where we have been able to get our paper into the hands of non-associates we have, we believe, done something to make Croquet better known and better respected. No doubt it could be—indeed it has been—suggested that our approach to the general public has not been sustained at the level which is theoretically desirable. We ought, we are sometimes told, to publish more photographs and to devote a larger share to the "publicity" side in general, and to avoid the impression that our interest is primarily the esoteric one of catering for tournament players. Our response to this criticism is twofold. First, it is simply not economically possible for us to produce a journal for the occasional general reader. Production costs have risen against us, even in the short period since we began, and in our more restricted space we are obliged to put "Information" first. But secondly, even if space permitted, there is a limit to the amount that can be said by way of "propaganda", and we should only weary the readers we have if we were endlessly repeating it.

As to Information, this is the official journal of the Croquet Association and there is much that must be published here if it is to appear at all. Tournament programmes and reports, news from the clubs, and details of Council meetings are the essential foundation round which our numbers have necessarily to be built. But no one, we think, can complain that adequate space has not been given to Instruction. Apart from the immense debt which we owe to Mr. Elvey in this respect, we would remind our readers of the series of articles by leading players which appeared last year and which will amply repay re-reading. And as for Entertainment, we hope it is not disrespectful to include Mr. Cotter's highly expert articles on Bridge under this head; certainly we can so describe the very ingenious contributions of "S.S.T."; possibly "Your Turn to Play" is entertaining as well as (we hope) instructive. Occasional and very welcome effusions from other pens have lightened our pages.

Those editing any periodical inevitably perhaps long for more of a "come-back" from their readers than they get. They are willing to listen to criticisms; they are still more pleased to receive constructive suggestions; they are naturally delighted by the rare occasions when readers take the trouble to say that they approve of what has been produced for them. But above all they like to be assured that what is produced is in fact read. Comments sometimes reach the "panel" which show that something which has been quite plainly stated here has not been read at all. We can only repeat that we have said before to Associates: this is your paper, and it is up to you to see that you get what you want. But a necessary preliminary to this is to read what you do get when you get it.

## NOTES by ROVER

"I WONDER how much more we shall have to suffer." This cry of anguish was wrung from a lady in a hotel lounge when she learnt on the second day of the strike that the delivery of letters would be delayed until the afternoon. Croquet players, with perhaps more reason, might echo this exclamation of distress. A particularly damp and chilly May; the interruptions inseparable from a General Election; and the almost complete dislocation of the nation's railway system, have combined, if not to spoil, at least to complicate the opening weeks of our season. It is earnestly to be hoped that by the time these lines appear the signals will be set, literally and metaphorically, at "All Clear". A particular reason for desiring this is afforded by the projected visit of the Irish team at the opening of this month. It would be impossible to over-estimate how much Croquet owes to our sister nation. The game was actually imported here from Ireland a century ago, and fifty years later a succession of brilliant players began to come from there to revivify it amongst us. It is with especial pleasure that we look forward to seeing one of the greatest of them at Hurlingham and (as we hope) at Roehampton. Any championship in which Mr. Duff Mathews competes gains an added lustre merely from that fact. Our only regret is that the present champion cannot be there on this occasion to defend his title. But perhaps he will recapture it in 1956.

\* \* \*

It is impossible at the moment of writing to foresee how long the railway strike will continue to exert its baleful influence. But adverse as that effect is bound to be, the vastly increased number of private cars and public coaches should make the impact on our tournaments less serious than it was in the strikes of 1912, 1921 and 1926, all of which occurred during the croquet season. It was the first, we believe, which produced a "limerick" that we were under the impression had appeared in the *C.A. Gazette* though our efforts to discover it there have not been successful. This being so, we can but do our best to reconstruct it from memory, but are tempted to reproduce the result, since it may have a sad relevance to the situation of many Associates during the past month.

I had booked for a tourney in Wales,  
But my plan for arriving there fails.  
When I went for my train  
It became very plain  
That the strikers' opinion prevails.

The "tourney" in question was no doubt that played at Trefriw before World War I. "Rover" himself recalls being caught by the strike not far from the Welsh border at the Ross tournament, and arriving in London almost starving after a foodless journey of twelve hours.

All who met the late Stanley Horsley at our tournaments, whether as an opponent or as a fellow spectator, will have the happiest recollections of a strongly individual personality, skilful and enterprising when on the court, shrewd and witty as a commentator at the side of it. Associates have now an additional reason to remember him gratefully, for he has remembered their association by a generous legacy in his will. It might perhaps appear censorious to suggest that too few Associates in the past have made a similar bequest, and in any case there will of course be many who have prior obligations which make such a step impossible for them. Nevertheless we hope we may be forgiven for repeating a point already made in these pages that where there's a Will there is a way to help the game. What would be for some perhaps a small amount from their estate would be of very substantial help to us. We do not of course mean for a moment to suggest that such generosity is necessarily best postponed to so late a stage; the urgent appeals appearing in this number in connection with the forthcoming New Zealand visit will, we hope, make this abundantly clear. But a testamentary gift is often possible on a scale that an immediate one is not, and some may like to reflect that even when they are no longer in a position to do anything more for Croquet in person, their forethought will enable them to continue to come to its aid.

\* \* \*

We have yet to hear of Croquet being played by floodlight in this country, though we understand that this is not unknown in New Zealand. But a correspondent writes to tell us of a croquet court at a club at Northampton which is adjacent to a main road with such excellent street lighting that it is possible to play there till 10 p.m. This correspondent reports that the court there is half-size and a bit bumpy, and its narrow boundaries makes things awkward at times and necessitate one or two local rules, but these limitations do not seem to have prevented him thoroughly enjoying himself on it, and he reports that the club is anxious to welcome new members. On the principle that half a court is better than no game there may be some readers in the neighbourhood who would be glad to join, any such are invited to write to Mr. V. Leloux at St. George's Hotel, St. George's Street, Northampton. We can recall the days when this town was a flourishing croquet centre and perhaps if a sufficiently enthusiastic nucleus gathers round this spot it may acquire the resources to obtain a ground of its own. People with the enterprise to play on a half-court by the light of street lamps show a zest for the game which should be capable of anything. Would that their keenness infect some members of those clubs who might enjoy every advantage but do less than might be expected to guarantee a prosperous future.

*Beginners, Please!*

## THE THREE-BALL BREAK

by The Rev. G. F. H. Elvey

IT will be remembered that at the outset of our talks on break-making, I remarked that, after all, the four-ball break is only the three-ball break made with the assistance of the "middle" ball. We must now consider the three-ball break without the assistance of the middle-ball.

We will start from a prepared position. Yellow at hoop 1, and Blue—the mallet-ball—and Red on the A Baulk Line. Now suppose Yellow is on the playing side of hoop 1, you must use a sharp stop-shot to send Red to hoop 2 getting at the same time a rush on Yellow for hoop 1. Now this is where the three-ball break is much more difficult than the four-ball break, unless you are going to play heavy and difficult split-rolls, etc., what Mr. Reckitt in his admirable book calls hoop-control is essential. So in the present case, you must approach hoop 1 with a miniature stop-shot, and run it gently so as to have a rush up the ground towards hoop 2. If you fail to gain this rush, you have got to do the split-roll. Obviously this is a big stroke to be avoided, if possible, but if you are landed with it. Don't be frightened of it. With a mallet of reasonable weight it can be accomplished quite successfully. But to return to the more desirable method, if you have your rush on Yellow, you can rush it either directly towards hoop 2, or on to the West Boundary, or to the middle of the ground. It depends, of course, on the position of Red. If Red is say two feet in front of hoop 2, the rush line is not so very important, provided you croquet Blue so close to Red, that in roqueting it, you do not displace it. Now supposing you have rushed Yellow to the middle of the ground an easy split-roll will send it to hoop 3 and the mallet-ball to Red. If on the other hand you are on or near the West Boundary a drive or stop-shot should meet your need.

In approaching hoop 2, if possible play so that when you have run the hoop you have a rush to a point on the North Boundary almost opposite hoop 3—not quite opposite, of course, or you would be hampered in croqueting Red to hoop 4. Here your problem is just the same as at hoop 1. You must use a drive, stop-shot, or very sharp stop-shot according to the position of Yellow.

We now come to a crucial point in our three-ball break. You must try very hard indeed to approach hoop 3 and run it, so that you gain a rush on Yellow towards hoop 4. If you fail in this, it means that to croquet Yellow to hoop 5, and Blue to Red at hoop 4 is going to mean a very difficult pass-roll—a stroke that it is worth making every possible effort to avoid. Now here is something that I learned many years ago from that wonderful exponent of the three-ball break, Mr. R. C. J. Beaton. If you cannot (in our case) rush Yellow towards hoop 4 and you can rush it on to the East Boundary; that is the thing to do, because

instead of that most difficult pass-roll, you thus obtain an ordinary not-too-difficult split-roll.

In order to get out of the difficulty of the long pass-roll that great player of many years ago, Mr. C. E. Willis, who invented the modified Hale Setting which is standard everywhere today, used to try to check his pioneer ball for hoop 5 by running it on to the hoop—a quite effective method if successful, but rather precarious. My advice then is to do everything you can to avoid the long pass-roll, unless, of course, you are one of those happy people who have the special knack of being able to do pass-rolls.

By the bye, there is one trouble that sometimes happens. It is this. A player gets an excellent rush after running the fourth hoop, and is so pleased that he rushes Yellow right up to Red, and has no room to send it to hoop 5.

By the amount of time we have spent discussing Blue's progress from hoop 3 to hoop 4, you will realise that this is one of the crucial parts of the three-ball break, perhaps the most crucial.

It is hardly necessary to consider in detail, Blue's progress "up the middle." In the old days when the middle hoops were nearer together, and there was that useful point the Turning Peg to help one straighten out any difficulties that might have occurred, these points used to be called the "ladies' mile."

There is just one matter to be thought of, and it is this, when we have run hoop 5 on Yellow, where shall we send it for hoop 1-back? If we send it beyond the hoop, unless we are very careful about getting a rush to the boundary after running hoop 6, we shall find it difficult to send it well up to hoop 2-back. All things considered, it seems better to keep Yellow within the rectangle, and then it will be fairly easy with a drive or stop-shot to croquet Red to 2-back and get a rush on Yellow for 1-back.

Now here is a point that is worth noting. Supposing you get so near to hoop 6 that it is impossible to try for a rush on to the North Boundary, there is still often one thing that can be done and it is this; put Yellow to the right, and get a rush on it towards the East Boundary, then you can split it to 2-back going to Yellow at 1-back. Please do not be frightened of these big splits. They look indeed spectacular, but they are not nearly as difficult as they look.

Before leaving the three-ball break pure and simple, I would just remark that when you come to 3-back, you will have the same problem to cope with as you had at hoop 3, and you can deal with it by one or other of the methods suggested for your progress from hoop 3 to hoop 4.

Please practice the three-ball break, because once you learn to do the three-ball break well, there are not many things left that you won't be able to do.

Now in an actual game, there are very few occasions when we go all the way round without seeking to bring in the fourth ball. We may be quite happy with the three balls, but without the fourth ball, we cannot make a tidy job of ending the break. For the few minutes left therefore, we will talk about bringing in the fourth ball. In our case the fourth ball will be Black.

It is obviously impossible in a short article, to deal with the many and various positions in which the fourth ball may be found. We shall therefore confine ourselves to the four corners, and hope that my pupils, having an understanding of the methods to be used, will be able to apply them to any other position where the fourth ball may be lurking.

If Black is in the second corner, Blue will try to obtain a rush on Yellow up the lawn, and will take-off to Black, and croquet Black to hoop 3, as he goes to Red at hoop 2. The exact spot to

## Your Turn to Play

On the whole, competitors seem to have found the problems easier this month; in some cases the answers to Question 2 were too much influenced by the faulty position of Blue in the diagram, though it was clearly stated in the text that this ball was in fact on the boundary. In general it has been noticeable throughout the competition that those who send in solutions are apt to be much too optimistic about what it is reasonably possible to expect from croquet strokes when the primary purpose of these is to make sure of a rush on a boundary ball.

Tactician was unable to award full marks to anyone for a solution to Question 1, for scarcely anyone took any account of the possibility of playing with Black, and of the very few who did so nobody suggested rushing this ball into corner IV, which would certainly have made it very difficult for Red to pick up a break. Admittedly the best course was for Blue to play and take a bisque, as was generally recommended, but the possibility of a defensive stroke by Black ought at least to have been considered.

Some competitors lost marks by supplying too little information and leaving too much to Tactician's imagination. He must not be expected to guess that competitors would do all the right things; it is for them to convince him that they would do so.

### Solution to Question 1 (June)

It is regretted that the position of the Blue ball in the diagram illustrating this problem was incorrectly suggested, since as indicated in the text, it should have been shown as on the yard line and not so far into the court as it appeared. Happily,

which Yellow is rushed does not matter so very much, but what does matter is that the take-off to Black should be made short and easy. I do not believe that the lawn exists that has not a tricky boundary or two, and so take-offs to boundaries and corners are to be treated with caution. It is very irritating to lose a break because of a ball drifting on to the boundary line.

If Black is in the third corner, after running hoop 2, Blue will try to rush Red towards the East Boundary to the South of hoop 3. He will then take-off to Black, and croquet Black to hoop 4 and go to Yellow at hoop 3.

If Black is in the fourth corner, Blue will try to get a rush on Yellow as he runs hoop 3, so as to rush Yellow down the lawn, so as to get an easy take-off to Black. He will then roquet Black and croquet Black to hoop 5, as he goes to Red at hoop 4. There is one point to note here. Be careful not to leave Yellow so that it is in the way.

Now to retrieve Black from the first corner is a rather complicated affair, and so this is the point where we shall have to say "to be continued in our next."

however, this made no essential difference to the question as stated in the text, and could not very materially affect the decision that B had to make.

The first question which B has to decide is with which of his balls to play. There is nothing whatever to be said for his taking a bisque with Black, since he has gone as far with this ball as he can safely do. Nor would it be worth while for him to shoot at Blue on the boundary without taking one, for if he misses, his scratch opponent would be likely to pick up a break, and possibly even to go out with a double peel in his next turn. There is perhaps something to be said for his sending Black into a corner, since his opponent might find it difficult to make much of the resulting position. By going into the 4th corner he should if left there, have a fairly short shot at Blue with Black, and should be of no assistance to any attempted break by Red.

If B decides to play with Blue, he must on no account shoot at his opponent's balls (which, it will be recalled, did *not* present a "double") since if he misses them, his ball will reach the N boundary at a point where A will easily be able to run through to it and bring it into his break after making hoop 6. Remembering that he has two bisques left, B should therefore play his Blue slowly up to his opponent's balls, either directly, or by going to his Black first (the former course might be preferable as less likely to involve any risk of Blue catching on the wire of hoop 6). He then takes a bisque (unless of course he is lucky enough to hit Red or Yellow with his slow shot), and gets what should be an easy rush to 1-back. Here are all the makings of a 4-ball break, and with a bisque still left B might well achieve a peel on his partner ball at the rover hoop

and peg out. This constructive use of his bisques is (as is generally the case) clearly the best course for our medium bisquer to adopt.

### Solution to Question 2

Red must rush Yellow as near to Black as he can to enable him next to stop-shot Yellow to hoop 5 while Red gets a rush on Black to Blue—if possible to the West of Blue. Red then stop-shots Black to a point somewhere near the line hoop 4 to the South Boundary while Red gets a rush on Blue to hoop 4. Red makes hoop 4 off Blue and runs through the hoop to Black near the boundary. He roquets and croquets Black to hoop 6 while he goes to Blue. He roquets and croquets Blue towards the centre of the lawn while Red goes to Yellow at hoop 5. The four-ball break is then established.

RESULT OF JUNE COMPETITION WITH TOTALS					
	Q1	Q2	Total	Grand Total	
Foot ...	4	4*	8	22	
B. I. Rite ...	4	3	7	22	
Old Faggot ...	4	3	7	22	
Boxwood ...	3	3	6	22	
Flying Hackle ...	4	2	6	22	
Eagerheart ...	4	3	7	19	
Blurebky ...	2	2	4	15	
Virtuous ...	2	3	5	15	
Tortoise ...	4	4*	8	14	
Chip ...	2	3	5	13	
Reasoned ...	4	2	6	13	
Enterprise ...	4	2	6	11	
Canary ...	3	2	5	11	
Candy ...	4	1	5	10	
Lulu ...	2	1	3	7	
Kim ...	1	1	2	6	

\*Full marks.

It has been thought best to publish this list in the order of the combined totals for the three months of the contest. It will be seen how keen competition has now become. The sixteen competitors above include all those who sent in solutions by the closing date. This month solutions **must** be received by July 15th.

## THIS MONTH'S GOOD CAUSE

THE Council is happy to announce that a team of six or more players representing the New Zealand Croquet Council is to arrive in this country in May next year, to defend their possession of the International Trophy which this Dominion won during the visit of our English Team to New Zealand in 1950. A series of five Test Matches will be played in London and at certain provincial clubs. It is also expected that members of the visiting team will compete in the Open Championships and in some other of our leading tournaments.

The generous hospitality shown to the team sent from these shores half-a-dozen years ago strengthens what would in any case be the Council's natural desire to entertain our visitors on this occasion as fully as possible. It is their belief that every croquet player in this country will be anxious to make his or her contribution to this object.

A letter has been sent to the secretaries of all

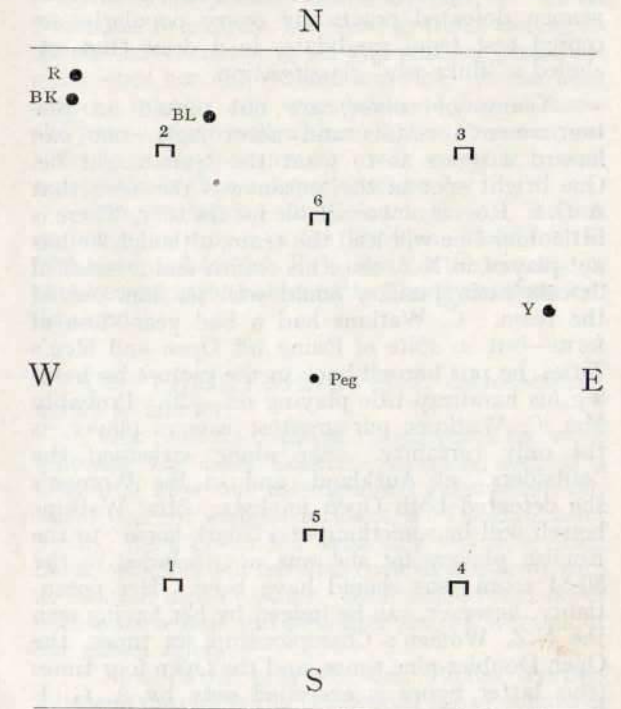
## Competition Questions

### Question 1

Black is for the 1st hoop. Red is 2 yards north of Black which is two yards from the west boundary. Blue is 2 yards N.E. of hoop 2. Yellow is a yard-line ball. How can Black most easily establish a break.

### Question 2

Red is for 2-back and Yellow for the rover hoop. What is Red's best chance of finishing with a single peel?



THE 1954-55 Season is now over, but although we are a season nearer the tour of England, we can hardly say we are any closer to picking the team! The season appeared to result in nothing but selectors' headaches for upset and surprise has been the order of the tournament day. The biggest surprises occurred in the Dominion Championships at Auckland wherein, for the first time in many years, two "outsiders" upset the field and fought the Open final. Between them, both these women defeated practically every popularly accepted test team candidate, in a draw that excluded a "fluke-win" classification.

Teams of course, are not picked on one tournament's results and accordingly, one can hazard a guess as to what the team might be. One bright spot in the season was the news that A. G. F. Ross is now available for the tour. There is little doubt he will lead the team, although he has not played in N.Z. since his return and a series of defeats next January could well see him out of the team. C. Watkins had a bad year—loss of form—but in spite of losing his Open and Men's Titles, he put himself back in the picture by holding his handicap title playing off  $-2\frac{1}{2}$ . Probably Mrs. C. Watkins, our greatest woman player, is the only certainty. She alone withstood the "outsiders" at Auckland, and in the Women's she defeated both Open finalists. Mrs. Watkins herself will be something of a "dark-horse" to the English players for she was not included in the 50-51 team—she should have been. Her potentiality, however, can be judged by her having won the N.Z. Women's Championship six times, the Open Doubles nine times, and the Open four times (this latter figure is exceeded only by A. G. F. Ross).

These three players will probably be the nucleus of a team of six (possibly seven), but it's anyone's guess as to who the other three will be. Eliminating those not available for the trip, the three places will probably be filled from amongst Messrs. G. Rowling, R. H. Buchanan, W. H. Kirk, Misses I. Wainwright and M. Cloughton and Messrs. O'Connell, Fenwick and Jarden.

## A regular mix-up . . . by S.S.T.

SOME years ago five of the players in the final stages of an all-England handicap tournament were Messrs. Buxton, Bedford, Sidmouth, Clifton and Ryde. Each of them, strange to say, represented a croquet club which was the namesake of one of the other four. And further, which I only discovered by chance, each of them was born in a town which was also the namesake of one of the other four. None, however, was born in the town of the club which he represented, and no two were born in the same town.

As I was intending to visit Clifton the following month I thought I would get to know the

Gordon Rowling's win in the Men's was long overdue and his defeating C. Watkins may well have clinched him a position in the team. R. Buchanan has had fluctuating fortunes this year but must still be considered. W. H. Kirk has never played as he should in tournament play mainly because of his Executive duties. Nevertheless the creation of a player-manager position, for which he is pre-eminently suited, would see him in the team. Margaret Cloughton has been out of the game for two or three years and was attempting a comeback this year. Enough was seen of her play to indicate that good play next season would make it difficult to pass her over. Ivy Wainwright had a series of "tough" draws and for that reason, final results were not a fair indication of her form. Mrs. O'Connell won the Open Championship defeating such players as M. Cloughton and C. Watkins whilst Mrs. Fenwick (the other Open finalist) accounted for G. Rowling and Mrs. Watkins. Both must be considered although Mrs. Fenwick would probably decline an invitation to travel. Mrs. Jarden is a comparative newcomer to Dominion Events but should she do well next season, in view of her performances this year, she could well be in the team.

Well, there it is. The team will probably come from those names, some well known, some not so well known. The only thing one can predict with any certainty is that the N.Z. team will be a strong one, probably stronger than the 50-51 team. Curiously enough, the general feeling in N.Z. is not so much who will win but rather "let's hope this visit will put croquet back on the map." The visit we feel, is but a means to a greater end than MacRobertson Shield victories, namely, the drawing together of the croquet world and the very survival of the game.

Incidentally, for the record, this year's Dominion Championship winners were: Open Championship, Mrs. H. O'Connell; Women's, Mrs. C. Watkins; Men's, Mr. G. Rowling; Handicap, Mr. C. Watkins; and Open Championships Doubles (3rd successive year), Mr. and Mrs. C. Watkins.

Clifton player so as to obtain an introduction to his club. However, I could only discover the following facts:—

- (1) Mr. Ryde represented Sidmouth.
- (2) The player who represented Buxton was born in Clifton.
- (3) Mr. Clifton was born in Ryde.
- (4) The Ryde player was born in the town which bore the namesake of the Buxton player.
- (5) Mr. Bedford was born in the town which bore the namesake of the Ryde player.

Allocate the various players to their clubs and birth places. Who represented Clifton?

OUR BOWDON Club correspondent tells us that the Club membership has increased this season. A great deal of work has been undertaken to improve the lawns which are in good condition and playing well. Week-end tournaments have been arranged for the Bank holiday week-ends and an American Tournament will be in progress during the season. Regular golf croquet afternoons and a bridge afternoon have proved popular features.

\* \* \*

CHELMSFORD Club, which is one of the smaller ones is happy in having keen members who have during the winter worked hard upon the three Club lawns, which all find much improved. The Club plays a series of matches against their nearest neighbours Colchester. These are events which always prove most popular. We hope to see members of the Chelmsford Club playing in the Gilbey Cup Competition at Roehampton.

\* \* \*

REIGATE Club has its usual competitions arranged for the season, and its management is once more in the capable hands of its honorary secretary, Mr. Lionel Buckley. The latter tells us that the Club's youngest member is twelve years of age—a champion of the future we hope. We hear that a number of non-associates have subscribed for the eight issues of *Croquet* and that it is also on sale at Smith's book-stall at Reigate station.

The Club has suffered a great loss by the death recently of Mrs. H. G. Barry who had been a member of the Club for some thirty years. Although in her 80th year she was playing croquet in 1954.

\* \* \*

There are 20 entries this year from HURLINGHAM members for the All-England handicap and the Club will accordingly have two representatives in the final stages at Roehampton in August. Last year's winner, S. S. Townsend, has overcome his first hurdle by defeating General Davidson.

We are so accustomed to the excellence of the Hurlingham lawns that the inexplicable vagaries of one or two during Counties' week came the more strangely. Victor Evans was seen to approach the sixth hoop correctly on more than one occasion only for his ball to veer suddenly to the right and render the hoop unmakeable. Capt. Stoker's patience was also in some degree strained by his ball taking on sudden bias at the end of a long shot. Perhaps the recent strange mixture of weather including Arctic winds may have contributed. We can at least be confident that the trouble will be of a non-recurrent nature.

The result of the Longman Cup match between the holders, Hurlingham and Woking, is recorded elsewhere in this issue. T. F. Dalton was in excellent form, hitting in with monotonous regularity from all parts of the court and discomfiting the breaks laid by his opponent. The issue of the match was in doubt until nearly eight o'clock when K. B. Millar finally pegged out against R. C. V. de Wesselow after a game lasting 4 hours.

Our ROEHAMPTON correspondent tells us that the Dulwich Club spent an enjoyable afternoon at Roehampton playing Golf Croquet on Tuesday, 31st May, the result of the match was a win for Roehampton, 5 games to 4, though on points scored it was a very close finish, the difference being only two! These afternoon matches are always looked forward to by both the home and visiting teams, and this was as successful as ever.

We are especially asked by Mrs. L. E. G. Nickisson to express her most grateful thanks to all who have written to her and sent her numerous gifts, since her unfortunate accident. It has been a great interest and consolation to her to know she has so many well-wishers, but as it is not possible to write individually, will everyone please accept this as her acknowledgment?

Congratulations to Colonel C. C. Adams on being the winner of the Trevelyan Bowl for the fifth time, and to Miss E. F. Rose as the runner-up, thus becoming the holder of the Trevelyan Memorial Tankard.

\* \* \*

Our CHELTENHAM Club correspondent writes as follows:

"Our Club tournament taking place the week following the Gold Caskets, naturally seemed a little dull after our distinguished guests had left, but it was not without incident, on Tuesday, after 3 p.m., there descended upon us a veritable cloud burst, which in ten minutes covered the lawn with at least an inch of water. Such a flood had never been seen before and yet after tea we were all at our games again.

"Now to the play—Lt.-Col. Picton Turberville won the cup in the D's beating Miss Leonard in the final. Miss Leonard only began playing a few weeks ago and shows great promise under the tuition of Mrs. Cumberlege.

"The 'C' Class was won by that very promising player Mrs. Daniels, who, I am sure, will be figuring in the Ladies Eight before very long. What rapid progress players of that calibre would make if only they would follow Mrs. Daniels' example and put a ball to the next hoop but one and use the adversary's balls for *progress* instead of just separating them.

"It was sad that there were so many retirements in the A's. The score sheets speak for themselves.

"Mrs. Cumberlege played very steadily in the last three rounds of the Handicap event beating Mr. Langley in the final.

"The Doubles final which everyone likes (except the participants) was like a well-written detective story—the gallery not knowing until the end who would be the winners—which were Comdr. D. Roe and Mrs. Daniels.

"Needless to say Brig.-Gen. Fellows was missed very much by everyone. Our best wishes too go to Miss Carmouche and to Col. Knapp. We hope that all three will be joining in our games before long. Miss Paulley was our Manager, Referee and Handicapper, and was very kind in arranging times of play to suit the competitors."

# A QUESTION OF LAW . . . by Lex

IN reply to Mr. Crowther Smith's article a correspondent has written to Lex strongly asserting that in his opinion a pass-roll need not necessarily be a foul. He suggests that his contention has the support of the Laws Committee of the C.A., for nowhere in the Laws is it specifically stated that this stroke is a foul. There are indeed, he adds, some excellent exponents of the pass-roll stroke among players in the minus class, whose strokes both sound and look so clean that it would be very difficult to condemn them.

Lex has, on the other hand, played with minus players who fight shy of using the pass-roll because, they candidly admit, they do not feel they can execute this stroke without the risk of the tell-tale rattle. Again Lex has watched a player execute a series of pass-rolls which all seemed clean enough.

It would be interesting to have on record the considered opinion of the Laws Committee on the subject of this stroke. We think it would be very

difficult to give a decision which would meet with universal approval. We believe, nevertheless, that there is one way of settling the matter once and for all and this would be by taking a moving photograph of a pass-roll which appeared correct and one which produced a rattle. Then let these two photographs be examined in slow motion. We think the answer to our question will be there for everyone to see. We suggest this because the apparent (and possibly real) success of the pass-roll depends, we suggest, on the speed of the shot, i.e. the quickness of its execution. Is it not a fact that in a clean pass-roll the mallet-ball is both hit and pressed simultaneously with the result that as soon as the pilot ball is clear the mallet-ball overtakes it. Yet this is not because it is given an extra push after the pilot ball has gone, which would be a foul. The push and hit are simultaneously involved in the one first and only contact between mallet-head and mallet-ball.

Lex may be wrong. Let us have a photograph to prove it.

## BRIDGE by E. P. C. Cotter, British International

"SWING" hands always cause a lot of excitement and discussion. Here is one from a pre-war Championship Final:—

S—K, 9, 7, 5, 4, 3.  
H—J, 9, 8, 7, 6.  
D—  
C—8, 4.

S— N S—Q, J, 10.  
H—Q, 10, 3, 2. W E H—A, K, 4.  
D—A, Q, 9, 5. S D—K, J, 10, 3.  
C—K, J, 9, 6, 2. C—10, 7, 3.

S—A, 8, 6, 2.  
H—5.  
D—8, 7, 6, 4, 2.  
C—A, Q, 5.

Dealer: West EW vulnerable

In Room I the bidding was:

West	North	East	South
1C	1S	3NT	4S
—	—	double	

There are two points to note in the bidding. First, North's overbid of one spade is not usually to be recommended but here pays off because his partner has the right tickets. East's bid of 3NT is not open to criticism but his double of 4 spades is ill-judged. Admittedly it is tough not to defeat the contract but the opponents are obviously bidding on distribution and I think 5 clubs would be a better bid. West is almost certain on the bidding to have at least five clubs. As it happens this contract fails against the lead of the 9 of hearts. However, NS, our team-mates, played in 4 spades doubled and made ten tricks for a plus score of 540. There is nothing really to the play of the hand.

In Room II the bidding was different:

West	North	East	South
—	—	1D	—
3C	—	3NT	—
5D	—	—	double

My pass as dealer has nothing to recommend it but at the time we were playing the Sim's System which called for very strong first-hand bids. Anyhow we finished in the right bid. South opened the eight of diamonds. My partner's usually immaculate dummy play deserted him and he decided to play on ruffs instead of setting up the club suit. It is clear that the club suit *must* be brought in. When the trump distribution is known clubs must be tackled at once.

I shall never forget this hand! It occurred exactly half-way through and I played the hand over about thirty times while vainly trying to sleep that night, seeking the winning line which I was sure existed.

Actually the way to land the contract is to win the first trick with dummy's nine of diamonds, lead a small heart to the King and lead the club ten. South probably wins with the Ace, and now his best plan is to "punch" the dummy by leading the Ace of spades. This is trumped small and another heart is led which South trumps and leads another spade. This is trumped with the Ace, the last diamond led and overtaken and trumps drawn and the club finesse lands the rest of the tricks.

We lost 260 on the hand—we should have gained 1,240. The moral is: On distributional hands it pays dividends to bid one more rather than double the opponents because they seem to have bid more than their high cards warrant.

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## CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editor, *Croquet*.

### THE SUPPLEMENTARY COLOURS

Dear Sir,

In the early days of the century, when I was a very small boy, my relatives unearthed from the lumber-room a large box, which contained not only eight mallets, a large number of hoops—or it may have been arches—complete with bell, but also a set of eight balls and what was more important a set of rules—or it may have been makers' instructions—for our edification. The equipment was laid out on the small lawn behind our house and it was with this that I started my croquet and continued until my father joined the new Cantelupe Croquet Club and, removing the superfluous hoops and balls, introduced me to the four-ball break, though I must confess that at a later date I did experiment with the old balls at an eight-ball break.

The equipment and the rules have gone the way of all things and I cannot after over fifty years remember all the details, but I am pretty sure that the game could be played in two ways either with four groups of two balls or two groups of four balls. The normal sequence was blue, red, black, yellow, green, pink, brown, white; blue played with green, red with pink, black with brown and yellow with white. But there is one thing that puzzles me; though I have accepted your designation of white for the eighth ball, I do not think that is correct; I am pretty nearly certain it was orange.

That I am afraid is as far as my memory will take me. Perhaps some of our innumerable veterans may have longer memories than a mere sexagenarian and may be able to give us information about such tricky strokes as the croquet stroke that used to be played with one's foot on the striker's ball and how far one could safely move your ball under the secure covering of a crinoline.

Yours faithfully,

D. J. G. JOSEPH, *Capt.*

To the Editor, *Croquet*.

Dear Sir,

In your June, 1955, issue (No. 11), "Rover" on page 4 asks "in what partnership these balls should properly play." He also, much to my surprise says that the enquiry comes from Australia—but does not say which State—and also challenges anyone to give any confident reply. I do give a reply with the utmost confidence and without fear of contradiction. This question has already been answered in the *Australian Croquet Gazette*, a publication to which I venture to direct the attention of Rover. I hope he will in fact become a subscriber to it without further delay by writing to the Hon. Secretary of the Australian Croquet Council.

The second colour balls are properly paired White and Pink together leaving Brown and Green to be paired together. A moment's consideration will show that as with the primary colours this partnership brings the two brighter coloured together leaving the two darker balls in partnership.

If I may further enlighten Rover it is both customary and usual in Sydney Clubs and in N.S.W. Country Clubs which have insufficient lawns to accommodate all members, to use 8 balls on the same lawn and so have two games in progress regularly. I have myself in Tamworth, N.S.W., played when 3 games were in progress on a Saturday afternoon on the one lawn. Twelve players on one lawn playing 3 doubles at the same time is, however, a trifle disconcerting.

I hope I have answered Rover's question with confidence.

Yours faithfully,

A. E. SAALFELD

To the Editor, *Croquet*.

### A CORRECTION

Dear Sir,

There is one small point that I feel should be cleared up regarding the MacRobertson Contests, there have been six contests, not five as stated in the article on that subject in the April issue of *Croquet*.

After the second contest had been held, in Melbourne, the English team came on to New Zealand, four of them took part in our tournaments and played matches against the North Island, the South Island and New Zealand.

This resulted in a surge of interest on the part of New Zealand players and, acting upon the advice of the English visitors, the N.Z. Croquet Council issued a challenge to the holders (Australia). All of the necessary formalities were complied with and a team of six players duly invaded Australia two seasons later. The contest took place in Melbourne and the home team won it by a comfortable margin, thus preserving what has so far been the unbroken record of home wins—the record we are so keen to break next year!

New Zealand has taken part in three MacRobertson Contests so far, but as only one of them has been staged in the Dominion we have only once been the victors. We realise that we shall be "up against it" next year but we are determined to be "Triers".

May Mrs. Ross and I take this opportunity of wishing Croquet players of England the best of luck and plenty of sunshine during 1955.

Yours faithfully,

ARTHUR ROSS

To the Editor, *Croquet*.

### HANDICAPS

Dear Sir,

I have studied with much interest the summary of all handicap single games, played and finished and reported in *Croquet*, 1954. From the summary I think all high bisquers of the game can take courage since in this summary the top five places are taken by minus players. How often we hear it said before commencing a match against a lion of the game that we ought to win with all those bisques. We feel this should be the case, especially if we have thought beforehand how we intend to use these bisques. Yet in actual practice this summary proves that it often does not work out that way. Obviously therefore we have not disgraced ourselves more than the average when we walk off the court defeated and we hope we have seen and learnt that accuracy in stroke play is of more value than extra turns to correct inaccuracies. We are, therefore, more determined after such defeats to acquire this skill through intelligent practice and courage to play the correct game.

Yours faithfully,

EDITH M. COLLINS

### ONE CROWDED HOUR Solution to last month's puzzle

	Archie	Bob	Cuthbert	Daisy	Ethelred	Fernandel	Points	
							For	Agst
Archie	—	3-0	3-1	1-4	1-2	4-5	12	12
Bob	0-3	—	5-5	3-2	4-2	2-2	14	14
Cuthbert	1-3	5-5	—	5-1	3-5	4-4	18	18
Daisy	4-1	2-3	1-5	—	5-2	3-4	15	15
Ethelred	2-1	2-4	5-3	2-5	—	3-3	14	16
Fernandel	5-4	2-2	4-4	4-3	3-3	—	18	16

The heavily lined squares can be readily deduced from the clues. No player having advanced beyond the sixth hoop restricts the only possible scores to 5-5, 5-4, 5-3 . . . running down to 0-0, and of these 5-0, 4-0, 2-0, 1-0, 0-0, and 1-1 are excluded by the clues. This leaves 15 possible scores, and as there were 15 games in total all with different scores, the problem remains to allocate these among the various players.

The simplest way is to tackle Archie first: three of his results are known, 3-0, 3-1, 1-2, against Bob, Cuthbert and Ethelred. As he scored only 1 point against Daisy and he scored 12 points in total, this leaves 4 for his game against Fernandel. Now Archie had no drawn games and the games that Fernandel did not draw were won by a single point so that he must have beaten Archie 5-4. To make up the 12 points scored against Archie he must have had 4 scored against him by Daisy.

By a similar process of reasoning Fernandel is found to have beaten Daisy 4-3. We then deduce that her games against Bob and Cuthbert resulted in 3-8 together. The only combinations available are 1-4 and 2-4, 1-3 and 2-5, or 2-3 and 1-5. As 1-4 and 1-3 are already used (Archie's games against Daisy and Cuthbert), 1-5 and 2-3 only can apply. And so on step by step. Fernandel and Cuthbert are both found to have scored 18 points but Fernandel wins on average.

## LONGMAN (CLUB TEAM) CUP

HURLINGHAM *versus* WOKING

Played at Hurlingham on 4th June, 1955. Hurlingham players named first.

SINGLES.

Capt. H. G. Stoker (1) lost to T. F. Dalton (3) by 21.  
R. C. V. de Wesselow (3½) lost to K. B. Millar (7) by 6.  
I. C. Baillieu (5) bt Brig. J. S. Omond (7) by 17.

DOUBLES.

Capt. H. G. Stoker and Mrs. M. L. Thom (7½) lost to T. F. Dalton and Brig. J. S. Omond (10) by 19.  
R. C. V. de Wesselow and I. C. Baillieu (8½) bt K. B. Millar and Mrs. J. S. Omond (19) by 13.

RESULT.—Woking bt Hurlingham by 3 games to 2.

## INTER-CLUB MATCH

SOUTHWICK *versus* WOKING

Played at Southwick on 1st June, 1955. Southwick players named first.

SINGLES.

Miss M. J. Daldy (—1½) bt Major J. W. Cobb (—½) by 14.  
Mrs. H. F. Chittenden (2) bt A. McClure Williams (2) by 8.  
Mrs. E. A. Roper (6) bt Brig. J. S. Omond (7) by 2 on time.  
D. Woodhams (7) lost to Capt. K. B. Millar (8) by 14.

DOUBLES.

Miss M. J. Daldy and Mrs. E. A. Roper (4½) bt Major J. W. Cobb and Brig. J. S. Omond (6½) by 21.  
Mrs. H. F. Chittenden and D. Woodhams (4½) lost to A. McClure Williams and Capt. K. B. Millar (5) by 2.

RESULT.—Southwick bt Woking by 4 games to 2.

WOKING *versus* ROEHAMPTON

Played at Woking on 7th June, 1955. Woking players named first.

SINGLES.

Mrs. L. C. Apps lost to Miss D. A. Lintern by 5.  
Major J. W. Cobb bt B. Gilbert by 4.  
M. B. Reckitt bt Col. C. C. Adams by 7.  
A. McClure Williams lost to Dr. N. Oliver by 7.

DOUBLES.

M. B. Reckitt and Mrs. L. C. Apps lost to Col. C. C. Adams and Miss D. A. Lintern by 15.  
Major J. W. Cobb and A. McClure Williams bt Dr. N. Oliver and B. Gilbert by 20.

RESULT.—Match drawn, 3 games all.

## GOLF CROQUET

ROEHAMPTON *versus* DULWICH

Played at Roehampton on May 31st, 1955. Roehampton players named first.

AMERICAN DOUBLES.

Mrs. D. Attfield and Miss M. L. Hellyer lost to Mrs. Raine and Mrs. Paine 6-7, beat Mrs. Swindlehurst and Miss Richardson 7-6, bt Mrs. Pethebridge and Mrs. Frenken 8-5.

Mrs. S. Phillips and Mrs. D. M. Staub lost to Mrs. Raine and Mrs. Paine 5-8, lost to Mrs. Swindlehurst and Miss Richardson 6-7, bt Mrs. Pethebridge and Mrs. Frenken 8-5.

Mrs. E. Bristow and Mrs. M. Carrington lost to Mrs. Raine and Mrs. Paine 5-8, bt Mrs. Swindlehurst and Miss Richardson 7-6, bt Mrs. Pethebridge and Mrs. Frenken 8-5.

RESULT.—Roehampton bt Dulwich by 5 matches to 4.

## CLUB TEAM CUP

FIRST ROUND.

Ryde w.o. Bedford opponent scratched.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, May 24th, 1955

Present.—In the Chair, Sir Compton Mackenzie; Col. C. C. Adams, Mrs. S. M. Adler, Mrs. L. H. Ashton, Mrs. D. Attfield, Mrs. Howard Austin, C. B. Bird, Miss G. M. Bartlett, Mrs. R. C. J. Beaton, Com. G. V. G. Beamish, Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury, H. F. Crowther-Smith, Mrs. H. J. Collins, Mrs. H. F. Chittenden, Col. J. G. Clarke, Major J. W. Cobb, Major and Mrs. J. H. Dibley, E. P. Duffield, H. C. Davey, V. A. de la Nougerede, Rev. and Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey, G. V. Evans, F. H. Fisher, Miss M. L. Hellyer, Miss F. Hodgkinson, H. O. Hodgson, H. O. Hicks, Miss D. Jennings, Miss D. A. Lintern, Mr. and Mrs. W. Longman, Dr. N. Oliver, T. S. Oliver, Brig. J. S. Omond, Dr. G. L. Ormerod, Mrs. F. Pavia, Mrs. S. Phillips, Miss H. D. Parker, Mrs. E. Rotherham, G. F. Rothwell, R. F. Rothwell, Major W. N. Reeve, Mrs. M. Roy, Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Reckitt, Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts, Col. A. E. Saalfeld, H. T. Pinckney Simpson, Mrs. E. Haigh Smith, Mrs. D. M. Staub, Capt. H. G. Stoker, Mrs. G. W. Solomon, J. W. Solomon, Mrs. G. J. Turketine, Mrs. M. L. Thom, R. V. N. Wiggins, Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins.

Sir Compton said it gave him much pleasure to have the opportunity of presiding. He proposed first to dispose of the business on the agenda and then to address the meeting.

Mr. Longman proposed that the Minutes of the last A.G.M. and Special General Meeting which had been published in *Croquet* be taken as read, and this was unanimously agreed.

Mr. G. V. Evans moved the adoption of the Report and Balance Sheet. This was seconded by Major J. H. Dibley and unanimously agreed.

Election of Hon. Treasurer for the year. On a show of hands Mr. D. E. Buckland was unanimously elected.

Election of members to the Council. There being ten vacancies the eight retiring members and one new candidate were declared elected.

Alterations and amendments to the Rules of the C.A. Mr. Longman as Chairman of the Committee responsible for this work submitted them to the meeting. He proposed to present them *en bloc*, unless the meeting wished them taken separately. This was agreed and the alterations were unanimously adopted.

Mrs. R. C. J. Beaton proposed the following motion: "To ask the Council to give consideration to the following proposal when selecting players for the President's Cup Competition: that the winner of the Open Championships, the runner-up and the two other semi-finalists be deemed to have qualified for selection." Mr. Crowther-Smith said he would be prepared to second the motion as to the winner and runner-up but did not agree as to the other semi-finalists. The Chairman ruled that the seconder must support the motion as a whole. Mr. T. S. Oliver said he would second the motion. Capt. Stoker opposed the motion as he did not agree that the Selection Committee should be tied in any way. Mr. Rothwell proposed as an amendment that only the finalists would be automatically selected. This was seconded by Mr. Crowther-Smith. The motion and amendments were then severally put to the vote and lost.

Mr. Reckitt referred to the visit of the New Zealand Team in 1956. A Reception Committee, of which he was Chairman had been appointed and was already making preparations for the visit. He hoped that all Associates would feel it was their duty to contribute in cash, and where possible by personal hospitality to the entertainment of the visitors, and thus repay in some measure the magnificent hospitality extended to the British team which visited New Zealand in 1950.

Sir Compton Mackenzie then addressed the meeting. In an amusing and indeed in a very practical speech he took as his main theme the advantage of getting people of importance to take an interest in the game. He would like to find some of H.M. Judges becoming Associates, and was glad to note that there was already at least one Q.C. on the list. The Press was always very ready to report the doings of V.I.P.'s. The visit of the New Zealand Test Team ought to have great publicity value and he hoped it would be fully exploited.

Mr. Elvey proposed a vote of thanks to Sir Compton for presiding and this was carried with acclamation.

Before the close of the meeting Col. Saalfeld, representing Australia, presented greeting from the Commonwealth Players.

## Council Meeting Minutes

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held at 4 Southampton Row on Thursday, March 3rd, 1955.

The Chairman said that Mr. B. H. Wiggins did not agree that the Minutes were correct as regards 11 (2) and had submitted an amended version which the Secretary accepted. This was read and the Minutes, as amended, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

Before proceeding to further business, the Chairman referred to the death of Lord Tollemache, Vice-President of the C.A., which had occurred since the last meeting. He spoke of his distinguished record as a player. All stood in silent tribute, and the Secretary was instructed to write to Lady Tollemache expressing the sympathy of the Council with herself and the family.

A letter from Mr. C. W. R. Hodges was read tendering his resignation from the Council, on account of his inability to attend the meetings. This was accepted with regret.

Mr. B. H. Wiggins drew attention to an error in the 1955 edition of the Laws and Regulations as in Regulation 11 (b) (ii) the words "as in (a) (ii) above" had not been deleted. It was agreed that attention should be drawn to this matter in *Croquet*.

Mr. F. H. Fisher proposed to give notice of motion that a definition of "shepherding" should be given. The Chairman pointed out that this was a matter for definition by the Laws Committee, and Mr. Fisher agreed that it should be referred to that Committee.

Mr. Duffield presented the Report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee and moved the adoption of the Accounts. This was seconded by Major Dibley. Mr. Longman asked if the balance of about £500 at the Bank was held on deposit, and was told it was not. He also questioned the excessive amount given in prize money at Eastbourne in 1954. Mr. Reckitt said that if this was so it was due to a miscalculation. Mr. Bird suggested that the holding of War Stock might with advantage be re-invested. The Hon. Treasurer said that he did not consider the liquid assets excessive, and was giving careful consideration to the question of C.A. investments.

It was agreed that the levy on Golf Croquet events should be 1s. with consequential amendment to Regulation 5 (a).

Mr. Longman reported that there had been a very small attendance at the Conference of Associates held on January 26th and that no suggestions as to alterations to the Rules had been received. He therefore proposed that the alterations adopted by the Council on December 19th and January 6th be confirmed, and this was agreed.

Mr. Reckitt presented the report of the New Zealand Reception Committee and explained it in some detail. He added that at a further meeting of the Committee held that morning it had been recommended that the Selection Committee to choose the British teams should be appointed in October of this year. The Committee had also approved a pattern for a blazer to be worn by Test Match players, and emblems for presentation to the players. Mr. Elvey suggested that in support of the financial appeal, an account of the hospitable reception of the British Team in New Zealand in 1950 should be published in the June or July issue of *Croquet*, and that Mrs. Ashton and Mr. J. W. Solomon should be invited to compile it. Both being present agreed to undertake this.

Mr. Longman suggested that a Bridge Tournament on the lines of the All-England Handicap might be useful in raising funds. Mr. Buckland said that there should be guarantors in case the amount subscribed was insufficient to meet the expenses in connection with the tour. It was decided that it would be better to wait till the Autumn before taking any such action.

The Report of the Council for 1954 was, with amendment proposed by Miss Lintern, agreed.

A ballot for election by co-option of a member of the Council was held and Mrs. H. F. Chittenden was declared elected.

It was agreed that the following be asked to act as scrutineers in the event of a ballot for election of members of Council at the A.G.M.:—Dr. N. Oliver, R. C. V. de Wesselow, Mrs. E. Haigh Smith, L. E. W. Stokes-Roberts; two to form a quorum.

Mr. Brackenbury proposed that the Selection Committee for the invitation events should be chosen as last year. This was seconded by Dr. Wiggins. Mr. Elvey proposed as an amendment: "That the Selection Committee shall consist:

"(1) Of three members of the Council who shall not be within the likely sphere of selection. A member, believing himself to have become eligible for selection may resign from the Committee, in which case the Chairman of Council shall fill his place with a suitable substitute.

"(2) For the purpose of selecting the Women's Eight, two of the best available women of the previous year shall be added to the Committee. These shall be eligible for selection.

"(3) For the purpose of selecting the Eight for the President's Cup, two best available players of the previous year shall be added to the Committee. These shall be eligible for selection.

"(4) It is customary to hold a meeting of the Selection Committee during Championship week, to choose the Women's Eight, and towards the end of the Hurlingham Tournament to choose the President's Cup Eight. A player, knowing that he or she cannot attend such Committees shall not be regarded as 'available'."

This was seconded by Mr. Reckitt and after discussion carried. Mr. Brackenbury then withdrew his proposal. Mr. Solomon proposed as an amendment that the best available man and the best available woman should serve with three members of Council. This was seconded by Mr. Evans and when put to the vote lost. It was agreed that at the next meeting of the Council it should be decided whether the Committee appointed for 1955 should also act for selecting the Test Team for 1956.

## MEN'S AND WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS AND GOLD CASKETS

CHELTENHAM, MAY 30th—JUNE 4th

A reader who glanced through the first volume of the *C.A. Gazette*, published exactly 50 years ago, will find a vigorous controversy raging in its pages. There have been many such in the history of the game, but the great majority are of a kind to interest only its historians. This one, however, strikes a more contemporary note, for it concerns the propriety of playing the Gold Medals outside the metropolis; indeed to be more precise, at—Cheltenham! The arguments used on both sides are almost identical with those we have heard this year, and any who may be interested to continue the debate—on either side—may perhaps care to look up these exchanges. In fact the Gold Medals were played for at Cheltenham on two further occasions before the present year, so the matter is at least not without precedent.

It would be difficult to name a provincial club with better claims to the distinction. Certainly none of those who were able, and chose, to come to Cheltenham this year can have regretted their decision. Croquet players who are accustomed to visit this charmingly situated club in July or September can have no idea of the enhanced beauty of the scene at this earlier season of the year, when the lilac and laburnum and the foliage of the surrounding trees are at their very best. With summer arriving on the preceding Sunday not even anxieties suggested by the railway strike could induce anyone, once they had arrived, to wish themselves elsewhere. The courts were in good order, and despite a few disconcerting "rolls" some players declared a preference for the best of them even over those at the metropolitan clubs, as these have been so far experienced this season.

The entry, though lacking something in quality, was not much inferior numerically to that in this tournament last year. It was in any case refreshing to some of us to see new names appearing in championship events, and to find their bearers in many instances making an excellent showing. Examples of this were afforded in the Men's event by Col. Cave, Major Thackwell and Mr. de la Nougerede. The first made a very strong challenge to Dr. Penny; he might well have taken both games, and would almost certainly have won the first if he had had greater experience of conducting a pegged-out game. Major Thackwell, showing a most exemplary keenness, played some admirable croquet, while "Della" gave a virtually faultless exhibition on a rather tricky court in his first game against Mr. Reckitt. He somewhat prejudiced his relatively few chances in the other two by going out for very problematical breaks when he would have done better to lay a more likely one.

But the greatest sensation was created by Mrs. Cumberlege, who was admitted to the Women's event in place



of Mrs. Beaton whose arrival was frustrated by the strike. In these exceptional circumstances this technical "irregularity" was, and surely with justification, "condoned" by the authorities, and the beneficiary took full advantage of her unexpected opportunity. Admittedly Mrs. Longman was a good deal below her best, but the pluck and tenacity which her opponent, after narrowly losing the first game, continued to show won the admiration of all beholders. Mrs. Gasson and Mrs. Fotiadis also made most creditable challenges to their redoubtable adversaries.

The later stages of the tournament were affected by the return of wintry conditions, in particular a fierce east wind and torrents of rain, on the Friday. In these circumstances even Mr. Hicks, who till then had been sailing serenely through the early rounds like a majestic liner fitted with stabilisers amid a fleet of tossing and agitated humbler craft, did not produce his usual game at first against Mr. Reckitt, though his opponent was unable to take much advantage of the fact. Dr. Penny, though he had some very close games, duly reached the final for which he had always seemed destined. But he fared there no better than his opponent's former antagonists, and the match followed the pattern of the previous one, with the doctor unable to take much advantage of such chances as he got in the first game, and being allowed few or none in the second.

No one had seriously doubted that the men's title would go where it did, but the women's championship looked a good deal more open. In fact Mrs. Rotherham was never very closely challenged and won the event without loss of a game. The two champions combined to share the third title, winning, as the racing correspondents say, "as they liked." The most interesting match in this event was between the Elveys and Mr. Brown and Miss Steel. The former pair looked to be winning comfortably when Mr. Elvey missed a rather long peg out. Their opponents then "came from behind" to such purpose that it was Miss Steel who eventually prepared to peg out. She failed in her turn, and Mrs. Elvey hit the last shot to recapture the victory which seemed to have slipped from the local pair's grasp.

After this it was perhaps appropriate that Miss Steel, by victory in the Du Pre Cup, should win her first "consolation" event, though it was her adversaries who were most in need of consolation, for she scarcely allowed any of them to make a point.

The Handicap brought two very keen and promising players against each other in the final, neither of whom ought to see 1½ again. Here "final nerves" seemed to beat both players, till in the end Mrs. Fotiadis got the better of a rather prolonged struggle. She is a brilliant shot and makes some splendid rushes and roll strokes, but she badly needs to master the stop shot and to learn how to finish off a game more effectively than she seems able to do at present.

Mr. Ashton's prowess as a Manager is well known, and though it was not put to any very severe test on this occasion, it was good to have one of his experience in charge of a premier C.A. event. Much help of various kinds was given by members of the local committee, and with Miss Paulley in charge of the catering everything in this department went—and went down—well. It is cheering to see this historic club in so prosperous a condition, and the occasion was marred only by the absence of General Fellows, whose return to better health is as earnestly desired by his friends visiting Cheltenham as it is by his fellow members.

## THE MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP.

### GOLD CASKET. (12 Entries).

**FIRST ROUND.**  
W. Longman bt Rev. G. F. H. Elvey +7 -16 +7.  
H. O. Hicks bt Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury +26 +24.  
Major N. E. O. Thackwell bt. E. V. Carpmal +13 +25.  
Dr. H. J. Penny bt Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave +3 +4.  
The rest had byes.

**SECOND ROUND.**  
M. B. Reckitt bt V. A. de la Nougerede -25 +21 +14.  
H. O. Hicks bt W. Longman +24 +26.  
Dr. H. J. Penny bt Major N. E. O. Thackwell +13 +4.  
F. H. Fisher bt J. K. Brown -14 +20 +5.

**SEMI-FINAL.**  
H. O. Hicks bt M. B. Reckitt +20 +23.  
Dr. H. J. Penny bt. F. H. Fisher +13 +15.

**FINAL.**  
H. O. Hicks bt Dr. H. J. Penny +18 +26.

## THE WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP.

### GOLD CASKET. (8 Entries).

**FIRST ROUND.**  
Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey bt Mrs. V. C. Gasson +16 +1.  
Mrs. E. Rotherham bt Mrs. N. A. Fotiadis +18 +13.  
Mrs. C. B. Cumberlege bt Mrs. W. Longman -4 +20 +16.  
Mrs. L. H. Ashton bt Miss D. D. Steel -16 +10 +11.

**SEMI-FINAL.**  
Mrs. E. Rotherham bt Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey +14 +21.  
Mrs. L. H. Ashton bt Mrs. C. B. Cumberlege +13 +15.

**FINAL.**  
Mrs. E. Rotherham bt Mrs. L. H. Ashton +25 +15.

## MIXED DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP.

### SILVER CHALLENGE CUPS. (9 Pairs).

**FIRST ROUND.**  
W. Longman and Mrs. W. Longman bt Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury and Mrs. C. B. Cumberlege by 11.  
The rest had byes.

**SECOND ROUND.**  
Dr. H. J. Penny and Mrs. N. A. Fotiadis bt Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave and Miss M. Posford by 15.  
H. O. Hicks and Mrs. E. Rotherham bt W. Longman and Mrs. W. Longman by 12.

J. K. Brown and Miss D. D. Steel bt V. A. de la Nougerede and Mrs. V. C. Gasson by 3.  
Rev. G. F. H. Elvey and Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey bt M. B. Reckitt and Mrs. L. H. Ashton by 10.

**SEMI-FINAL.**  
H. O. Hicks and Mrs. E. Rotherham bt Dr. H. J. Penny and Mrs. N. A. Fotiadis by 26.  
Rev. G. F. H. Elvey and Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey bt J. K. Brown and Miss D. D. Steel by 1.

**FINAL.**  
H. O. Hicks and Mrs. E. Rotherham bt Rev. G. F. H. Elvey and Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey by 25.

### THE "DU PRE" CUP. (13 Entries).

**FIRST ROUND.**  
Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey bt Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave by 8.  
J. K. Brown bt E. V. Carpmal by 8.  
Miss D. D. Steel bt Major N. E. O. Thackwell by 15.  
W. Longman bt V. A. de la Nougerede by 8.  
Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury bt Mrs. N. A. Fotiadis by 16.  
The rest had byes.

**SECOND ROUND.**  
Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey bt Mrs. W. Longman by 17.  
Miss D. D. Steel bt J. K. Brown by 23.  
Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury bt W. Longman by 14.  
Mrs. V. C. Gasson bt Mrs. C. B. Cumberlege by 12.

**SEMI-FINAL.**  
Miss D. D. Steel bt Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey by 24.  
Mrs. V. C. Gasson w.o. Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury opponent scratched.

**FINAL.**  
Miss D. D. Steel bt Mrs. V. C. Gasson by 21.

### HANDICAP SINGLES. (17 Entries).

**FIRST ROUND.**  
Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave (1½) bt W. Longman (-3) by 25.  
The rest had byes.

**SECOND ROUND.**  
V. A. de la Nougerede (0) bt Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey (-2) by 3.  
Dr. H. J. Penny (-1½) bt Mrs. C. B. Cumberlege (2½) by 7.  
M. B. Reckitt (-3) bt Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury (1) by 1.  
Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave (1½) bt Mrs. V. C. Gasson (1½) by 15.  
E. V. Carpmal (0) bt Mrs. L. H. Ashton (-2) by 1.  
Mrs. N. A. Fotiadis (1½) bt Mrs. W. Longman (-1) by 23.  
Major N. E. O. Thackwell (1½) bt F. H. Fisher (-1½) by 16.  
J. K. Brown (-1) w.o. Mrs. E. Rotherham opponent scratched.

**THIRD ROUND.**  
V. A. de la Nougerede (0) bt Dr. H. J. Penny (-1½) by 7.  
Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave (1½) bt M. B. Reckitt (-3) by 4.  
Mrs. N. A. Fotiadis (1½) bt E. V. Carpmal (0) by 18.  
Major N. E. O. Thackwell (1½) w.o. J. K. Brown (-1) opponent retired.

**SEMI-FINAL.**  
Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave (1½) bt V. A. de la Nougerede (0) by 22.  
Mrs. N. A. Fotiadis (1½) bt Major N. E. O. Thackwell (1½) by 5.

**FINAL.**  
Mrs. N. A. Fotiadis (1½) bt Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave (1½) by 12.

## ROEHAMPTON v. THE REST

Played at Roehampton on May 28th, 1955.

At 10 a.m. on the Saturday morning, the Roehampton courts were water-logged, rain having fallen continuously for over twelve hours. By 11.30, however, it was possible to start play, despite a small pool of water here and there on some of the courts. The Singles resulted in three wins for Roehampton and three wins for the Rest. There was a most exciting match between Mrs. Apps and C. W. Hodges. Clever tactics prevailed, and Mrs. Apps scored a most valuable point for Roehampton. Miss Lintern and Col. Adams not only won their morning matches, but, combining well in the Doubles, beat E. P. C. Cotter and M. B. Reckitt. With one Double unfinished, the Match resulted in a draw. Special mention must be made of the really excellent morning coffee, lunch and tea. The Rest greatly appreciated being so handsomely entertained by Roehampton.

### Roehampton players named first. SINGLES.

W. Longman lost to H. O. Hicks by 19.  
Col. C. C. Adams bt E. P. C. Cotter by 12.  
Miss D. A. Lintern bt Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins by 14.  
Mrs. W. Longman lost to M. B. Reckitt by 19.  
Mrs. L. C. Apps bt C. W. Hodges by 4.  
Mrs. G. J. Turketine lost to Dr. H. J. Penny by 14.

**DOUBLES.**  
W. Longman and Mrs. W. Longman lost to H. O. Hicks and Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins by 19.  
Col. C. C. Adams and Miss D. A. Lintern bt E. P. C. Cotter and M. B. Reckitt by 12.  
Mrs. L. C. Apps and Mrs. G. J. Turketine versus C. W. Hodges and Dr. H. J. Penny game unfinished.

**RESULT.**—Match drawn, 4 games all. One unfinished.

## INTER-COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP MAY 23rd

Though favoured with glorious sunshine on the first of the three days which were sufficient for the small entry of four counties—the other two were nothing like "the merry month of May" that poets used to sing about.

The quality of the play often failed to be shared by the two partners of a side—though each displayed on paper that hall-mark of distinction, the minus sign. One of these would make a perfect all-round break to four-back, but the form of the partner was, by comparison, *staccato*, so that a game that looked likely to be a short one often proved the very opposite—indeed because the time limit of 3½ hours had been insufficient quite a few games were thus decided.

The Hurlingham lawns were looking their best—which is saying a great deal; so fine is the texture of their surface that the ball seems only to cease progress when its impetus has been expended.

Middlesex and Surrey, since the war, have almost monopolised the Inter-County Championship, one or the other was sure to be in the final. Surrey has now won three years in succession, which she did in 1933-4-5. Berkshire's record will take some beating; in the first recorded results of the County Championship Berkshire won the first first four in sequence 1897-8-9-1900. In 1946 Bedford was the winning county; and the next year, combined with Hunts, they won again.

The brothers Rothwell provided Oxon, Berks and Bucks with a useful "A" pair; though this combination of counties only won two matches they were against the winning county Surrey—and Middlesex whom they beat 3 games to love.

The scores in matches were:—  
Surrey won 5 matches; namely, against Hants and Dorset 3-0, 3-0; Middlesex 2-1, 2-1; Oxon, Berks and Bucks 3-0.

Middlesex won 3 matches; namely, against Hants and Dorset 3-0, 3-0; Oxon, Berks and Bucks 2-1.  
Hants and Dorset won 2 matches; namely, against Oxon, Berks and Bucks 2-1, 2-1.

Oxon, Berks and Bucks won 2 matches; namely, against Middlesex 3-0, Surrey 2-1.

The games were won as follows:—

	A pair	B pair	C pair	Total
Surrey ...	2	5	5	12
Middlesex ...	5	2	2	9
Oxon, Berks and Bucks ...	4	3	1	8
Hants & Dorset	1	2	3	6

## RYDE

JUNE 6th—11th

Flaming June, the weather could have been kinder, but it could have been a lot worse. Friday and Saturday were quite fine. Nevertheless the Ryde Tournament was a most happy affair. This was due to the able and courteous management by Major Dibley.

The whole atmosphere was one of friendliness just like that of a garden party of days gone by. On two lawns side by side for long periods on end, there was such a friendly atmosphere, there was no outplayer; nobody thought of dealing with the opposition; a type of croquet which in tournaments was believed to be dead, but is exactly what the non-playing public think about the game.

Now to come to real tournament croquet the A opens (the Isle of Wight Championship) was won by Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish, who was playing very steadily all the week, beating Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave the winner of the other life in the final.

The B level singles was won by S. S. Townsend, who played some of the best croquet of the week. He was also the finalist in the X handicap singles, a game he nearly pulled out of the fire losing only by 4 points, Miss E. M. Watson the winner being nearly out, when he had hardly started. His handicap should be well below 4 bisques before long.

The Handicap Doubles were won by Major G. F. Stone and Mrs. L. G. Walters, who beat G. Birch and Mrs. A. R. Brown after a most thrilling game. After Major Stone had pegged Mr. Birch out Mrs. Brown nearly won the game by her excellent play losing only by 2 points.

Mr. A. B. Ward, President, presided at the prize-giving. This was kindly undertaken by Mrs. Cowper Blake. Mr. Ward expressed thanks to the visitors and Mr. Victor Evans replied on their behalf in cheery mood.

### ISLE OF WIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP. OPEN SINGLES.

#### THE DRAW. (5 Entries).

**FIRST ROUND.**  
G. V. Evans bt Major J. H. Dibley by 3.

**SEMI-FINAL.**  
Major G. F. Stone bt G. V. Evans by 13.  
Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave bt Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish by 11.

**FINAL.**  
Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave w.o. Major G. F. Stone opponent scratched.

**PLAY-OFF.**  
Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish bt Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave by 7.

#### PROCESS. (5 Entries).

**FIRST ROUND.**  
Major G. F. Stone bt Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave by 16.

**SEMI-FINAL.**  
Major J. H. Dibley w.o. Major Stone opponent scratched.  
Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish bt G. V. Evans by 10.

**FINAL.**  
Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish bt Major J. H. Dibley by 19.

#### LEVEL SINGLES (CLASS "B"). (3 Bisques and over). (10 Entries).

**FIRST ROUND.**  
G. Birch bt Miss E. Walker by 11.  
Miss G. Metcalfe bt Miss L. Newman by 13.

**SECOND ROUND.**  
S. S. Townsend bt G. Child by 12.  
G. Birch bt Mrs. J. H. Dibley by 6.  
Miss G. Metcalfe bt Miss E. M. Watson by 2.  
Miss J. Birch w.o. Mrs. R. A. Hill.

**SEMI-FINAL.**  
S. S. Townsend bt G. Birch by 7.  
Miss G. Metcalfe bt Miss J. Birch by 10.

**FINAL.**  
S. S. Townsend bt Miss G. Metcalfe by 16.

#### HANDICAP SINGLES (CLASS "C"). (6½ to 9 Bisques). (2 Entries).

**FINAL.**  
Mrs. C. R. Farnsworth (7) bt G. A. H. Alexander (8) by 4.





4.—**FOURTH DIVISION. THE RECKITT CHALLENGE CUP.** Open to Associates handicapped at 5½ to 7½ bisques inclusive. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. Matches of single games throughout. Level Play. Holder—E. Whitehead.

5.—**FIFTH DIVISION. THE STEVENSON CHALLENGE CUP.** Open to Associates handicapped at 8 bisques or over. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. Matches of single games throughout. Level Play. Holder—Brig. J. S. Omond.

Law 44 will be suspended in respect of Events 3, 4 and 5.

N.B.—No competitor may enter for more than one of the above five events.

6.—**THE "GILBEY" CUP. HANDICAP SINGLES.** This event will be drawn in four Blocks, "A," "B," "C" and "D" according to handicaps. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. Matches of single games throughout. To qualify for the "Gilbey" Cup, the winner of "A" v. "B" will play the winner of "C" v. "D." Holders—The Event, W. P. Ormerod (4), Block "A" A. G. F. Ross (—4), Block "B" Major J. H. Dibley (1), Block "D" Mrs. E. Haigh Smith (12).

7.—**HANDICAP DOUBLES.** Combined handicaps of 1 bisque or over. Entries should be made in pairs. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. each person. Matches of single games throughout. Holders—J. G. Warwick and Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts (3).

8.—**GOLF CROQUET SINGLES.** The "Ascot" Challenge Cup. Open to all. Entrance Fee, 4s. 6d. The competition will be played under the Official Rules of Golf Croquet. Played in two blocks according to handicaps; the winners of the blocks playing off to decide the winner of the cup. Holder—Mrs. H. F. Chittenden.

9.—**GOLF CROQUET DOUBLES.** The "Delves Broughton" Challenge Cups. Presented by the late Sir Delves Broughton, Bart. Open to pairs with combined Croquet handicaps of not less than scratch. Entrance Fee, 4s. 6d. each player. The competition will be played under the Official Rules of Golf Croquet. Entries should be made in pairs. Holders—Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts and W. P. Ormerod.

#### CONDITIONS.

Hoops 3¼ in. wide. "Eclipse" Balls will be used. Eight Courts will be provided. Flat-soled footwear must be worn.

#### ENTRIES.

The Entries accompanied by the Entrance Fees, for Events 1 to 6, 8 and 9, must be sent to the Secretary so as to reach her not later than the first post on **Friday, August 5th**, and for Event 7 (in pairs) by 11 a.m. on **Saturday, August 13th**.

Competitors must give with their Entries, the address at which messages will reach them during the Tournament. **Standard entry forms should be used.**

#### DRAW.

The Draw for the Challenge Cups and Gilbey Cup will take place at 4, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1, on Monday, August 8th, at 11 a.m.

The Draw for Event No. 7 (Handicap Doubles) will take place at the Roehampton Club at noon on Saturday, August 13th.

#### PLAY.

Play will begin at 10 a.m. daily, unless otherwise notified, and continue until 7 p.m. or later if necessary.

## BRIGHTON, 1955

### THE FORTY-SECOND AUTUMN TOURNAMENT

**MONDAY, AUGUST 22nd, and FIVE FOLLOWING DAYS**

To be held on the Lawns of the Sussex County Croquet Club, Victoria Road, Southwick, Sussex (Under the Laws and Regulations of the C.A.)

Committee.—Mrs. H. F. Chittenden, Mrs. H. Franc, Mrs. E. Miller, S. F. Sopwith, G. E. W. Hitchcock, D. Woodhams, Mrs. E. A. Roper.

Manager.—Miss D. D. Steel.  
Referee.—N. Oddie.

#### EVENTS.

1.—**OPEN SINGLES** ("Two Lives" system). Law 44 Variation B. **THE SUSSEX GOLD CUP** presented by the late E. R. Harrison. Entrance Fee, 11s.

2.—**LEVEL SINGLES (CLASS B)** (no lift). **THE FRANC CUP** presented by Mrs. H. Franc. Open to players handicapped 2 to 5 bisques. Entrance Fee, 8s.

3.—**HANDICAP SINGLES (CLASS 3).** **THE MONTEITH BOWL** presented by the late G. C. Branthisaite. Open to players handicapped 5½ bisques and over. Entrance Fee, 8s.

4.—**HANDICAP SINGLES. THE MAURICE RECKITT BOWL** presented by Mr. M. B. Reckitt. Entrance Fee, 8s.

5.—**HANDICAP DOUBLES.** Entrance Fee, 8s. each partner.

All games in Event 5 to start at No. 3 hoop.

#### ENTRIES.

Players may not enter for more than one of Events 1, 2 or 3. Entries for 1, 2, 3 and 4 must reach the Hon. Secretary by first post on **Thursday, August 18th**, but may close earlier if necessary. Those for Event 5 may be made on the ground up to 2 p.m. **Tuesday, August 23rd.**

#### THE DRAW.

The Draw for 1, 2, 3 and 4, will take place at Southwick on Thursday, August 18th, at 2.30 p.m., and Event 5 on Tuesday, August 23rd.

#### PLAY.

Play will commence at 10 a.m. and continue till 6.30 p.m. or later if necessary. No leave will be granted later than 12 noon, Monday.

#### GENERAL.

Standard setting 3¼ inch hoops and Jaques' Eclipse Balls will be used. Ten Courts will be available. Flat-soled footwear must be worn. Competitors will be made hon. members of the Club during the Tournament.

#### TRANSPORT.

Green buses along Brighton Front leave the Palace Pier every seven minutes. The 9.30 bus arrives Southwick, Grange Road, 9.40 a.m. From Worthing bus service every quarter of an hour and train service to Southwick four times an hour.

## HUNSTANTON

### THE FIFTY-EIGHTH HUNSTANTON OPEN CROQUET TOURNAMENT

Will be held on the Club Grounds on  
**MONDAY, AUGUST 29th, 1955**  
and five following days

(Under C.A. Laws and Regulations).

Committee.—Mrs. R. C. J. Beaton, Mrs. Edmund Reeve, C. B. Bird, Miss Gillespie, J. G. Warwick, Dr. Lewis.

Manager.—C. B. Bird.  
Referee and Handicapper.—Mrs. Edmund Reeve.  
Hon. Secretary.—Mrs. B. C. Perowne, 65 Victoria Avenue, Hunstanton.

#### EVENTS.

1.—**OPEN SINGLES** (Class "A"). Draw and Process. Variation "B." **The Norfolk Challenge Cup.** Entrance Fee, 11s.

2.—**LEVEL SINGLES** (Class "B"). Law 44 suspended. **THE HUNSTANTON CHALLENGE BOWL.** 2 to 8½ bisques. Entrance Fee, 8s.

3.—**HANDICAP SINGLES** (Class "C"). 9 bisques and over. Entrance Fee, 8s.

4.—**HANDICAP SINGLES. "X.Y." INGLEBY CHALLENGE CUP.** Entrance Fee, 9s.

5.—**HANDICAP DOUBLES.** No players of 2 handicap or less may partner each other. Entrance Fee, 8s.

At the discretion of the Committee, any of these events may be played on the American system if number of entries warrants it.

No player may enter for more than one of Events 1, 2 and 3.

#### CONDITIONS.

Entries for 1, 2, 3 and 4, must reach the Secretary not later than the last post on Thursday, August 25th, and for Event 5 on Tuesday, August 30th, with application for leave, which will not be granted after 12 noon on Monday, unless the exigencies of the Draw permit. Entrance Fees must be paid at the time of entry.

#### THE DRAW.

The Draw for Events 1, 2, 3 and 4 will take place in the Club's Pavilion on Saturday, August 27th, at 5 p.m. Play will begin at 10 a.m. on each day and continue to 7 p.m.

Standard Setting and Jaques' Championship balls will be used. Five Courts will be available.

Hotels.—Golden Lion, Glebe, Garden House, Ken Hill View, Caltofts, Austin St. There are also the L'Estrange Arms and the Lodge Hotels at Old Hunstanton one mile away.

## PARKSTONE (East Dorset)

### CROQUET TOURNAMENT

**MONDAY, AUGUST 29th, and five following days**  
(Under the Laws and Regulations of the C.A.)

Committee.—Croquet Committee of the Parkstone Club.

Manager and Handicapper.—L. H. Ashton.

Referee.—Lt.-Col. F. E. W. Baldwin.

Hon. Secretary.—Mrs. L. H. Ashton, Tennis and Croquet Club, Saltern's Road, Parkstone, Dorset.

1.—**OPEN SINGLES.** Single games. Entrance Fee, 8s. Bournemouth Bowl. Loser of the first match qualify for the Ashton Trophy. Single games. Entrance Fee, 5s.

2.—**LEVEL SINGLES.** Variation B. For players of 1½ to 4 bisques inclusive. Entrance Fee, 8s. **Deshon Cup.**

3.—**HANDICAP SINGLES.** For players of 4½ bisques and over. Entrance Fee, 8s. **Halse Salver.**

Competitors may enter for only one of the above three events.

4.—**HANDICAP SINGLES.** Unrestricted. Entrance Fee, 9s. **Gold Cup.**

5.—**HANDICAP DOUBLES.** Unrestricted. Entrance Fee, 8s. each player.

#### CONDITIONS.

Entries for Events 1, 2, 3 and 4, must reach the Hon. Sec. on or before midday **Thursday, August 25th.** Entries for Event 5 close at midday on **Tuesday, August 30th.**

The Draw will take place at the Club on Thursday, August 25th, at 3 p.m.

Five or six courts will be provided and Jaques' "Eclipse" balls will be used. Standard 3¼ in. hoops.

Play will commence at 10 a.m. (or earlier if necessary). Flat-soled footwear must be worn.

Lunch and tea at the Club at moderate prices. The Hon. Secretary will be pleased to help in finding accommodation if notified in time. Kindly send full particulars as to type required.

## BRIGHTON

### (UNOFFICIAL)

An Unofficial Tournament will be held on  
**MONDAY, AUGUST 29th, and FIVE FOLLOWING DAYS**

(Under C.A. Laws and Regulations).

Manager and Handicapper.—Major J. R. Dibley.

Hon. Sec.—F. E. Corke, 60 Southwick Street, Southwick, Sussex.

#### EVENTS.

1.—**HANDICAP SINGLES.** 5½ and under. Entrance Fee, 8s.

2.—**HANDICAP SINGLES.** 6 and over. Entrance Fee, 8s.

3.—**X.Y.** Entrance Fee, 8s.

4.—**HANDICAP DOUBLES.** Combined Handicap to be not less than 4. Entrance Fee, 8s.

All games in Event 4 will start at No. 3-hoop.

Entries for 1, 2 and 3 must reach the Hon. Secretary not later than **first post, Thursday, August 25th.**

The Draw for Events 1, 2 and 3, will take place at Southwick on **Thursday, August 25th**, and for Event No. 4 at 2.30, **Tuesday, August 30th.**

Luncheons and Teas will be obtainable in the Club canteen.

Extra event if time permits.

## THE PRESIDENT'S CUP

Presented to the C.A. in 1934 by Trevor Williams, Esq.  
Holder—E. P. C. Cotter.

For the 8 best available players of the preceding 12 months in the C.A. invited to compete by the Council of the C.A.

No Entrance Fee.

Will be played for at

### THE ROEHAMPTON CLUB

The Headquarters of the Croquet Association  
on

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5th, 1955**  
AND FOLLOWING DAYS

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the Croquet Association.

Manager.—Mrs. G. J. Turketine.

Referee and Handicapper.—E. P. C. Cotter and Miss D. A. Lintern.

Secretary.—The Secretary, C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

#### CONDITIONS.

Hoops 3 11/16th inches wide, and Jaques' "Eclipse" Balls will be used. The Council of the C.A. reserve the right to substitute hoops 3¼ inches wide at their discretion.

The remaining conditions (similar to those of 1953) under which this competition will be played will be printed in full in the September issue.

## CHELTENHAM

### N.O. TOURNAMENT

To be held on the CLUB LAWNS, Old Bath Road, on  
**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12th, and five following days**

#### EVENTS.

1.—**OPEN SINGLES.** (Two Lives.) Variation B. Fee, 8s. 6d.

2.—**LEVEL SINGLES.** Law 44 suspended. 3 bisques or more). Fee, 6s.

3.—**HANDICAP SINGLES.** (5½ bisques to 9 bisques). Fee, 6s.

4.—**HANDICAP SINGLES.** (10 bisques or over.) Fee, 6s.

5.—**HANDICAP SINGLES** (X.Y. system). Fee, 8s. 6d.

6.—**HANDICAP DOUBLES.** Unrestricted. Fee, 6s. each.

Entries to F. Langley, Cheltenham Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham, by midday, September 8th. Draw 2 p.m. same day.

No leave unless circumstances of Draw permit. Manager, Referee and Handicapper.—F. Langley. Play will begin daily at 10 a.m. or earlier if necessary.