

Jaques Croquet Equipment

Known and used all over the world

Mallets

made to your own
specification
by Jaques craftsmen

Or choose from the JACQUES named range
Association (£8.75). Tingey (£12.10).
Peel (£8.00). Solomon (£14.75).
and others.

Also mallets with steel shafts.

The renowned Eclipse Championship Ball

Guaranteed for Two Years (£11.20 set)

Complete Croquet sets (from £26.75) or single items
from all good sports shops and stores.

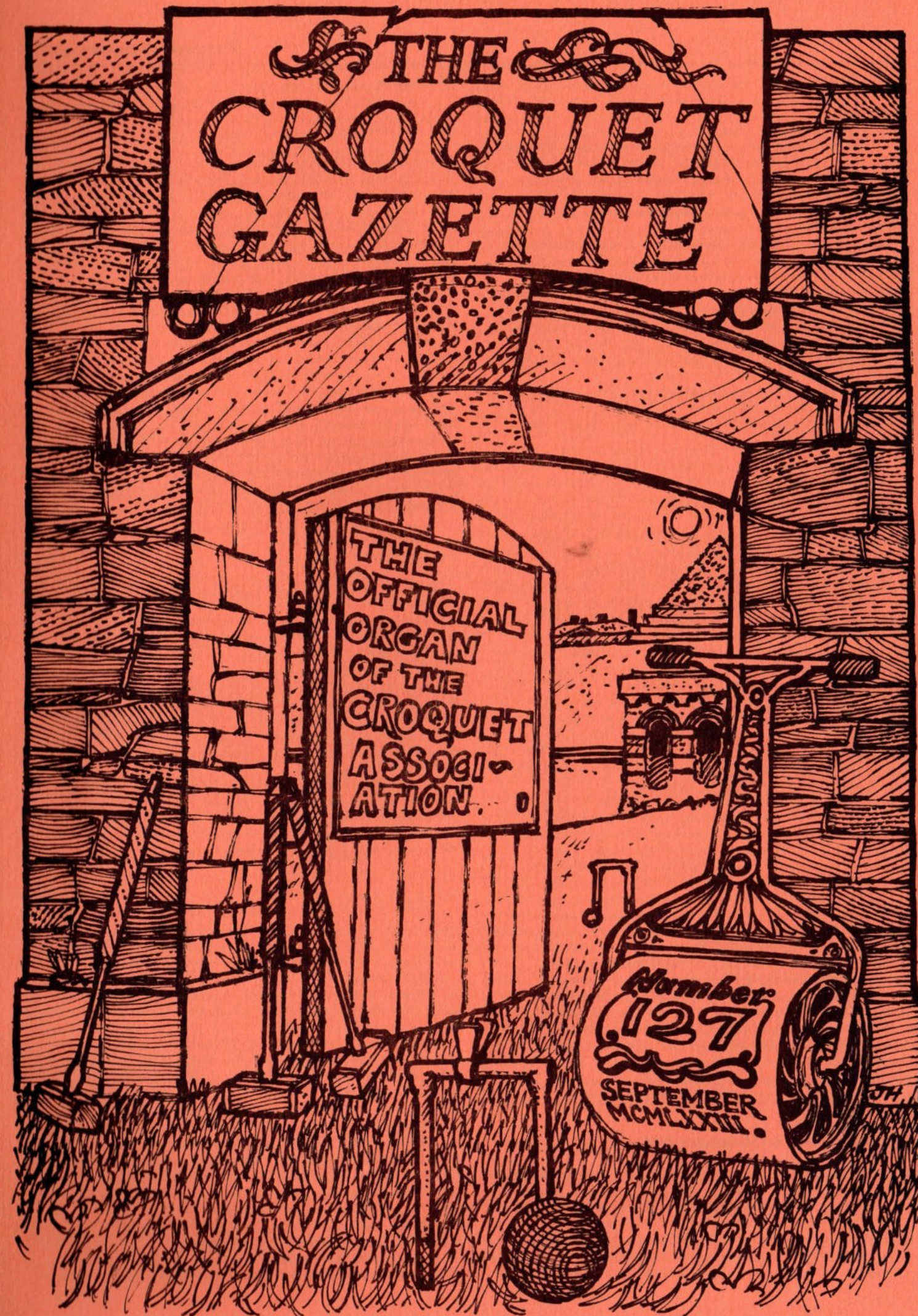
Other accessories include:
Association Hoops (£3.35 each)
Flags (£2.85 per set)
Corner Pegs (£2.85 per set)
Mallet repairs, quotations given.

Recommended retail prices, inclusive of VAT, shown in brackets.

Full details and illustrated catalogue
free on request.

Jaques
& Son Ltd.,

361 Whitehorse Road,
Thornton Heath, Surrey, CR4 8XP. Tel: 01-684 4242



Rover Notes

Lawns

The most vulnerable parts of a lawn are the humps — the high areas. The worst of them get scalped by the mower, some so badly that the grass disintegrates. All of them get over-compacted by the mower and then become water-proof. This, in dry weather, results in a skewbald lawn; humps are brown, valleys are green.

When the brown patches are visible, that is the time to take action. Hollow-tine them with a hollow-tining fork. It will be difficult to get even three-quarters of an inch of penetration, but it is worth doing for two reasons. First, it will allow some water to break through the water-proofing, and so restart grass growth. Secondly it will mark the areas for future hollow-tining in the winter. In winter hollow-tining is easy down to two inches, but by then the humps have usually greened over and are difficult to see, but for the previous marking.

Overall hollow-tining with a machine will give a deeper penetration on the soft, low areas, and less penetration on the high, hard areas. This will accentuate the unevenness of the lawn.

Twenty-sixed and never took croquet

There seems to be a fairly common sentiment that there is no particular disgrace in being defeated by twenty-six; it is a situation you should be able to accept with equanimity. If you are defeated by some margin between 20 and 26, it means that you took croquet, made a hoop or two and then broke down; your opponent's win is in some measure attributable to your errors. If your contribution to a game is simply missing two lifts and a long shot or two, you never got into things anyway, so there is nothing more to be said. For the loser, however, it is in reality an equally dispiriting experience to lose by 26 as by 25; the game has scarcely been worth playing in either case.

To defeat an opponent by twenty-six in two or three breaks clearly requires considerable precision and control. It is the easiest thing in the world to make some small error and fail to get position, stick in the hoop or miss a return roquet. But is not such a win rather a boring experience?

In a tournament where a lot of minus players are playing each other, wins by very large margins are comparatively frequent. Whether there is an important difference between losing by 25 or by 26 may be doubted, but in any case it is not really the point. If a situation arises where a substantial group of players habitually beat each other by very large margins, losers may justifiably feel that games which they lose by large margins have perhaps been a waste of time; moreover, if to win by large margins becomes too easy, it is time the rules of the game were altered. To say that very good players can just as well win as lose by 26 is again beside the point. The question is whether it has become too easy to win by large margins, and this Rover believes that that is now the position. Many alternatives to 'Advanced Play' have been proposed of recent years, and most of them have been tried, but none has gained general acceptance. It is important that efforts should continue to find an alternative that helps the out-player a bit more. Success in finding an agreed alternative would be for the general good of the game.

Cheltenham Weekend Tournaments 1974

The dates for the five Weekend Tournaments of 1974 will be: Easter, April 13 — 15; Spring Bank Holiday, May 25 — 27; August 24 — 26; September 13 — 15; October 11 — 13.

The lists will be opened on February 1st, and possibly closed the same day, if the number of applications makes this necessary.

Obituaries

Col. D.W. Beamish

Desmond Beamish started playing croquet as a boy at Newry, County Down. One next hears of him playing in Egypt, when he was S.M.O. British Army, with Tingey, J.G. Clarke and Saalfeld; he was then around the scratch mark.

In 1955 he won the Surrey Cup, which was played for the first time in that year, and he was second in 1956. In 1957 he was promoted to the President's Cup and finished third with seven games. He had many tournament successes, notably at Parkstone, where he won the Open Singles 6 times between 1957 and 1964. He won the Cheltenham Open Singles in 1956 and the Hurlingham Open Handicap as late as 1970.

He had a fluent, easy croquet stroke with a particularly straight swing, but was prone to what other people regarded as tactical errors. He was one of the most charming and cheerful persons to play croquet with; he had a wonderful temperament and always saw the humorous side of things, even when laying up in the third corner when conceding a lift.

He was also a very keen fisherman and wrote an interesting book on his experiences fishing in New Zealand. He was a keen musician and an expert on Hi-Fi recordings.

His many friends will miss both him and his brother, whose Obituary was in a recent issue.

G.E.C.

C.L. Robertson

I first knew Clarence as a colleague at County Hall more than twenty-five years ago. On his retirement he and his wife Helen joined the Chelmsford Club; they were enthusiastic and established members there when I joined in 1952. For many years they were regular visitors to Roehampton both as competitors and spectators.

Clarence helped the Chelmsford Club in many unobtrusive ways and was one of the main authors of the amalgamation of Chelmsford and Colchester which was so beneficial for both clubs. These services earned him the well-deserved distinction of becoming Colchester's first honorary life member; he also served as a Trustee.

Extraordinarily active for his age he was *literally* running across the courts last summer ready for a game with anyone. His readiness to help and his friendly humour will be missed by all who knew him, and we extend our sincere sympathy to his devoted wife Helen and his daughter Jean.

E.W.

Miss E.J. Warwick

Not a few croquet players have become attached to Budleigh Salterton because of Joan Warwick. She always had a welcome for everyone, and especially for new visitors, so it seemed natural to see her — albeit in her wheelchair — at the club on the Monday of their big July tournament. What courage this must have taken was only realised when on Wednesday morning, July 4th, she died.

Joan had learnt her croquet from her brother Guy and after playing in a tournament at Budleigh Salterton they decided to move there together in 1957, a happy and successful venture for them both. That year Joan was selected for the Ladies' Field Cup and for the next twelve years she and Mrs Rotherham dominated Women's Croquet. Joan won the Ladies' Eight and the Women's Championship five times each. She appeared four times in the President's Cup and was a much sought after Doubles partner, winning the Mixed Doubles Championship with three different partners. But the peak of her croquet career came when she was the only woman included in the 1963 Triangular Test Tour of New Zealand, which she had also toured in 1927 as a Hockey International.

Joan excelled in other spheres besides sport. She was commissioned in the A.T.S. at its inception and helped to form it;

she ended the War as a Senior Commander. She then trained as a Housing Manager and did invaluable work in Paddington until she had to return home to look after her mother, herself a well-known croquet player. After serving as a County Councillor for the Soke of Peterborough, Joan originated and organised the Home Help service there. After retiring she became a regular driver for the hospital service and only gave it up reluctantly when she became ill a year ago.

It is hard to believe we will not see Joan again; standing solidly with her left foot forward, swinging her mallet determinedly on its straight low course and keeping her head severely down while we watch the ball speeding to its target. She was a staunch friend, unselfishly sharing her knowledge and generous with her advice and praise. Joan's personality and style has left its imprint on croquet.

E.A.M.P.

Sports Turf Aeration

There are two main reasons for sports turf aeration. One is to maintain good drainage conditions and the other is to ensure an adequate amount of air in the top soil so that the grass roots can breathe and grow. During the course of time the players' feet and maintenance machinery pack the top soil aggregates closer and closer together until finally, particularly in the absence of earthworms, the soil becomes very compact indeed. The farmer, when faced with the problem of a compacted soil, is able to plough the land once the temporary crop has been removed. The groundsman or greenkeeper, whose "crop" of turf is permanent, must resort to some form of spiking or forking to relieve the over-compaction, or better still prevent it before it can occur.

Improvements in mechanisation

At one time a lot of this work was done by hand and some of the forks used were heavy and cumbersome. Tremendous advances have been made since the last war in mechanising the job of turf aeration and whilst there is still a very definite place for hand forking, the old drudgery of hand forking for weeks on end in the autumn is now no more. There seems to be quite a lot of confusion, however, at some clubs about the functions of the various types of tines (hollow, solid and slitting) and the merits of hand as against machine spiking. Perhaps a few words here about these various methods of aeration might clear up a few doubts.

Machine spiking and hand forking can be complementary

Very few of the relatively small machines used on fine turf will penetrate the soil to a depth of more than about 4 in., though some of them will spike with very great intensity and uniformity, punching in holes at as close as 2 in. centres in some cases. Where the compaction is confined to the top inch or two, machine spiking with a good machine will be perfectly adequate and though the holes are not so deep, they are certainly very numerous. Where the compaction goes deeper there is a case for hand forking. Sometimes on golf greens for instance, although a spiking machine may be used overall, there are certain local areas, particularly raised bumps, where some local hand forking pays dividends. Hand solid forking of cricket squares is still the best and some of the most playable football pitches we have seen have been regularly forked by the groundsman through the football season with an ordinary garden fork in addition to the routine mechanical spiking. Golf tees are usually machine spiked — there is not the labour these days to fork them and, of course, fairways are machine spiked like all other relatively large areas of sports turf such as cricket outfield, winter playing pitches and racecourses.

When to use hollow tines

Correct choice of tine when spiking or forking is quite important, though perhaps not quite so momentous as some people make out. Hollow tines, since they actually extract soil, make

the largest holes and are the most efficient in relieving compaction. Their use is restricted as a rule to autumn and it is not a good plan to hollow tine a bowling green or golf green every year ad infinitum. Too much hollow tining is apt to cause the playing surface to become too soft. It may cause irregularities in levels and can encourage invasion of the turf by worthless grasses and weeds. Hollow tining is best reserved for cases where the soil has become particularly compact and/or slow draining or where one needs to work large quantities of top dressing into the surface for some purpose. Cricket squares are very rarely hollow tined because of the real risk that the surface would crumble badly the season after hollow tining.

Solid tines can be used often

Solid tines can be used pretty well any time of the year when soil conditions are suitable and can be used frequently, since the holes are of small diameter. Mounted on a good machine solid tines cause very little disturbance to the playing surface.

Frequent slit tining can also be very effective

Slitting tines are also sold as "root pruning" and "chisel" tines by the manufacturers. They share the advantage of the solid tines in that as a rule, especially when "broken in", they disturb the surface very little and they can be used throughout the season if the soil is sufficiently moist. The holes made by slitting tines are larger than those made by solid tines. Since the slit made in the surface is fairly long, beware of using slitting tines in dry weather, since the soil may dry out badly around the slit and cause damage to the grass. If you are doubtful whether conditions are right, either don't spike at all or use the solid tines. When the weather allows, spiking once a month through the winter months with slitting or solid tines helps surface water away and encourages the grass roots to develop further, being particularly useful in the case of very matted turf.

Large scale spiking

Spiking machines for the larger areas are, of course bigger and more robust than those used on golf and bowling greens, tennis courts and cricket squares. There are one or two self-propelled spikers in use but the majority are tractor-drawn or tractor-mounted. Slitting or hollow tines are fitted to most models, though there is at least one for which hollow tines are available. Tines on these big spiking machines should be able to penetrate to a depth of anything between 4 in. and 9 in., depending on the model.

Choose the right conditions for spiking

The secret of getting the most benefit out of these big spiking machines is to keep pounding away with them, fitted with the solid or slitting tines except under special circumstances, whenever time and soil conditions allow. In the summer time the soil on outfields, football pitches, fairways and the like usually becomes too dry and hard for the spikes to go in at all deeply. In winter, on the other hand, it is sometimes too soft for tractor-mounted machinery to get on to it. Spring and autumn therefore present most opportunities for this type of spiking and it is not too much to spike every ten days or fortnight at these times of the year when ground conditions are suitable.

(This article is reprinted from 'Sports Turf Bulletin' No. 95, 1971 by permission of The Sports Turf Research Institute.)

Advertisement

Michael Heap would be interested to hear from any member who has a spare boxwood mallet head, which is square, of standard dimensions and about 3 lb weight. Slight damage to the face of the mallet head is unimportant. If you can help, his 'phone number is Ingatestone 2053.

(Copied from The Croquet Association Gazette, May 1st, 1913, pages 6 & 7)

CROQUET IN THE COURTS

Court of Chancery, August 25, 1864.

(Before the Vice-Chancellor Kindersley, the Vacation Judge, at Southampton.)

Reid v. The Earl of Essex and another.

(A correspondent sends the following newspaper cutting, of unknown date, which he discovered pasted into a copy of "Law and Lawyers" (pub. 1840), owned apparently in 1864 by Mr. John Jones, probably a solicitor at Wrexham. Our correspondent remarks that the "bill" referred to in the report was the written statement of the plaintiff's case, with which an action in Chancery was formerly commenced.)

This was a suit instituted by Captain Mayne Reid, the well-known author of many popular Indian novels, against the Earl of Essex and Miss Emily Faithfull, the earl's publisher, to protect the plaintiff's copyright in his recent work on "Croquet." The bill gives some account of the introduction into England of this national game, and of the extraordinary development which has since been accomplished in its science and rules. It appears from the statements of the bill that the plaintiff's work (of which he is the sole author and copyright proprietor) was published for him in the latter part of last year by Mr. Skeet, of King William Street, Charing Cross; that until then mere short printed instructions had been sold in accompaniment and explanation of the game; and that owing to the poverty and vagueness of those instructions and their failure to provide for numerous questions which arose, each croquet ground had from time to time, according to its own caprice and for its own local purposes, enlarged the existing rules and added new rules and technical expressions, thereby occasioning a widespread and inconvenient variety in the rules and vocabulary of the game. Under these circumstances the plaintiff, considering that a comprehensive set of rules would, if well drawn up in respect of arrangement and language, and introduced to the public, be ultimately adopted throughout the country, determined to compile and publish such, and to add to it all requisite or explanatory notes and practical instructions, and, in fact, to compose a work which (so far as his intention and endeavours would avail) should prove an authoritative handbook on the game. He, accordingly, bestowed more than four months labour and considerable expense in studying the science of the game, and all practical details connected with it, and particularly in collecting, investigating, and developing the existing rules and in inventing new rules and reducing the knowledge, ideas and materials so acquired into an original and well-digested written shape. His work "Croquet" was the result. It contained, amongst other matters, no less than 126 "rules," with explanatory footnotes subjoined, all of which were his own original composition. And the bill alleges that by far the greater part of the rules were, even in substance and tenor, first published in and by means of the work in question. It appears that the defendant, Miss Emily Faithfull, lately printed and published for the Earl of Essex, her co-defendant, a book called "The Rules of Croquet, revised and corrected by an Old Hand"; which had already reached a second edition. The bill alleges that this book was a piracy of the plaintiff's copyright, being a copy, partly verbatim and partly with merely colourable alterations, of the greater part of his rules and footnotes, and that its sales (the price being only 6d.) would seriously interfere with that of the plaintiff's work, which, being of considerably larger bulk, cost 2s. 6d. It appears that the Earl of Essex had procured the "Old Hand's Book" to be compiled for him by a friend for the purpose of its being regularly issued and sent out with the sets of implements known to the toy trade as the "Cassiobury Croquet," and that he being individually innocent of the piracy, and not being then aware that the work in question was a legal infringement of the

plaintiff's copyright, had declined to discontinue its publication. The plaintiff, therefore, filed his bill, praying for the usual injunction and other relief, and now moved upon notice for an injunction until the hearing.

Mr. Parke appeared as counsel for the plaintiff, and both the defendants (who had only recently become aware of the real nature and extent of the piracy) consenting thereto, the following order was taken:— That a perpetual injunction should issue, restraining the further publication, etc., of the "Old Hand's" book; that all copies remaining unsold should be delivered up to the plaintiff to be destroyed; and that the Earl should forthwith pay the plaintiff £125 by way of compensation for injury already occasioned by the infringement, together also with all cost of suit.

[Note — This was probably not the only act of piracy in which The Earl of Essex was involved.]

Tactics in Handicap Games (Part II)

The previous article was mainly an attempt to encourage players to use bisques correctly, and in so doing to develop a more constructive game. But when one is dealing with general principles, questions immediately arise as to how to manage the balls, and the detailed practical examples now offered may help you to learn how to conduct your game.

It was assumed that the opening was the standard sequence, with the opponent's balls together on the east boundary. But some players use a more defensive strategy and the opponent may, for example, put one ball in the second corner and the other in the fourth corner. This can be a pitfall, and an immediate attempt to bring together two balls which are the maximum possible distance apart is liable to end in disaster or an expensive use of bisques.

The best way to deal with this situation is to ignore the fourth corner ball until you are approaching the fourth hoop, when it will be much easier to bring it into your break. As you have already placed your first ball south of the second hoop, you should shoot at the opponent's ball in the second corner from 'B' baulk on the north boundary. Then use whatever bisques may be necessary to achieve the following.

Croquet the opponent's ball near to the second hoop, getting a rush on your own ball to the first hoop. Rush your ball to the hoop and at this point do not hesitate to use a bisque if the roqueted ball is not in a good position, which ideally would be one yard south of the hoop. Get into the habit of using a bisque before you get into real trouble; do not struggle on in a bad position with the balls awry, with the idea of conserving bisques by using them only when you are forced to, because this way you will use more bisques in the long run. Suppose, for example, that you failed to get your rush towards the first hoop and your ball was not north of your partner ball at the second hoop. Roquet the ball gently and roll both balls towards the first hoop, but do not try a pass roll followed by a risky hoop. After the roll, with your last shot arrange a perfect rush to the ideal spot indicated above, and then use a bisque to continue with everything under control. After the little rush, when approaching this hoop with your croquet stroke send your pilot ball well clear and north of the first hoop before you run it. This is important because after running the hoop you can rush the pilot ball forward halfway towards the second hoop and this makes the following split shot much easier.

Always try to avoid having to make big split shots; judicious rushing is better as it shortens the distance involved. Another way to avoid big splits, if you have a centre ball, is to change the centre ball where convenient. It is useful to do this after making 1-back, which is usually the most dangerous stage in an average four-ball break. Having run 1-back you should croquet the pilot ball not to 3-back but to the centre; then, after roqueting the centre ball, croquet it to 3-back. You have played a much smaller split and you are less likely to break down as a result.

To return to the game, you have split your own ball to the third hoop and you are making the second hoop. With your approach shot try to place the pilot ball a yard north-east of the hoop, so that after making the hoop you can rush it to the boundary north of the third hoop. From here (or wherever your rush takes you — rushes do have a tendency to go astray) croquet the opponent ball to the fourth hoop and make the third hoop, again trying to get that important forward rush on the pilot ball towards the fourth or fifth hoop. Rush the ball somewhere about level with or slightly south of the peg and take off to the opponent's ball in the fourth corner. Then split this ball to the fifth hoop while rolling your own ball up to the pioneer ball waiting at the fourth hoop. You may have used some bisques, but you have played yourself in and you now have a perfectly laid break.

In a game where you have to play first, the following sequences will enable you to pick up a four-ball break. You send your blue ball to the east boundary near the fourth hoop; your opponent lays a tice with red on the west boundary. You shoot diagonally at red with black, take a bisque and croquet red three or four yards north of the second hoop, finally leaving black two or three feet north of blue on the east boundary. After this display of initiative your opponent will undoubtedly try to wrest the innings from you by shooting at something. If he shoots at red from 'B' baulk and misses, yellow will finish on the west boundary a little south of the peg. (It is always a good principle to follow in making a leave to calculate where your opponent will end up if he takes particular shots and misses and whether he will leave you some advantage by so doing.)

You now rush black towards the third hoop and take off to a point slightly south of red, roquet red a little nearer to the hoop and take off to yellow, Rush or croquet yellow to the first hoop, use a bisque to get a good position and begin your four-ball break. If, as a result of your not keeping your head down, black goes off instead of going towards the third hoop, you can pick it up when you are approaching the fourth hoop.

If your opponent shoots at red from the east end of 'A' baulk, yellow will finish on the north boundary a little west of the second hoop. You rush black to the third hoop as before, take off to yellow, croquet yellow to the second hoop, getting a rush on red to the first hoop; rush red to the hoop and continue as before.

If your opponent shoots at blue, his ball will probably finish on the yard line between your balls, which is rather awkward, and you will need to be very careful when getting a rush on blue to the first hoop. Roquet yellow with black, hitting yellow on the right-hand side so that it goes off south of blue. Then stop-shot yellow towards a point a few feet north of the fourth hoop, getting a rush on blue to the first hoop. Do not concern yourself with where yellow actually finishes, but concentrate entirely on getting the essential rush on blue. If you are not fairly confident of this tricky little shot, take off instead of using a stop-shot. If you fail to get the rush, roll your balls to the first hoop and use a bisque to set up the ideal position as before, and you can bring yellow into the break when you approach the fourth hoop.

Incidentally, the reasons why a break is more likely to disintegrate after 1-back are, first, that after this hoop the break often becomes untidy, and second, that three long distance hoops follow 1-back. The method recommended above for getting a pioneer ball more easily and accurately to 3-back should be followed, and the danger of a badly placed pioneer at 2-back can be avoided by sending the pilot ball of the fifth hoop to 2-back instead of to 1-back, immediately after making the fifth. It is best to have this pilot ball of the fifth hoop, so that after you run the hoop a little rush will send the ball to 2-back. But if the pilot ball is on the east side, you can roquet it and then split it to 2-back while rolling your own ball to the centre ball, and the centre ball can then be split to 1-back. Note that both of these splits are shorter and therefore easier than with the standard four-ball break. There is a tactical advantage also.

Suppose that you break down at the sixth, and are unable to use a bisque, then in a standard break the balls are all close together, whereas with a ball at 2-back your opponent has a less easy position, especially if he wants to play with the ball at 2-back. In a similar way the pilot ball at the third hoop can be sent to the sixth as the pioneer instead of to the fifth, but this should only be done if you have already gained control of the four balls.

During the game your opponent may leave a ball in any corner; this is usually to keep the ball safely behind your game. For example, after you have finished with the first hoop, he will use the first corner; after you have made the second hoop, he will lurk in the second corner, and so on. The best time to dig a ball out of the first corner is immediately before making the fifth hoop. You take off to the corner ball and split it to the centre, or to the sixth hoop if required, while rolling up to the pioneer ball at the fifth. If this is not possible, the corner ball can be got out just before you make 2-back and in this case it would be split to 3-back to become the pioneer ball there. A ball in the second corner can be got out easily before you make 1-back, and from the third corner just before you make the sixth hoop.

Some interesting points were raised by readers of the first article. Mr Bishop is quite right to stress the importance of the leave. However, he should be wary of anything difficult or abstruse; simple solutions are very often the best.

I find his leave unsatisfactory not so much for the reason given by the opponent, but because an opponent ball should not be left on a boundary, which is where the opponent would choose to put it himself.

I recommend the following finish for the first break, as it involves no difficult or dangerous shot anywhere. It is best to arrange for your partner ball to be the pilot at Rover. Suppose you are making Penult with blue, red being the pilot ball. Place red west of the hoop, run the hoop gently and an easy rush will send red to the second hoop. Leave it two feet east (not south) of the hoop and take off to yellow at the centre. Rush or stop-shot yellow just past the first hoop and leave it three feet south-west of the hoop. Return to Rover, place black south-east of Rover, run the hoop and rush black to the fourth corner, finally leaving black on the corner spot, with blue two feet from it in a direct line with yellow. Yellow now has a 21 yard shot on blue or a 22 yard shot on red.

Obviously these distances could be increased by leaving red on the north boundary and yellow in the first corner, but your own difficulties would be increased out of all proportion to the benefit gained, because boundary balls pose much greater problems for you than they do for your opponent. You should be prepared to take the calculated risk here in order to ensure that you can set up an easy break if he misses.

I was also interested to read the comments (especially the generous praise!) of a minus player, even though we are not on the same wave-length in respect of one important detail. Revd Gladstone did not suggest any alternative to my opening, and indeed I do not think any feasible alternative opening exists which will provide the high-bisquer with what he needs, a break which can be picked up easily. The shot from 'A' baulk to the ball placed south of the second hoop is more than 24 yards, and if the opponent hits it, that is just unfortunate, and naturally he will make things difficult for the high-bisquer. But it is not correct to say that the stronger player has had a free shot into the second corner. A near miss will finish about four yards from the west boundary, and this difference would be important to a high-bisquer trying to pick up a break.

Revd Gladstone did suggest an opening for the occasion when the high-bisquer has to play first. It is an excellent defensive opening for minus players, but does not conform with my objective at all, which is a quick and easy break if the opponent misses. If the tice is left where it is placed, the opponent has a shorter shot with more chance of getting in, and if he misses, two balls will be in opposite corners and the others apart on boundaries, a situation which will utterly dismay the high-

bisquer, especially if he finds he has to waste a bisque merely in order to roquet his own ball.

Part of the fascination of croquet lies in the taking of calculated risks, but if one is to err, then I think it is better to err on the side of boldness rather than timidity. The motto for a person learning croquet might well be "Optimism tempered with caution".

L.Riggall

Ryde: May 28 — June 2

The customary friendly and peaceful atmosphere of this tournament provided a relaxing and pleasant week of varying standards of play. Major Dibley is to be congratulated for having managed the tournament for 37 consecutive years — surely a record. The attendance of seven members of the Caversham Club, including Mr and Mrs Adlam playing in their first tournament, enlivened the proceedings and perhaps somewhat compensated for the absence of the traditional figure of Bryan Lloyd-Pratt.

Through the kindness of the Governor of Osborne House, the beautiful croquet lawn in its magnificent setting there was made available for the tournament; many players will long remember the delight of playing in such a suitable and unique environment.

Two players were to be seen on the lawns most of the time during the week. Cyril Pountney, who was largely responsible for the great improvement in the lawns, ploughed through each event with commendable success by his patient, if somewhat unconventional play, and brought down his opponents one by one in an exhausted condition. He was successfully opposed by Gerald Birch, who had the persistence and experience necessary to defeat this type of tactics and deservedly won the Championship by his tenacious and precise play and by his ability to hit in whenever necessary.

The most exciting finish of the week occurred in the doubles final between Joan Simpson and Dorothy Rogers, and Vic Rees and Miss Bryan. At a late stage Joan had shepherded her novice partner as far as 3—Back and her own clip was on Penult. In his last turn, during which time was called, Vic Rees had to make 8 hoops and one peel in order to equalise; this he did with coolness and calculated precision. Joan very nearly hit in, and it was left to Miss Bryan to make the last point, which she did.

As dusk fell on the last evening Cyril Pountney was still playing Mary Puxon; he had to finish on the following day when most competitors had gone.

[The results of this tournament appeared in the July gazette]

The Veterans' Championship, played at Southwick, June 11—16

The Southwick members must first be congratulated on the magnificent weather they laid on for the whole tournament. Thanks are due to Mrs Turner and her helpers for their excellent catering. Giles Borrett managed the tournament most capably, did the lion's share of refereeing and probably played the most consistently good croquet throughout the week. The courts were somewhat slow at the beginning of the week but later improved.

Giles Borrett had two pieces of luck. In the second round of the Doubles he and his partner were rather presented with a winning position. In the second round of the Draw, with all four clips on the peg, Dudley Hamilton-Miller had the misfortune to rush one of Giles' balls on to the peg and to leave himself within easy reach of Giles' remaining ball.

In general the local players produced the best play. Sheppard and Austin played consistently well, and in the 'B' event Miss Anderson proved a tough opponent to beat.

The entry was disappointingly small, but the week was much enjoyed and many of the visitors hope to return for future

tournaments. It should be noted that in 1974 the Veterans' is likely to be held on a different date, not immediately preceding 'Caskets'. As Southwick is the locale for the Veterans' Championship, Mrs Longman's gift of two silver Sussex trugs for the doubles was a most appropriate choice; the first winners, Borrett and Austin, are both Southwick members.

Results

Event 1: The Veterans' Championship (13 Entries)

DRAW

<i>First Round</i>			
W.H.Austin	bt. Mrs A.Fotiadi	+11	
H.A.Sheppard	bt. Mrs G.F.H.Elvey	+12	
T.G.S.Colls	bt. Prof. A.S.C.Ross	+ 1	
E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	bt. Mrs H.F.Chittenden	+22	
H.A.Green	bt. S.S.Townsend	+13	

<i>Second Round</i>			
Mrs W.Longman	bt. W.H.Austin	+12	
H.A.Sheppard	bt. T.G.S.Colls	+13	
E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	bt. H.A.Green	+ 7	
Cdr G.Borrett	bt. D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller	+ 2	

<i>Semi-Final</i>			
Mrs W.Longman	bt. H.A.Sheppard	+ 5	
E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	bt. Cdr G.Borrett	+10	

<i>Final</i>			
E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	bt. Mrs W.Longman	+12	

PROCESS

<i>First Round</i>			
E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	bt. Mrs W.Longman	+26	
D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller	bt. H.A.Sheppard	+12	
W.H.Austin	bt. S.S.Townsend	+ 4	
H.A.Green	bt. Mrs A.Fotiadi	+ 5	
Cdr G.Borrett	bt. Mrs G.F.H.Elvey	+ 2	

<i>Second Round</i>			
D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller	bt. E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	+11	
W.H.Austin	bt. Prof. A.S.C.Ross	+15	
H.A.Green	bt. T.G.S.Colls	+ 6	
Cdr G.Borrett	bt. Mrs H.F.Chittenden	+19	

<i>Semi-Final</i>			
D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller	bt. W.H.Austin	+18	
Cdr. G.Borrett	w.o. H.A.Green	opp. scr.	

<i>Final</i>			
Cdr G.Borrett	bt. D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller	+18	

PLAY-OFF

E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	bt. Cdr G.Borrett	+ 6	
--------------------	-------------------	-----	--

Event 2: Restricted Handicap Singles (11 Entries)

DRAW

<i>First Round</i>			
W.B.C.Paynter (5)	bt. Mrs H.Wills (6)	+21	
Major R.Driscoll (3)	bt. C.G.Mayo (4)	+ 6	
W.G.B.Scott (5½)	bt. Miss H.D.Parker (3½)	+11	

<i>Second Round</i>			
Miss M.G.Anderson (5)	bt. Mrs W.A.Naylor (5)	+16	
W.B.C.Paynter (5)	bt. Major R.Driscoll (3)	+ 9	
Mrs E.Thompson (6)	bt. W.G.B.Scott (5½)	+11	
H.F.L.Jenking (3)	bt. F.F.W.Staddon (3)	+ 9	

PROCESS

<i>First Round</i>			
Mrs W.A.Naylor (5)	bt. Mrs E.Thompson (6)	+ 8	
H.F.L.Jenking (3)	bt. Mrs H.Wills (6)	+16	
Miss M.G.Anderson (5)	bt. F.F.W.Staddon (3)	+23	

<i>Second Round</i>			
Major R.Driscoll (3)	bt. Mrs W.A.Naylor (5)	+ 4	

H.F.L.Jenking (3)	w.o. Miss H.D.Parker (3½)	opp. scr.
C.G.Mayo (4)	bt. Miss M.G.Anderson (5)	+ 9
W.G.B.Scott (5½)	bt. W.B.C.Paynter (5)	+ 3

SEMI-FINALISTS RE-DRAWN FOR FINAL STAGES

<i>First Round</i>		
Miss M.G.Anderson (5)	bt. Mrs E.Thompson (6)	+17
W.G.B.Scott (5½)	bt. Major R.Driscoll (3)	+ 7

<i>Semi-Final</i>		
Miss M.G.Anderson (5)	bt. H.F.L.Jenking (3)	+21
W.G.B.Scott (5½)	bt. C.G.Mayo (4)	+ 4

<i>Final</i>		
Miss M.G.Anderson (5)	bt. W.G.B.Scott (5½)	+21

Event 3a: 'X' Open Handicap Singles (23 Entries)

<i>First Round</i>			
Mrs W.Longman (-1)	bt. Mrs E.Thompson (6)	+ 9	
Mrs A.Fotiadi (0)	bt. W.B.C.Paynter (5)	+ 2	
F.F.W.Staddon (3)	bt. Prof. A.S.C.Ross (½)	+ 4	
C.G.Mayo (4)	bt. Mrs H.Wills (6)	+ 7	
W.H.Austin (0)	bt. W.G.B.Scott (5)	+14	
E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (-2½)	w.o.	opp. scr.	
Mrs G.F.H.Elvey (-½)	bt. H.A.Green (½)	+14	

<i>Second Round</i>			
H.A.Sheppard (0)	bt. Mrs H.F.Chittenden (-½)	+ 7	
S.S.Townsend (-1½)	bt. Mrs W.A.Naylor (5)	+ 2	
Mrs A.Fotiadi (0)	bt. Mrs W.Longman (-1)	+20	
F.F.W.Staddon (3)	bt. C.G.Mayo (4)	+19	
E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (-2½)	bt. W.H.Austin (0)	+12	
T.G.S.Colls (3)	bt. Mrs G.F.H.Elvey (-½)	+14	
D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller (-2½)	bt. Miss H.D.Parker (3½)	+22	
Miss M.G.Anderson (5)	bt. Cdr. G.Borrett (-3)	+ 1	

<i>Third Round</i>			
H.A.Sheppard (0)	bt. S.S.Townsend (-1½)	+ 5	
F.F.W.Staddon (3)	bt. Mrs A.Fotiadi (0)	+17	
T.G.S.Colls (3)	bt. E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (-2½)	+ 9	
D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller (-2½)	bt. Miss M.G.Anderson (5)	+ 1	

<i>Semi-Final</i>			
H.A.Sheppard (0)	bt. F.F.W.Staddon (3)	+ 6	
D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller (-2½)	bt. T.G.S.Colls (3)	+ 9	

<i>Final</i>			
D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller (-2½)	bt. H.A.Sheppard (0)	+ 2	

Event 3b: 'Y' Handicap Singles (11 Entries)

<i>Final</i>			
Prof. A.S.C.Ross (½)	bt. H.A.Green (½)	+ 7	

Event 3c: 'Z' Handicap Singles (6 Entries)

<i>Final</i>			
Miss M.G.Anderson (5)	w.o. C.G.Mayo (4)	opp. ret'd.	

Event 4: Handicap Doubles (12 Pairs)

<i>First Round</i>			
D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller & H.F.L.Jenking (½)	bt. Mrs W.Longman & E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (-3½)	+ 7	
Prof. A.S.C.Ross & Mrs W.A.Naylor (5½)	bt. W.G.B.Scott & Mrs H.Wills (11½)	+20	
T.G.S.Colls & H.A.Shepherd (3)	bt. C.G.Mayo & Mrs E.C.Goldbard (14)	+13	
Cdr G.Borrett & W.H.Austin (-3)	bt. Mr & Mrs E.A.Roper (6)	+19	

<i>Second Round</i>			
Miss H.D.Parker & Mrs A.Fotiadi (3½)	bt. Mrs H.F.Chittenden & Mrs G.F.H.Elvey (0)	+ 5 (T)	
Hamilton-Miller & Jenking	bt. Professor Ross & Mrs Naylor	+12	
Borrett & Austin	bt. Colls & Sheppard	+ 2	
D.Buckland & H.A.Green (3½)	bt. F.F.W.Staddon & Major R.Driscoll (6)	+ 1 (T)	

<i>Semi-Final</i>			
Miss Parker & Mrs Fotiadi	bt. Hamilton-Miller & Jenking	+14	
Borrett & Austin	bt. Buckland & Green	+13	

<i>Final</i>			
Borrett & Austin	bt. Miss Parker & Mrs Fotiadi	+22	

The Men's and Women's Championships: June 18—23

Bookmakers would have had a bad Cheltenham because the three Championships were won by the Favourites. Aspinall certainly eclipsed the other men. He streaked through the first two rounds — one two—triple-peels match took only 1 hour 15 minutes — while in the last two rounds he stalked over his President's Cup rivals to win this Championship for the first time. It was first time also for Miss Sessions the new Women's Champion. She is the quickest and most silent of women players, not for her the 'hare-brain chatter of irresponsible frivolity': she decides what to do, does it and expresses no opinion on the doing. Others might profit by her example; the tournament certainly would. Over half the women's matches went to 3 games but only one to the time limit, and the beautiful symmetry of the entry was marred by the disparity in time spent on court by the 16 women and the 16 men. It was mooted that a 9 hour time limit is over-generous for this class of play. 7½ hours for 3 games with 6 for the first two should prove more than adequate. Several hours play were lost on Tuesday when a downpour flooded the ground, while on Wednesday the women seemed oppressed by the permutations, or should it be combinations, of wet weather paraphernalia, but the rest of the week was glorious and the lawns beautiful. With efficient luck the manager finished the tournament comfortably except for the 3rd game in the Women's final.

In contrast to the men's event the standard of women's play was very even. The best fight — back came from Mrs Dodd, who is always a welcome visitor from Australia; she beat Mrs Sundius-Smith after losing the first game and being well down in the second. Mrs Dodd was also involved in the best women's match when Miss Sessions produced some prodigious play to beat her, in two exciting games. The most interesting of the men's matches was a 3 game struggle between H.O.Hicks, the most cunning and teasing of post-war players, and Andrew Hope, a brilliant 27 year old product of Cheltenham's fast lawns. Hope did well to reach the semi-final in his first Championships and it was only by clever use of the baulks that Neal was able to keep him at bay.

Mrs Meachem reached three finals and unluckily lost them all, but she is to be congratulated on earning her silver medal. She had a happy partnership with Perry, who certainly raised her game. In the Draw they beat Aspinall and Mrs Dodd comfortably but lost by one to the Prichards in a see-saw men-only finish. In the Process they had a good win over the formidable new pairing of Prof. Neal and Mrs Sundius-Smith, but in the final Perry set up the classic triple peel situation only to go off by a few inches, and Aspinall did it instead. The Prichards are short head specialists, losing by 2 to Aspinall and Mrs Dodd and winning by one from Neal/Peel when, with both men pegged out, Mrs Prichard, from A baulk, hit the ball snuggling by the peg and scored her last three points. In the play-off Aspinall cogitated about a sextuple peel from a gift leave and failed, but when the moment eventually arrived he made no mistake over his 12th triple peel of the week.

Jackson has widened the scope of the Du Pre Cup and has made it an important and enjoyable event. It is now Draw and Process, and with all second round losers allowed in, there were 22 entries, 8 of whom were -2 or below. At the semi-final stage Jackson and Newton were in both sides, but after beating Newton in the Draw, Jackson gallantly came out to Mrs Rolfe (who had had two glorious victories over Gladstone by 1 and Whittington by 2) in the Process and was then promptly (figuratively speaking) beaten by Soutter. There was much comment on the similarity in appearance between Colin Prichard and brother William, and Newton almost wondered which he was playing when Colin never put a ball wrong to beat him comfortably when he himself was playing well. Mrs Rolfe fared little better, while in the play-off Colin played a controlled game with flashes of brilliance (like running Rover from 8 yards down to a ball in baulk) and hardly gave

Soutter a chance to add the '73 Du Pre to his '72 Association Plate. (M.B.Reckitt achieved this in 46/47 and also won both events in 1953, as did John Solomon in 1952.) So Colin was the only outsider to come home and become one of the very few players to win this event while still having a plus handicap.

Monday morning Doubles worried many visitors, and they felt that a singles match would warm them up. Some of the Best of Three did not start until quite late in the afternoon and not a few jibbed at playing on late 'on the first day' — but the manager was too wise to be weak. Mrs Meachem reached 17 games (the maximum possible was 9 Doubles and 12 Singles games) which is as much as anyone could fit in. It might be worth experimenting with clearing all the first round on Monday, especially the Women's. This was the ideal entry at the ideal venue and there might well be a case for limiting the Doubles and the Women's to 16 entries and the Men to 24 — several regulars were missing and missed.

Results

Event 1: The Men's Championship (16 entries)

First Round		
H.O.Hicks	bt. Col. G.T.Wheeler	+19 ret.
A.B.Hope	bt. F.W.Meredith	+24 +23
Prof. B.G.Neal	bt. J.H.J.Soutter	+13 + 6
Revd W.E.Gladstone	bt. R.O.B.Whittington	+20 + 6
P.W.Hands	bt. B.G.Perry	+16 +12
Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	bt. C.H.L.Prichard	+ 1-14 + 3
G.N.Aspinall	bt. T.G.S.Colls	+23 +15
P.Newton	bt. G.E.P.Jackson	+11-17 +13

Second Round		
A.B.Hope	bt. H.O.Hicks	+15 -9 +13
Prof. B.G.Neal	bt. Revd W.E.Gladstone	+11 +14
P.W.Hands	bt. Lt-Col D.M.C. Prichard	+26 +24
G.N.Aspinall	bt. P.Newton	+26 +26

Semi-Final		
Prof. B.G.Neal	bt. A.B.Hope	+10 + 7
G.N.Aspinall	bt. P.W.Hands	+26 + 9

Final		
G.N.Aspinall	bt. Prof. B.G.Neal	+26 +24

Event 2: The Women's Championship (16 Entries)

First Round		
Mrs E.M.Lightfoot	bt. Miss I.M.Roe	- 9 + 2 + 3
Mrs J.B.Meachem	bt. Miss E.H.Arkell	+ 7 +10
Mrs G.W.Solomon	bt. Mrs. E. Rotherham	+15 -3 ret.
Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	bt. Mrs G.F.H.Elvey	+14 -9 + 4
Mrs B.L.Sundius-Smith	bt. Mrs W.Longman	+ 3 +16
Mrs N.Dodd	bt. Mrs G.H.Wood	+ 8 +17
Mrs H.M.Read	bt. Mrs A.Fotiadi	+10-7 +9 (T)
Miss K.M.O.Sessions	bt. Mrs J.Neville Rolfe	+25 +24

Second Round		
Mrs J.B.Meachem	bt. Mrs E.M.Lightfoot	+13 + 7
Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	bt. Mrs G.W.Solomon	- 3 + 4 +25
Mrs N.Dodd	bt. Mrs B.L.Sunius-Smith	-18 + 7 + 6
Miss K.M.O.Sessions	bt. Mrs H.M.Read	+ 1 +23

Semi-Final		
Mrs J.B.Meachem	bt. Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	+12 - 5 +16
Miss K.M.O.Sessions	bt. Mrs N.Dodd	+10 + 1

Final		
Miss K.M.O.Sessions	bt. Mrs J.B.Meachem	- 3 +13 +15

Event 3: The Mixed Doubles Championship (15 pairs)

DRAW		
First Round		
Prof. B.G.Neal & Mrs B.L.Sundius-Smith	bt. R.O.B. Whittington & Mrs E. Rotherham	+10
P.Newton & Mrs G.H.Wood	bt. A.B.Hope & Mrs E.M. Lightfoot	+ 7
G.E.P. Jackson & Mrs G.W.Solomon	bt. J.H.J.Soutter & Mrs J.Neville Rolfe	+ 8

Lt-Col & Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	bt. T.G.S.Colls & Mrs A.Fotiadi	+20
P.W.Hands & Mrs G.F.H.Elvey	bt. C.H.L.Prichard & Miss E.H.Arkell	+ 5
G.N.Aspinall & Mrs N.Dodd	bt. Revd W.E.Gladstone & Mrs W.Longman	+21
H.O.Hicks & Miss I.M.Roe	bt. Col. G.T.Wheeler & Miss K.M.O.Sessions	+ 8

Second Round		
Prof. Neal & Mrs Sundius-Smith	bt. Newton & Mrs Wood	+20
Lt-Col & Mrs Prichard	bt. Jackson & Mrs Solomon	+13
Aspinall & Mrs Dodd	bt. Hands & Mrs Elvey	+17
B.G.Perry & Mrs J.B.Meachem	bt. Hicks & Miss Roe	+10

Semi-Final		
Lt-Col & Mrs Prichard	bt. Prof Neal & Mrs Sundius-Smith	+ 1
Perry & Mrs Meachem	bt. Aspinall & Mrs Dodd	+12

Final		
Lt-Col & Mrs Prichard	bt. Perry & Mrs Meachem	+ 1

PROCESS

First Round		
Prof. Neal & Mrs Sundius-Smith	bt. Hands & Mrs Elvey	+17
Hicks & Miss Roe	bt. Soutter & Mrs Neville Rolfe	+ 9
Revd Gladstone & Mrs Longman	bt. Newton & Mrs Wood	+11
Perry & Mrs Meachem	bt. Colls & Mrs A.Fotiadi	+24
Whittington & Mrs Rotherham	bt. C.H.L.Prichard & Miss Arkell	+ 7
Jackson & Mrs Solomon	bt. Col. Wheeler & Miss Sessions	+10
Aspinall & Mrs Dodd	bt. Hope & Mrs Lightfoot	+18

Second Round		
Prof. Neal & Mrs Sundius-Smith	bt. Hicks & Miss Roe	+14
Perry & Mrs Meachem	bt. Revd Gladstone & Mrs Longman	+22
Whittington & Mrs Rotherham	bt. Jackson & Mrs Solomon	+14
Aspinall & Mrs Dodd	bt. Lt-Col & Mrs Prichard	+ 2

Semi-Final		
Perry & Mrs Meachem	bt. Prof. Neal & Mrs Sundius-Smith	+17
Aspinall & Mrs Dodd	bt. Whittington & Mrs Rotherham	+22

Final		
Aspinall & Mrs Dodd	bt. Perry & Mrs Meachem	+15

PLAY-OFF

Aspinall & Mrs Dodd	bt. Lt-Col & Mrs Prichard	+13
---------------------	---------------------------	-----

Event 4: The Du Pre Cup (19 Entries)

DRAW		
First Round		
R.O.B.Whittington	bt. Mrs W.Longman	+ 7
Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	bt. T.G.S. Colls	+18
B.G.Perry	bt. Miss E.H.Arkell	+17

Second Round		
C.H.L. Prichard	bt. Mrs E.M.Lightfoot	+ 8
J.H.J.Soutter	bt. Mrs G.W.Solomon	+13
Mrs J.Neville Rolfe	bt. R.O.B.Whittington	+ 2
Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	bt. Mrs G.H.Wood	+ 6
B.G.Perry	bt. Col. G.T.Wheeler	+23
G.E.P.Jackson	bt. Miss I.M.Roe	+19
Revd W.E.Gladstone	bt. Mrs A.Fotiadi	+24
P.Newton	bt. Mrs H.M.Read	+21

Third Round		
J.H.J.Soutter	bt. C.H.L.Prichard	+17
Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	bt. Mrs J.Neville Rolfe	+ 5
G.E.P.Jackson	bt. B.G.Perry	+ 7
P.Newton	bt. Revd W.E.Gladstone	+ 4

Semi-Final		
J.H.J.Soutter	bt. Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	+20
G.E.P.Jackson	bt. P.Newton	+ 4

Final		
J.H.J.Soutter	bt. G.E.P.Jackson	+13

PROCESS

First Round		
C.H.L.Prichard	bt. Miss I.M.Roe	+16
G.E.P.Jackson	bt. Mrs E.M.Lightfoot	+20
Mrs. W. Longman	bt. Mrs H.M.Read	+ 9 (T)

Second Round		
C.H.L.Prichard	w.o. Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	opp. scr.
Mrs A.Fotiadi	bt. R.O.B.Whittington	+ 8
J.H.J.Soutter	bt. Mrs G.H.Wood	+12
P.Newton	w.o. B.G.Perry	opp. scr.
G.E.P.Jackson	bt. T.G.S.Colls	+21
Col.G.T.Wheeler	bt. Mrs W.Longman	+ 5
Revd W.E.Gladstone	bt. Mrs G.W.Solomon	+ 5
Mrs J.Neville Rolfe	bt. Miss E.H.Arkell	+16

Third Round		
C.H.L. Prichard	bt. Mrs A.Fotiadi	+10
P.Newton	bt. J.H.J.Soutter	+ 7
G.E.P.Jackson	bt. Col.G.T.Wheeler	+21
Mrs J.Neville Rolfe	bt. Revd W.E.Gladstone	+ 1

Semi-Final		
C.H.L.Prichard	bt. P.Newton	+13
Mrs J. Neville Rolfe	w.o. G.E.P.Jackson	opp. scr.

Final		
C.H.L.Prichard	bt. Mrs J.Neville Rolfe	+11

PLAY-OFF

C.H.L.Prichard	bt. J.H.J.Soutter	+24
----------------	-------------------	-----

The Scottish Championships

The final two rounds of the Scottish Croquet Championships, held at Gleneagles Hotel, saw some good croquet and some tense games. In the semi-final of the Opens John Rose, playing against R.E.B.Duncan, picked up his first break with a long roll and went to 4-back. A few turns later he took his other ball to the peg and then finished in his third scoring turn. Rose lost his touch in the final against R.M.Milne, but the latter was unable to make use of the chances offered and Rose won fairly comfortably to become the new Champion of Scotland.

In the semi-final of the Handicap S.J.H.Wright pegged out R.N.Maclean's leading ball; Maclean got back in, but missed a rush to Rover, and Wright won by 2. Milne won the final to hold his title for the second year.

Open Championship

Semi-Final		
R.M.Milne	bt. J.O'D. Alexander	+12
J.Rose	bt. R.E.B.Duncan	+25

Final		
J.Rose	bt. R.M.Milne	+ 9

Handicap

Semi-Final		
R.M.Milne (1)	bt. F.V.X.Norton (4½)	+12
S.J.H.Wright (4½)	bt. R.N.Maclean (1½)	+ 2

Final		
R.M.Milne (1)	bt. S.J.H.Wright (4½)	+ 9

Secretary Trophy (open to those aged under 25)

Final		
N.MacKinnon (9)	bt. J.G.White (9)	+10

Inter-Club Championship 1973

RESULTS IN ORDER

First Round			
Wrest Park	beat	Colworth	6-0
Roehampton	beat	Herstmonceux	5-1

The Challenge and the Gilbey Cups, Budleigh Salterton, June 25 - 30

The Challenge and Gilbey tournament was held at Budleigh Salterton for the fifth year. With entries about 20 per cent below those of last year, it was decided, in order to have a full week's croquet to play the Gilbey Cup as an 'X and Y' event and, if possible, to play the Council Cup ('B' Class) as a Draw and Process. The 'A' class event had rather a small entry, but there were plenty of competitors who needed the Handicapper's attention in the other sections.

The tournament got off to a very good start in a blaze of sunshine on the Monday, but the Doubles Day jinx struck again on the Tuesday, and little play was possible that morning. On the Wednesday there was such a downpour that play had to be abandoned. Those of us who complain that it is impossible to play on heavy wet lawns had a salutary lesson from Mrs Bolton, whose one-handed play, remarkable at any time, positively improved in pouring rain. How George Anderson, the groundsman, managed to have the lawns cut and remarked by 10 a.m. Thursday we shall never know, but from then on the sun shone, and all was well. As a result of the delay the Process part of the 'B' division was abandoned.

As usual, there were some fascinating games in the Doubles, which were won by G.H.Betts and L.D.Adams, who made a great recovery against the much fancied Stevens and Tunmer in the final.

In the Opens Sir Leonard Daldry had a notable win over Bill Perry in the semi-final of the Draw, but in the final he succumbed to Harvey Shelton after accidentally pegging out one of his balls before the other had made Rover. In the Process Perry brought off a very neat combination peg-out against Mrs Lightfoot, and later defeated Daldry in the final. In the play-off Perry beat Shelton by 26 after one of the most dazzling pieces of play seen for a long time. Shelton had the best of the preliminary manoeuvres and was laid up in readiness for a 4-ball break when Perry hit in with a very long shot and proceeded round to 4-back. Shelton missed the lift and never had another turn. Perry's delayed triple peel was not very orthodox but most effective.

Throughout the week Giles Borrett continued to manage with unvaried optimism and succeeded in getting all the finals but one finished by Saturday tea-time. The exception was the Gilbey Cup final between the two "blocking problems" of the week, Stevens and G.B.Martin; the game went on until about 8 p.m. and ended in another success for Stevens, who was undoubtedly the "Man of the Week".

Social Tailpiece. The beginning of the week was enlivened by the announcement of Dr Robert Smartt's engagement, and the end of the week by the news, after much speculation, that Bryan Lloyd-Pratt has taken his colourful personality to a permanent home in South Africa, leaving his various prospective partners for numerous events to find someone else.

Results

Event 1: The Roehampton Challenge Cup (10 Entries)

DRAW

First Round		
Cdr G.Borrett	bt. Dr W.R.Bucknall	+ 5
Lt-Col G.E.Cave	bt. Mrs E.M.Lightfoot	+22

Second Round		
J.G.Warwick	bt. T.G.S.Colls	+ 4
E.H.S.Shelton	bt. Cdr G.Borrett	+ 3
B.G.Perry	bt. Lt-Col G.E.Cave	+13
Sir Leonard Daldry	bt. A.J.Cooper	+14

Semi-Final		
E.H.S.Shelton	bt. J.G.Warwick	+16
Sir Leonard Dalby	bt. B.G.Perry	+ 7

Final		
E.H.S.Shelton	bt. Sir Leonard Daldry	+ 2

PROCESS

First Round

Sir Leonard Daldry	bt. T.G.S.Colls	+16
A.J.Cooper	bt. J.G.Warwick	+14

Second Round

Sir Leonard Daldry	bt. Dr W.R.Bucknall	+12
E.H.S.Shelton	bt. Lt-Col G.E.Cave	+ 7
Mrs E.M.Lightfoot	bt. A.J.Cooper	+16
B.G.Perry	bt. Cdr G.Borrett	+17

Semi-Final

Sir Leonard Daldry	w.o. E.H.S.Shelton	opp. ret'd.
B.G.Perry	bt. Mrs E.M.Lightfoot	+16

Final

B.G.Perry	bt. Sir Leonard Daldry	+14
-----------	------------------------	-----

PLAY-OFF

B.G.Perry	bt. E.H.S.Shelton	+26
-----------	-------------------	-----

Event 2: The Council Challenge Cup (17 Entries)

First Round

Miss E. Fisher	bt. Mrs E.Hawkins	+ 1
----------------	-------------------	-----

Second Round

Prof. A.S.C.Ross	bt. Miss E.A.Pratt	+ 7
R.S.Stevens	bt. G.B.Horridge	+16
C.Edwards	bt. Miss K.Ault	+ 5
L.D.Adams	bt. Miss E. Fisher	+21
Mrs G.E.Cave	bt. Dr R.B.N.Smartt	+ 7
G.H.Betts	bt. F.F.W.Staddon	+12
Capt M.F.Buller	w.o. Miss J.Cooper	opp. scr.
H.G.T.Bolton	bt. K.S.Schofield	+15

Third Round

R.S.Stevens	bt. Prof. A.S.C.Ross	+16
C.Edwards	bt. L.D.Adams	+16
G.H.Betts	bt. Mrs G.E.Cave	+11
H.G.T.Bolton	w.o. Capt M.F.Buller	opp. scr.

Semi-Final

R.S.Stevens	bt. C.Edwards	+ 6
G.H.Betts	bt. H.G.T.Bolton	+ 2

Final

R.S.Stevens	bt. G.H.Betts	+ 8
-------------	---------------	-----

Event 3: The Reckitt Challenge Cup (10 Entries)

First Round

R.W.S.Eades	bt. P.A.Turner	+16
G.B.Martin	bt. Mrs S.S.Cruden	+ 3

Second Round

Miss D.Lockes Latham	bt. W.G.B.Scott	+12
G.B.Martin	bt. R.W.S.Eades	+ 3
Dr C.W.Evans	bt. Mrs F.Henshaw	+ 4
Mrs F.A.Sheil	bt. Dr H.A.Pim	+17

Semi-Final

G.B.Martin	bt. Miss D.Lockes Latham	+17
Mrs F.A.Sheil	bt. Dr C.W.Evans	+10

Final

G.B.Martin	bt. Mrs F.A.Sheil	+ 5
------------	-------------------	-----

Event 4: The Stevenson Cup (7 Entries)

First Round

Mrs H.A.Pim	bt. Mrs H.Harris	+ 8 (T)
Brig. H.E.Fernyhough	bt. Mrs L.L.Duveen	+ 3
Mrs L.A.Davies	bt. Mrs D.Mitchell	+12

Semi-Final

R.F.A.Crane	bt. Mrs H.A.Pim	+18
Brig. H.E.Fernyhough	bt. Mrs L.A.Davies	+12

Final

R.F.A.Crane	bt. Brig. H.E.Fernyhough	+ 7
-------------	--------------------------	-----

Event 5: Handicap Doubles (20 Pairs)

First Round

Col. W.R.Healing & C.Edwards (2½)	bt. J.G.Warwick & Mrs L.L.Duveen (10)	+ 8
-----------------------------------	---------------------------------------	-----

Mr & Mrs H.G.T.Bolton (14)	bt. Dr R.B.N.Smartt & R.W.S.Eades (8½)	+10
----------------------------	--	-----

Mrs M.Hawkins & Mrs F.A.Sheil (11)	bt. Dr H.A.Pim & Mrs H.Harris (16½)	+ 4
G.B.Horridge & Mrs L.A.Davies (16)	bt. A.J.Cooper & W.G.B.Scott (3)	+10

Second Round

Mrs S.S.Cruden & Mrs H.A.Pim (17)	bt. Mrs E.M.Lightfoot & Capt M.F.Buller (2)	+16
L.D.Adams & G.H.Betts (4)	bt. Mr & Mrs R.F.A.Crane (23)	+ 6 (T)
F.F.W.Staddon & Miss E.A.Pratt (7)	bt. K.S.Schofield & G.B.Martin (7)	+ 3

Col. Healing & Edwards	bt. Mr & Mrs Bolton	+ 6
Horridge & Mrs Davies	bt. Mrs Hawkins & Mrs Sheil	+12
Prof. A.S.C.Ross & Mrs D.Mitchell (14½)	bt. Sir Leonard Daldry & Brig. H.E.Fernyhough (6½)	+17
R.S.Stevens & P.A.Tunmer (7½)	bt. Lt-Col G.E.Cave & T.G.S.Colls (3)	+ 8
Dr W.R.Bucknall & B.Hancock (7)	w.o.	opp. scr.

Third Round

Adams & Betts	bt. Mrs Cruden & Mrs Pim	+ 9
Col. Healing & Edwards	bt. Staddon & Miss Pratt	+18
Professor Ross & Mrs Mitchell	bt. Horridge & Mrs Davies	+ 6
Stevens & Tunmer	bt. Dr Bucknall & Hancock	+ 1

Semi-Final

Adams & Betts	bt. Col. Healing & Edwards	+ 6
Stevens & Tunmer	bt. Professor Ross & Mrs Mitchell	+10

Final

Adams & Betts	bt. Stevens & Tunmer	+ 3
---------------	----------------------	-----

Event 6a: The Gilbey Cup (47 Entries)

First Round

Dr R.B.N.Smartt (1)	bt. Mrs H.G.T.Bolton (13)	+ 2
Prof. A.S.C.Ross (½)	bt. F.F.W.Staddon (3)	+17
K.S.Schofield (1½)	bt. Miss E. Fisher (2)	+17
C.Edwards (3)	bt. Mrs S.S.Cruden (7)	+ 6
Dr C.W.Evans (7)	bt. Mrs H.A.Pim (10)	+ 2
Sir Leonard Daldry (-1½)	bt. R.F.A.Crane (9)	+ 4
Dr H.A.Pim (5½)	w.o. Mrs E. Rotherham (-2)	opp. scr.
Col. W.R.Healing (-½)	bt. Mrs L.L.Duveen (10)	+14
H.G.T.Bolton (2)	bt. Brig. H.E.Fernyhough (8)	+ 5
Miss J.Cooper (3)	bt. P.A.Tunmer (6)	+17
Mrs E.M.Lightfoot (0)	bt. Mrs H.Harris (12)	+20

Second Round

B.G.Perry (-4)	bt. Dr W.R.Bucknall (-½)	+ 7
A.J.Cooper (-2½)	bt. Mrs D.Mitchell (16)	+19
R.S.Stevens (1½)	bt. Miss K.Ault (2½)	+ 9
W.G.B.Scott (5½)	bt. Mrs L.A.Davies (12)	+ 1
R.W.S.Eades (7½)	bt. Mrs F.A.Sheil (7)	+19
Prof. A.S.C.Ross (½)	bt. Dr R.B.N.Smartt (1)	+ 5
C.Edwards (3)	bt. K.S.Schofield (1½)	+23
Sir Leonard Daldry (-1½)	bt. Dr C.W.Evans (7)	+18
Col. W.R.Healing (-½)	bt. Dr H.A.Pim (5½)	+13
H.G.T.Bolton (2)	bt. Miss J.Cooper (3)	+ 5
Mrs E.M.Lightfoot (0)	bt. J.G.Warwick (0)	+11
G.B.Martin (7)	bt. Miss D.Lockes Latham (7)	+20
E.H.S.Shelton (-1)	bt. G.B.Horridge (4)	+ 6
H.Ovens (12)	bt. T.G.S.Colls (3)	+10
Miss E.A.Pratt (4)	bt. L.D.Adams (3)	+6
G.H.Betts (1)	bt. Lt-Col G.E.Cave (0)	+ 2

Third Round

A.J.Cooper (-2½)	bt. B.G.Perry (-4)	+16
R.S.Stevens (1½)	bt. W.G.B.Scott (5½)	+11
R.W.S.Eades (7½)	bt. Prof. A.S.C.Ross (½)	+20
Sir Leonard Daldry (-1½)	bt. C.Edwards (3)	+ 9
Col. W.R.Healing (-½)	bt. H.G.T.Bolton (2)	+11
G.B.Martin (7)	bt. Mrs E.M.Lightfoot (0)	+25
H.Ovens (12)	bt. E.H.S.Shelton (-1)	+19
G.H.Betts (1)	bt. Miss E.A.Pratt (4)	+17

Fourth Round

R.S.Stevens (1½)	bt. A.J.Cooper (-2½)	+16
R.W.S.Eades (7½)	bt. Sir Leonard Daldry (-1½)	+26
G.B.Martin (7)	bt. Col. W.R.Healing (-½)	+23
H.Ovens (12)	bt. G.H.Betts (1)	+ 4

Semi-Final

R.S.Stevens (1½)	bt. R.W.S.Eades (7½)	+10
G.B.Martin (7)	bt. H.Ovens (12)	+20

Final

R.S.Stevens (1½)	bt. G.B.Martin (7)	+ 5
------------------	--------------------	-----

Event 6b: 'Y' Handicap Singles (22 Entries)

Final

J.G.Warwick (0)	bt. Mrs S.S.Cruden (7)	+12
-----------------	------------------------	-----

Budleigh Salterton: July 2-7

In brilliant sunshine a smaller than usual Budleigh Salterton tournament got off to a curious and most unusual start. Within forty minutes Gerald Cave had despatched Alan Ross with a double peel; this was in the Big Handicap. Minutes later, in the Opens, he was on the peg with both balls against Bill Perry, who was on 1 and 2. Perry hit a last shot the length of the lawn and eventually won by one. On two other occasions in the Opens Perry hit last shots the length of the lawn to beat John Cooper and Margaret Lightfoot, both of whom had been poised for the kill. One said that Perry played with great skill, while others muttered something about the Devil looking after his own. The fact remains, however, that somehow Perry scrambled into the finals of both Draw and Process to meet a solid, reliable and determined David Prichard. Despite great efforts by the latter, Bill Perry won both games.

Meanwhile Newton, having 'won' one match without his referee-opponent spotting that he never made Rover with his yellow ball, 'lost' the next when his nimble opponent made Rover twice with his: (the biter bit?). The Newton victim lost another opportunity when his next opponent played the wrong ball to set up a rush. Incidentally, spectators, one of them wearing a Chairman's Cup tie, had to be physically restrained by some vigilant referees from rushing on to the lawns and calling on high heaven and the contestants to bear witness to these foul deeds.

A doubles match worth 110p a minute occurred when Perry and Joan Haworth played Tom Colls and Mrs Harris. Time was called with both men on the peg and both ladies on Penult. Both ladies lost their nerve, couldn't score, couldn't even hold their mallets. Neither man could get his partner into a peeling position. Stalemate seemed complete. After a long, long half hour, Colls got his peel (Oh Bryan, where art thou?) Meanwhile, Vera Tyrwhitt Drake, calmly ignoring her partner's loud laments that she had put her ball at least two inches from where he had told her to, carried him through to the final, where they met John Cooper and Michael Buller. Now this was an awkward couple: when one was on, the other was off, and vice versa. In the final both were 'turned on' and Vera could not even get her partner to make the first hoop.

The 'B' event and the 'Y' must be taken together. Alison Woods and Professor Weitz contested both finals; one won one and t'other t'other. Weitz, incidentally, had achieved a triple peel in an earlier round, the only player apart from Perry to do so. In the C's R.H.C. Carder proved too steady and deadly for the sometimes brilliant and sometimes not so brilliant Mrs Cruden, whom it was good to see in the finals again.

So finally we are back where we started, with the Big Handicap. Christopher Haworth's play gave the lie to all the gaffle about his handicap. He was eventually beaten by Robin Godby, who had Cave in the bag until the latter came suddenly from way back. Meanwhile Philip Mann, having demolished Daldry, Prichard and Colls by 16, 25 and 26 respectively, looked to have the Oliver Bowl in his pocket when he made Rover with his second ball with Cave still on 2-back and 3-back. However, he laid the rush the wrong way round and Cave began another unsteady catching-up affair. Then Mann committed the cardinal sin of not joining up when his opponent had a long rush to the peg. Cave duly obliged by pegging out his forward ball with the rush shot, but Mann failed to hit in and Cave hit the peg with a 15 yarder. Opinions again varied: some said the better Man(n) won; others said it was another case of the Devil's Own.

Let it be said here that Richard Rothwell managed the tournament quite beautifully, and the meeting finished quite like old times, with "a few words from Maurice" and a hefty swipe of the handicapper's axe, wielded by the winner of the very skilfully arranged, minus-player-packed and Budleigh Salterton's very first 'Z'.

Results

Event 1: Open Singles (18 Entries)

DRAW

First Round

P.Newton	bt. Mrs E.M. Lightfoot	+15
Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	bt. R.A.Godby	+ 5

Second Round

Sir Leonard Daldry	bt. Lt-Col G.E.Cave	+ 4
Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	bt. R.F.Rothwell	+26
E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	bt. Dr W.R.Bucknall	+19
Mrs J.B.Meachem	bt. P.Newton	+16
Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	w.o. J.G.Warwick	opp.scr.
E.H.S.Shelton	bt. Prof. A.S.C.Ross	+ 6
A.J.Cooper	bt. T.G.S.Colls	+ 2
B.G.Perry	bt. Dr R.B.N.Smartt	+26

Third Round

Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	bt. Sir Leonard Daldry	+ 9
Mrs J.B.Meachem	bt. E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	+14
Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	bt. E.H.S.Shelton	+ 8
B.G.Perry	bt. A.J.Cooper	+ 2

Semi-Final

Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	bt. Mrs J.B.Meachem	+ 2
B.G.Perry	bt. Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	+20

Final

B.G.Perry	bt. Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	+11
-----------	---------------------------	-----

PROCESS

First Round

Sir Leonard Daldry	bt. Dr R.B.N.Smartt	+ 8
B.G.Perry	bt. Lt-Col G.E.Cave	+ 1

Second Round

P.Newton	bt. Sir Leonard Daldry	+ 9
Prof. A.S.C.Ross	bt. Dr W.R.Bucknall	+17
Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	bt. R.A.Godby	+12
Mrs J.B.Meachem	bt. T.G.S.Colls	+16
B.G.Perry	bt. Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	+23
E.H.S.Shelton	bt. E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	+ 1
J.G.Warwick	bt. R.F.Rothwell	+ 3
Mrs E.M.Lightfoot	bt. A.J.Cooper	+ 6

Third Round

Prof. A.S.C.Ross	bt. P.Newton	+ 7
Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	bt. Mrs J.B.Meachem	+26
B.G.Perry	bt. E.H.S.Shelton	+26
Mrs E.M.Lightfoot	w.o. J.G.Warwick	opp.scr.

Semi-Final

Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	bt. Prof. A.S.C.Ross	+18
B.G.Perry	bt. Mrs E.M.Lightfoot	+ 3

Final

B.G.Perry	bt. Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	+ 4
-----------	---------------------------	-----

Event 2: 'B' Level Singles (11 Entries)

First Round

Mrs G.H.Wood	bt. Miss K.Ault	+22
F.F.W.Staddon	bt. K.S.Schofield	+ 4
Prof. B.G.Weitz	bt. Miss E. Fisher	+24

Second Round

C.Edwards	bt. Mrs B.G.Weitz	+ 2
Mrs G.H.Wood	bt. F.F.W.Staddon	+15
Prof. B.G.Weitz	bt. Capt. M.F.Buller	+ 7
C.W.Haworth	bt. Miss J.Cooper	+14

<i>Semi-Final</i>		
Mrs G.H.Wood	bt. C.Edwards	+17
Prof. B.G.Weitz	bt. C.W.Haworth	+ 7
<i>Final</i>		
Prof. B.G.Weitz	bt. Mrs G.H.Wood	+ 4

Event 3: 'C' Handicap Singles (15 Entries)

<i>First Round</i>		
Mrs C.W.Haworth (14)	bt. P.H.Mann (7½)	+11
Mrs S.S.Cruden (7)	bt. Dr C.W.Marshall (14)	+ 7
Mrs E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (12)	bt. Mrs L.A.Davies (12)	+12
Mrs P.Newton (5½)	bt. Mrs H.M.Harris (12)	+14
J.H.T.Griffiths (9)	bt. Brig. H.E.Fernyhough (8)	+12
R.H.C.Carder (6½)	bt. Miss D. Locks Latham (7)	+ 9
Mrs P.H.Mann (8)	bt. Mrs F.A.Sheil (7)	+21

<i>Second Round</i>		
Mrs S.S.Cruden (7)	bt. Mrs C.W.Haworth (14)	+13
Mrs E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (12)	bt. Mrs P.Newton (5½)	+11
R.H.C.Carder (6½)	bt. J.H.T.Griffiths (9)	+ 9
Mrs C.W.Marshall (16)	bt. Mrs P.H.Mann (8)	+ 8

<i>Semi-Final</i>		
Mrs S.S.Cruden (7)	bt. Mrs E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (12)	+ 5
R.H.C.Carder (6½)	bt. Mrs C.W.Marshall (16)	+19

<i>Final</i>		
R.H.C.Carder (6½)	bt. Mrs S.S.Cruden (7)	+13

Event 4a: 'X' Handicap Singles (41 Entries)

<i>First Round</i>		
R.H.C.Carder (6½)	bt. Miss D. Locks Latham (7)	+ 5
J.H.T.Griffiths (9)	bt. Miss J.Cooper (3)	+ 2
Capt. M.F.Buller (2)	bt. J.G.Warwick (0)	+13
C.Edwards (2)	bt. R.F.Rothwell (-1)	+ 8
Mrs J.B.Meachem (-½)	bt. F.F.W.Staddon (3)	+12

<i>Second Round</i>		
R.A.Godby (-1½)	bt. P.Newton (-2½)	+10
Mrs E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (12)	bt. Mrs F.Henshaw (5)	+12
Dr W.R.Bucknall (-½)	bt. Miss K.Ault (2½)	+16
C.W.Haworth (4½)	bt. Prof. B.G.Weitz (2)	+ 7
Lt-Col G.E.Cave (0)	bt. Prof. A.S.C.Ross (½)	+25
Mrs D.M.C.Prichard (-1)	bt. Mrs P.H.Mann (8)	+19
R.H.C.Carder (6½)	bt. K.S.Schofield (1½)	+ 6
Capt. M.F.Buller (2)	bt. J.H.T.Griffiths (9)	+ 5
C.Edwards (2)	bt. Mrs J.B.Meachem (-½)	+23
Mrs L.A.Davies (12)	bt. Mrs B.G.Weitz (4)	+ 2
T.G.S.Colls (3)	bt. E.H.S.Shelton (-1)	+19
Mrs E.M.Lightfoot (0)	bt. Mrs G.H.Wood (2)	+16
P.H.Mann (7½)	bt. Dr R.B.N.Smarrt (1)	+ 4
Sir Leonard Daldry (-2)	bt. Mrs H.M.Harris (12)	+12
Mrs P.Newton (5½)	bt. E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (-2½)	+15
Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard (-3)	bt. A.J.Cooper (-2½)	+18

<i>Third Round</i>		
R.A.Godby (-1½)	bt. Mrs E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (12)	14
C.W.Haworth (4½)	bt. Dr W.R.Bucknall (-½)	+ 9
Lt-Col G.E.Cave (0)	bt. Mrs D.M.C.Prichard (-1)	+13
Capt. M.F.Buller (2)	bt. R.H.C.Carder (6½)	+ 3
Mrs L.A.Davies (12)	bt. C.Edwards (2)	+ 4
T.G.S.Colls (3)	bt. Mrs E.M.Lightfoot (0)	+ 5
P.H.Mann (7½)	bt. Sir Leonard Daldry (-2)	+16
Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard (-3)	bt. Mrs P.Newton (5½)	+13

<i>Fourth Round</i>		
R.A.Godby (-1½)	bt. C.W.Haworth (4½)	+ 9
Lt-Col G.E.Cave (0)	bt. Capt. M.F.Buller (2)	+ 2
T.G.S.Colls (3)	bt. Mrs L.A.Davies (12)	+13
P.H.Mann (7½)	bt. Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard (-3)	+25

<i>Semi-Final</i>		
Lt-Col G.E.Cave (0)	bt. R.A.Godby (-1½)	+ 2
P.H.Mann (7½)	bt. T.G.S.Colls (3)	+26

<i>Final</i>		
Lt-Col G.E.Cave (0)	bt. P.H.Mann (7½)	+ 2

Event 4b: 'Y' Handicap Singles (19 Entries)

<i>Final</i>		
Mrs G.H.Wood (2)	bt. Prof. B.G.Weitz (2)	+10

Event 5: Handicap Doubles (18 Pairs)

<i>First Round</i>		
A.J.Cooper & Capt. M.F.Buller (-½)	bt. Prof. & Mrs B.G.Weitz (6)	+ 5
Mrs D.M.C.Prichard & Lt-Col G.E.Cave (-1)	bt. Mr & Mrs P.H.Mann (15½)	+13

<i>Second Round</i>		
Sir Leonard Daldry & K.S.Schofield (-½)	bt. Mrs E.M.Lightfoot & Prof. A.S.C.Ross (½)	+ 3
Mrs G.H.Wood & Mrs S.S.Cruden (9)	bt. Mr & Mrs P.Newton (3)	+14
C.W.Haworth & Mrs L.A.Davies (16½)	bt. Dr. W.R.Bucknall & C.Edwards (1½)	+13
Cooper & Buller	bt. Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard & Mrs G.E.Cave (1)	+21
Mr & Mrs E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (9½)	bt. Mrs Prichard & Cave	+ 5
T.G.S.Colls & Mrs H.M.Harris (14)	bt. B.G.Perry & Mrs C.W.Haworth (9)	+ 1 (T)
Mrs M.Hawkins & F.F.W.Staddon (7)	bt. J.G.Warwick & Mrs J.B.Meachem (-½)	+ 6
R.H.C.Carder & J.H.T.Griffiths (15½)	bt. R.A.Godby & Mrs F.A.Sheil (5½)	+ 7

<i>Third Round</i>		
Daldry & Schofield	bt. Mrs Wood & Mrs Cruden	+ 7
Cooper & Buller	bt. Haworth & Mrs Davies	+11
Mr & Mrs Tyrwhitt Drake	bt. Colls & Mrs Harris	+11
Carder & Griffiths	bt. Mrs Hawkins & Staddon	+12

<i>Semi-Final</i>		
Cooper & Buller	bt. Daldry & Schofield	+ 7
Mr & Mrs Tyrwhitt Drake	bt. Carder & Griffiths	+13

<i>Final</i>		
Cooper & Buller	bt. Mr & Mrs Tyrwhitt Drake	+17

Colchester: July 9-14

There was a large entry and a full programme for Colchester's tenth annual croquet tournament. Edward Duffield is to be congratulated on completing ten years of successful management of this event. Fine, sunny weather on the Monday and Tuesday made the courts fast and the games protracted. For the rest of week, however, the weather was cloudy and the occasional heavy shower slowed the courts up a good deal; slower courts seemed to lead to faster games. Play started every day at 9.30 and the lawns were seldom unoccupied before 8 in the evening; a general time limit of three and a half hours was in force for most of the tournament, and the 'Y' was double-banked. An average was maintained of nearly four games per court per day. Edward Duffield and Roger Bray are to be congratulated on completing a heavy programme without difficulty. The excellent catering was well up to Colchester's high standards, and thanks are due to all the ladies who helped.

Among the visitors Bryan Lloyd-Pratt was sadly missed, but it was nice to have Biddy Dodd, Humphrey Hicks and Miss Benton, and a strong contingent from the Heley Club. Kenneth Paterson had recently been ill and was unable to play, but he came to watch most days. Of the local players Mr Bishop, Mr Sampson and Mrs Heap were playing in their first full week's tournament.

On the Monday Miss Benton was heard to remark that even if she couldn't always win, she could at least be 'awkward' to the opposition by making them fight for victory. And so it proved, for in the first round of the Big Handicap she nearly defeated Bishop, who went on to win. After his narrow escape Bishop showed that he knew how to use bisques against minus players when he beat Peter Hallett and Gordon Hopewell, each by 26. He did not find the final quite so easy. Against Etty Digby he had five bisques, and delayed using the last three as

long as he possibly could; in the course of taking his last bisque he took off to separate the opposition, but hit a hoop on the way, and at that point all seemed lost. Shortly afterwards Etty Digby was laid up to go out when Bishop hit the "last shot" from about 15 yards, hung on by the skin of his teeth to make his last three hoops, pegged out one ball, and survived a last shot from Etty Digby from 15 yards when his ball was 6 inches or so from the peg to win by 2. Both players deserved their subsequent handicap reductions; and Miss Benton had her consolation when she won the 'Y'.

At first George Digby and Duncan Reeves seemed likely to do well in the Big Handicap: Duncan wasted two bisques through confusion when he lost, but George was unlucky to lose on time to Mrs Nalder who had one or two narrow victories and earned a reduction in her handicap. Duncan won the 'B' levels against Mrs Nalder, but narrowly; his handicap was also reduced.

In the Doubles George and Etty Digby had some narrow victories to reach the final. They beat the much fancied Hopewell and Hemsted by 4. In this game George missed the peg-out and Etty won by hitting the peg from the fourth corner. George again had difficulties with the peg against Gerald Hallett and Mr. Locke. Locke had three good chances of winning the game, but the strain of a long and close game was too much for him. George tried to peg out Gerald Hallett from about 7 yards, failed and narrowly missed pegging himself out; his partner was heard to remark "I shan't let you try that again". Shortly afterwards George was faced with the task of pegging out his partner and himself; this time he pegged himself out but left his partner a good 5 yards from the peg, with the opposition together. But Etty again saved the day with a long and successful shot at the peg to win by 3. In the final Mary Puxon and Duncan Reeves, who had had an easier passage, achieved an early lead when Duncan got round to Penult in the first 20 minutes; after a somewhat protracted struggle they held on to their early lead to beat the Digbys.

The Opens were somehow less interesting for the spectators; they were won by Michael Heap, who, like a big cat at the London Zoo paced up and down along well-worn tracks with slow and measured tread - efficient but lacking in liveliness. In the earlier rounds Martin Murray had looked impressive against Peter Hallett, but later his efficiency in the earlier stages of a game waned in the closing stages, and he succumbed to Stephen Hemsted and Biddy Dodd. Stephen Hemsted, who accounted for Humphrey Hicks in both halves, looked very promising at times, but was beaten by Heap in the final of the Draw. Gordon Hopewell had a good week; he is very good to watch when he is playing well, and that was most of the time. In the final of the Process he found Michael Heap missing at 7 yards and less, and he won a long game by 8; in the play-off he was not so lucky.

A very pleasant tournament.

Results

Event 1: Open Singles (13 Entries)

DRAW

<i>First Round</i>		
Dr M.Murray	bt. Revd P.D.Hallett	+20
H.O.Hicks	bt Mrs F.E.M.Puxon	+16
Mrs N.Dodd	bt. Mrs G.S.Digby	+10
M.E.W.Heap	bt. Capt. H.F.Nalder	+20
C.G.Hopewell	bt. G.F.Hallett	+ 8

<i>Second Round</i>		
S.R.Hemsted	bt. Dr. M.Murray	+ 4
H.O.Hicks	bt. Mrs N.Dodd	+13
M.E.W.Heap	bt. C.G.Hopewell	+14
D.W.Archer	bt. G.G.Strutt	+ 1

<i>Semi-Final</i>		
S.R.Hemsted	bt. H.O.Hicks	+ 7
M.E.W.Heap	bt. D.W.Archer	+19

<i>Final</i>		
M.E.W.Heap	bt. S.R.Hemsted	+26

PROCESS

<i>First Round</i>		
S.R.Hemsted	bt. Cap. H.F.Nalder	+15
H.O.Hicks	w.o. G.G.Strutt	+17
C.G.Hopewell	bt. Revd P.D.Hallett	+13
Dr M.Murray	bt. G.F.Hallett	+ 7
D.W.Archer	bt. Mrs F.E.M.Puxon	+ 7

<i>Second Round</i>		
S.R.Hemsted	bt. H.O.Hicks	+26
C.G.Hopewell	bt. Mrs G.S.Digby	+22
Mrs N.Dodd	bt. Dr M.Murray	+ 6
M.E.W.Heap	bt. D.W.Archer	+26

<i>Semi-Final</i>		
C.G.Hopewell	bt. S.R.Hemsted	+ 3
M.E.W.Heap	bt. Mrs N.Dodd	+14

<i>Final</i>		
C.G.Hopewell	bt. M.E.W.Heap	+ 8

<i>PLAY-OFF</i>		
M.E.W.Heap	bt. C.G.Hopewell	+14

Event 2: 'B' Level Singles (8 Entries)

<i>First Round</i>		
G.S.Digby	bt. Mrs E.E.Bressey	+12
D.E.Reeves	bt. R.S.Alford	+16
Mrs H.F.Nalder	bt F.E.M.Puxon	+ 4 (T)
C.S.Ratcliffe	bt. Miss A.Benton	+ 6 (T)

<i>Semi-Final</i>		
D.E.Reeves	bt. G.S.Digby	+23
Mrs H.F.Nalder	bt. C.S.Ratcliffe	+10

<i>Final</i>		
D.E.Reeves	bt. Mrs H.F. Nalder	+ 7

Event 3: 'C' Handicap Singles (8 Entries)

<i>First Round</i>		
P.Bishop (8)	bt. E.A.Locke (7½)	+17
W.W.Sampson (12)	bt. Miss L.M. Cooke (8)	+ 9
Mrs L.Cordy (8)	bt. Miss D.E.Rogers (15)	+12
Mrs S.R.Mew (8)	bt. Mrs M.E.W.Heap (16)	+16

<i>Semi-Final</i>		
P.Bishop (8)	bt. W.W.Sampson (12)	+ 5
Mrs S.R.Mew (8)	bt. Mrs L.Cordy (8)	+ 2

<i>Final</i>		
P.Bishop	bt. Mrs S.R.Mew (8)	+ 8

Event 4a: 'X' Handicap Singles (25 Entries)

<i>First Round</i>		
R.S.Alford (4)	bt. Mrs S.R.Mew (8)	+12
Mrs L.Cordy (8)	bt. Capt. H.F.Nalder (1½)	+11
D.E.Reeves (5)	bt. C.S.Ratcliffe (2)	+19
Mrs. N.Dodd (-2)	bt. S.R.Hemsted (-1½)	+ 3
C.G.Hopewell (-1½)	bt. D.W.Archer (0)	+ 7
G.G.Strutt (1½)	bt. Mrs F.E.M.Puxon (3)	+12
G.S.Digby (5½)	bt. Mrs E.E.Bressey (4)	+ 6 (T)
G.F.Hallett (-½)	bt. E.A.Locke (7½)	+ 1 (T)
Mrs H.F.Nalder (5½)	bt. Miss D.E.Rogers (15)	+17

<i>Second Round</i>		
P.Bishop (8)	bt. Miss A.Benton (3½)	+ 4
Revd P.D.Hallett	bt. R.S.Alford (4)	+16
D.E.Reeves (5)	bt. Mrs. L. Cordy (8)	+16
C.G.Hopewell (-1½)	bt. Mrs N.Dodd (-2)	+13
G.S.Digby (5½)	w.o. G.G.Strutt (1½)	opp.scr.
Mrs H.F.Nalder (5½)	bt. G.F.Hallett (-½)	+ 3
Mrs G.S.Digby (3)	bt. F.E.M.Puxon (5½)	+12
Miss L.M.Cooke (8)	bt. W.W.Sampson (12)	+11 (T)

<i>Third Round</i>		
P.Bishop (8)	bt. Revd. P.D.Hallett (-2)	+26
C.G.Hopewell (-1½)	bt. D.E.Reeves (5)	+ 5
Mrs H.F.Nalder (5½)	bt. G.S.Digby (5½)	+ 1 (T)
Mrs G.S.Digby (3)	bt. Miss L.M.Cooke (8)	+11

<i>Semi-Final</i>			Mr & Mrs G.S.Digby (8½) bt. Mrs E.E.Bressey & Miss D.E. Rogers (18) + 4 (T)
P.Bishop (8)	bt. C.G.Hopewell (-1½)	+26	Miss A.Benton & Miss L.M.Cooke (11½) bt. Capt. & Mrs H.F.Nalder (7) + 3 (T)
Mrs G.S.Digby (3)	bt. Mrs H.F.Nalder (5½)	+16	F.E.M.Puxon & Mrs S.R.Mew (13½) bt. P.Bishop & Miss M. Palmer (14) +11 (T)
<i>Final</i>			<i>Second Round</i>
P.Bishop (8)	bt. Mrs G.S.Digby (3)	+ 2	G.F.Hallett & E.A.Locke (7) bt. R.S.Alford & W.W.Sampson (16) +10
<i>Event 4b: 'Y' Handicap Singles (12 Entries)</i>			Mr & Mrs Digby bt. Hemsted & Hopewell + 4
<i>Final</i>			Miss Benton & Miss Cooke bt. Puxon & Mrs Mew +15
Miss A.Benton (3½)	bt. Mrs E.E.Bressey (4)	+14	D.E.Reeves & Mrs F.E.M.Puxon (8) bt. Mrs N.Dodd & Mrs M.E.W.Heap (12) +18
<i>Event 5: Handicap Doubles (12 Pairs)</i>			<i>Semi-Final</i>
<i>First Round</i>			Mr & Mrs Digby bt. G.F.Hallett & Locke + 3
S.R.Hemsted & C.G.Hopewell (-3) bt. Revd P.D.Hallett & D.W. Archer (-2) +12			Reeves & Mrs Puxon bt. Miss Benton & Miss Cooke + 9
			<i>Final</i>
			Reeves & Mrs Puxon bt. Mr & Mrs Digby + 7

The Open Championships July 16-21 at Hurlingham

It would require more research than is possible to your rather harassed correspondent to verify his impression that this year has provided the largest entry for this event since the last War. The thirty-six competitors moreover represented not only quantity but quality; almost everyone in the forefront of contemporary Croquet here had assembled for the occasion. One lamented the absence of Paul Hands, who shared the position of runner-up in the President's Cup last year, and we had to miss the delicate touch on a fast court (if Hurlingham is still able to produce such a thing) which Bryan Lloyd-Pratt so often exhibited, he having retired to South Africa to be monarch of all he surveys, croquetically speaking, in that country. But there were others here of whom we have seen too little lately — notably two associated with the game in Ireland: Douglas Strachan (a Scotsman now resident in England) and David O'Connor who brings so much vitality into any company he enters. Doubtless there were a few others prevented by the exigencies of their profession who were unable to be where doubtless they would have preferred to be this week — we think in particular of Michael Stride who at his best is capable of making a match of it with anyone.

But there were stars enough to guarantee an exhibition of skill representative of our teams in next year's Triangular Tests. And the positions of these in the Draw was so well distributed as to suggest that the 'seeding' we still eschew might have been adopted. We picked out (but would not dream of divulging) five of such names in each half of the Draw, mostly at discreet distances from each other. A week of great interest and significance was promised us; only the baneful influence of St. Swithun, exemplified on the previous Sunday, could spoil it, yet it never quite did.

On Monday it exhibited a spirited effort to do so. No match had been finished before, about one o'clock, rain descended in torrents for about an hour and the courts in front of the house represented a miniature 'lake district'. No play was possible on them till after 4 p.m. Of the matches which your correspondent had a chance to see two were notable: one a two game victory for David O'Connor, who had had no serious croquet for two years but exhibited a beautiful example of accuracy in his win over D.A.Harris of Eastbourne, and the other a three game victory of Bill Perry over S.R.Hemsted. Perry's triple gave him the first game; this was followed by success for Hemsted in a tough second game, but a second easy victory by Perry won him the contest.

Several of the best players who, in view of the large entry, had to be despatched to Roehampton, returned with praise for the courts which, they claimed, had much improved this year. They also reported having been spared anything like the torrents which had descended upon headquarters, none of their games having been seriously interrupted.

On Tuesday the 'baneful influence' was already in operation by 10 o'clock and no play was possible before lunch — at Hurlingham at any rate. Nigel Aspinall was playing at Roehampton and came near to losing the first game to C.G.Hopewell, but won the second fairly easily. Patrick Cotter, of whom we have seen so little of late, had a fairly close two games with Hamilton-Miller on a tricky lawn but managed to win them both. John Solomon was closely challenged by D.V.H.Rees of West Park, who won the second game by 5 and only lost the third by 7. Roger Wood, whom it was good to see here for the first time, won his two games against Commander Borrett, and there were two close struggles on lawns 3 and 4, the upshot of which was undecided when your correspondent was forced to leave. While nearly all the great stars still twinkled, one's impression was that the gap between them and a number of their challengers is shrinking visibly.

Wednesday was Doubles Day and a conveniently neat set of 16 pairs presented themselves for their (possibly) nine hours of play. The sun shone brightly in the morning, which, to be frank, the majority of competitors did not, though rather curiously when the weather deteriorated, as it duly did after lunch, the standard of play seemed to improve. Bernard Neal and William Prichard were one of the first pairs to suggest that they would be formidable opponents. Ormerod and Aspinall were as impressive as their reputations would suggest, and Martin Murray and Bidy Dodd, though losing two out of three very close games, carved out a new reputation for themselves. The most famous of pairs, Cotter and Solomon, were below par in the morning, but having contrived to win nevertheless, showed themselves in their true form in the afternoon. Some of the contests were very prolonged, and one pair only finished the *second* game necessary for victory when a 'last shot' was hit at 6 p.m., their match having begun a little before 10 on the morning of Tuesday.

Thursday was a day of variations, both in weather and in the events played. One match had begun at 1.30 on Tuesday but was only concluded, after 8½ hours, on Thursday at 6.30 when that rapidly improving player, Mr Soutter, hit a brilliant 'last shot' to defeat Strachan (Doubles, commitment having intervened). In sharp contrast to this was the match between Nigel Aspinall and William Prichard, which the former, who was playing with irrepressible confidence, won by two 26's. There was a close struggle between John Solomon, who had played little or no croquet this year and was understandably below his true form, and Col. Prichard, who with great tenacity snatched a game from him and threatened to win another. Keith Wylie showed indications of his brilliant best on a chilly evening, when many remained to enjoy the spectacle. The competition, if not the weather, was 'hotting up'.

Friday morning was fine, if rather chilly, and the main feature of the day, the quarter-finals of the Singles, were on court, though one in which Aspinall had beaten a formidable rival in William Prichard had been settled already. Neal, the

reigning champion, beat Perry easily in the first game but much more narrowly in the second, for the man from Budleigh was on his best Devonian form and seemed likely to be a winner until a failure at Penult gave Bernard an opportunity which he seized with that unfailing accuracy which has become so notable a feature of his game. Solomon and Cotter have been partners — and very successful ones — for many years, but they have often been rivals too and were on this occasion. The former had not so far been playing very well, while Patrick had run into his old form, and the first game went to him. But no one fights back better than John, and though he did not start the second game very well, he won it and went on to win the third also. Finally, for those who found their way to court 5 there was a fight going on between two of the best brains in croquet history. There are too few today who can recall the domination of the game by Humphrey Hicks in the late Forties and it was no great surprise to them that he should win the first game against Keith Wylie. The second game was a close one and it looked for some time as if the victor might be Hicks, but he lost a close struggle to Wylie, who in the third game gave scarcely a chance to his senior; when Keith made one of his rare errors, letting Humphrey in, he was fortunate that his opponent failed to start a break and allowed him to continue some brilliant peeling and win the game by 26.

Meanwhile a Double was in progress between Aspinall and Ormerod on the one side and Rees and Wheeler on the other. Aspinall was far from well and it took him and his partner a long time to win the first game. At the beginning of the second game Nigel was only able to put his ball into play before he had to be carried away looking — and certainly feeling — very ill. There then arose a situation reminiscent of, though of course very different in origin from, the controversial match in this event last year in which one player had to make all the strokes for two balls. This William Ormerod did so effectively that he nearly brought off what would have been a sensational victory over his understandably bewildered opponents. A third game was deemed to be necessary, but had scarcely begun at 6.30 when your correspondent had to depart. It emerged subsequently that the match ended at 8.30 with Ormerod again just failing to win by 4 points 'on time'.

Nigel Aspinall arrived at the club towards noon on Saturday in better health but still not feeling equal to attempting to play his semi-final match with Wylie. Not only was there much sympathy felt for him, but the spectators, of whom there was a goodly number on this final day, were extremely disappointed to be robbed of an encounter between two such splendid players.

From this moment the hero of the tournament was Bernard Neal. In the semi-final of the Singles he was aided by numerous mistakes made by John Solomon. Much of John's play was up to the standard we expect of him — good shooting and admirable split shots — but he kept breaking down at hoops and offering the reigning champion opportunities of which he made full use, as he had been doing throughout the competition. Bernard's consistency throughout the match was remarkable, particularly in his long and often difficult split shots. And so we came to the final, for which an audience of a size worthy of the occasion remained through a distinctly chilly though sometimes sunny evening. Keith Wylie had been waiting for a long time for his match; the question was whether a prolonged rest or a continuous period of play would prove to be the greater advantage. The match was started at 4.30, but though it lasted for more than two hours the result was seldom in doubt. Neal continued to play as well as ever, and Wylie was not shooting well and was not offered many opportunities by his ruthless opponent, whose confidence was as evident as it had been during the week in winning +26 +16.

There was rightly enthusiastic applause for the winner, but there were very few, one suspects, who realised that he had established a new record, for by winning the Championship in the two consecutive years of his period of office as Chairman of Council (and a most valuable one) he had done something which no chairman had done before. John Solomon came very

near to doing this, and Geoffrey Reckitt had done it once, but there have been no other candidates.

While all this was going on, Hicks and the ever-improving Soutter were making sure of the Doubles Championship. The standard of play in this competition was hardly up to that of most years, and one is led to wonder whether prolonged 'best of three' contests are calculated to bring out the best in the competitors. The most skilful play which your correspondent witnessed was that displayed by William Ormerod in that strange and very unsatisfactory form of 'Doubles' which involves only three players.

There was a fairly strong collection of players in the Association Plate, but the worthy winner proved to be C.G.Hopewell, the player who had earlier been the only one of Aspinall's opponents to threaten to take a game off him.

The atrocious weather led to some describing the week as the 'Open Dampship'. Rain fell on every day of the competition, often very heavily, but only briefly and in an apologetic way on the final day, as if forced to maintain its record but anxious to show some respect for so important an occasion. The players stood up (or sometimes compulsorily sat down) to all this very patiently, but the heroine of the occasion was the Manager, Daisy Lintern, who always assumed that it would be 'all right on the (last) night', as indeed it was, but possibly might not have been if Nigel Aspinall had been well enough to play through the two events from which he had to retire. The writer's chief impression is that while our Chairman was the star of the occasion, there are some of those in the 'Chairman's Salver' class who are pressing on the heels of the great ones of today and may, sooner than had been expected, be playing in an even more exalted 'Eight'.

In the President's enforced absence at the very end our new Vice-President, who was also Manager on this occasion, presented the prizes and was herself suitably presented with a well-deserved bouquet.

Results

Event 1: The Croquet Championship (36 Entries)

<i>First Round</i>		
Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	bt. Mrs B.L.Sundius-Smith	-18 + 5 + 5
J.A.Wheeler	bt. E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	+18 +11
G.N.Aspinall	bt. Mrs N.Dodd	+20 +26
C.G.Hopewell	bt. Miss B.Duthie	+20 +17
<i>Second Round</i>		
Prof. B.G.Neal	bt. T.O.Read	+13 +26
D.O'Connor	bt. D.A.Harris	+ 5 +13
B.G.Perry	bt. S.R.Hemsted	+26 -17 +25
Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	bt. I.C.Baillieu	+ 7 +17
E.P.C.Cotter	bt. R.A.Godby	+14 +15
D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller	bt. E.J.Tucker	+ 8 - 2 + 15
J.W.Solomon	bt. D.V.H.Rees	+16 - 5 + 7
Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	bt. J.A.Wheeler	-16 + 5 +15
G.N.Aspinall	bt. C.G.Hopewell	+ 4 +23
Dr W.P.Ormerod	bt. A.V.Camroux	+24 +22
W. de B.Prichard	bt. Dr M.Murray	+26 +19
Mrs W.Longman	bt. Mrs H.M.Read	+ 8 +10
K.F.Wylie	bt. Mrs J.B.Meachem	+20 +25
J.H.J.Soutter	bt. D.F.Strachan	- 3 +15 + 3
R.Wood	bt. Cdr G.Borrett	+14 +17
H.O.Hicks	bt. Revd W.E.Gladstone	- 5 +25 +15
<i>Third Round</i>		
Prof. B.G.Neal	bt. D.O'Connor	+20 +10
B.G.Perry	bt. Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	+26 + 8
E.P.C.Cotter	bt. D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller	+10 + 9
J.W.Solomon	bt. Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	+13 - 3 + 8
G.N.Aspinall	bt. Dr W.P.Ormerod	+14 +26
W. de B.Prichard	bt. Mrs W.Longman	+14 + 7
K.F.Wylie	bt. J.H.J.Soutter	+26 +24
H.O.Hicks	bt. R.Wood	+21 + 1
<i>Fourth Round</i>		
Prof. B.G.Neal	bt. B.G.Perry	+23 + 6
J.W.Solomon	bt. E.P.C.Cotter	-11 +12 +15
G.N.Aspinall	bt. W. de B.Prichard	+26 +26
K.F.Wylie	bt. H.O.Hicks	-15 + 9 +26

Semi-Final

Prof. B.G.Neal	bt. J.W.Solomon	+10 +13
K.F.Wylie	w.o. G.N.Aspinall	opp. scr.

Final

Prof. B.G.Neal	bt. K.F.Wylie	+26 +16
----------------	---------------	---------

Event 2: The Doubles Championship (16 Pairs)

First Round

D.V.H.Rees & J.A.Wheeler	bt. Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard & Mrs E.M.Lightfoot	+11 +25
Dr M.Murray & Mrs N.Dodd	bt. E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake & D.A.Harris	+ 7 +25
Dr W.P.Ormerod & G.N.Aspinall	bt. S.R.Hemsted & C.G.Hopewell	+10 +16
Prof. B.G.Neal & W. de B.Prichard	bt. D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller & Mrs B.L.Sundius-Smith	+24 + 4
Revd W.E.Gladstone & Mrs J.B.Meachem	bt. B.G.Perry & R.A.Godby	+13 -23 + 8
H.O.Hicks & J.H.J.Soutter	bt. E.J.Tucker & R.Wood	+ 5 - 2 + 3 (T)
D.O'Connor & D.F.Strachan	bt. T.O.Read & Mrs H.M.Read	+ 4 + 3
J.W.Solomon & E.P.C.Cotter	bt. Cdr G.Borrett & Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	+14 +13

Second Round

Rees & Wheeler	bt. Murray & Mrs Dodd	-23 + 3 + 1 (T)
Ormerod & Aspinall	bt. Neal & W.Prichard	+15 +21
Hicks & Soutter	bt. Revd W.E.Gladstone & Mrs Meachem	+12 +16
Solomon & Cotter	bt. O'Connor & Strachan	+17 +16

Semi-Final

Rees & Wheeler	bt. Ormerod & Aspinall	-15 + 4 + 5 (T)
Hicks & Soutter	bt. Solomon & Cotter	+21 - 4 +16

Final

Hicks & Soutter	bt. Rees & Wheeler	+ 9 +22
-----------------	--------------------	---------

Event 3: The Association Plate (20 Entries)

First Round

C.G.Hopewell	bt. Miss B.Duthie	+14
D.V.H.Rees	bt. E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	+10
D.A.Harris	bt. Mrs H.M.Read	+12
A.V.Camroux	bt. Revd W.E.Gladstone	+13

Second Round

Dr M.Murray	w.o. D.F.Strachan	opp. scr.
E.J.Tucker	bt. I.C.Baillieu	+22
Mrs J.B.Meachem	w.o. J.A.Wheeler	opp. scr.
C.G.Hopewell	w.o. D.V.H.Rees	opp. scr.
A.V.Camroux	bt. D.A.Harris	+ 4
R.A.Godby	bt. Cdr G.Borrett	+ 6
T.O.Read	bt. Mrs N.Dodd	+14
S.R.Hemsted	bt. Mrs B.L.Sundius-Smith	+10

Third Round

Dr M.Murray	bt. E.J.Tucker	+14
C.G.Hopewell	w.o. Mrs J.B.Meachem	opp. retcd.
R.A.Godby	bt. A.V.Camroux	+10
S.R.Hemsted	bt. T.O.Read	+26

Semi-Final

C.G.Hopewell	bt. Dr M.Murray	+13
S.R.Hemsted	bt. R.A.Godby	+ 4

Final

C.G.Hopewell	bt. S.R.Hemsted	+15
--------------	-----------------	-----

Nottingham Weekend Tournament: June 15 - 17

BLOCK WINNERS

A. C. Risebrow (2)	4 wins
B. Mrs L.A.Coombs(5)	3 wins and 16 net points
C. B.Slater (3½)	4 wins
D. G.G.Strutt (2)	4 wins

Semi-Final

Mrs L.A.Coombs (5)	bt. C.Risebrow (2)	+ 9
B.Slater (3½)	bt. G.G.Strutt (2)	+10

Final

B.Slater (3½)	bt. Mrs L.A.Coombs (5)	+ 2
---------------	------------------------	-----

Cheltenham Open Tournament, July 23-28

Like the wine at the party given for competitors on the preceding Sunday, this was a sparkling tournament. There was a 'full house' of players, and the over-all quality of the entry was pronounced by an experienced judge to be exceptionally high. It included two -5s, one -4½, one -3½ and no less than three -3s. Even the weather sparkled, becoming consistently warm after a cold and showery day.

Many exciting games stay in the memory. There was Moorcraft's winning 'last shot' when Kitty Sessions had just failed at the Rover in a straight triple. Then there was Terence Read's peg-out from the third corner in the Doubles, and Humphrey Hicks finding his best form against Newton. There was the game in which Gladstone and Col. Prichard were both on the peg for half an hour, each consistently hitting in when the game looked lost. There was the nerve-racking Doubles Final, when Edith Arkell just failed to snatch victory when her partner had been pegged out.

If, however one had to choose a single game, it would be Wednesday's meeting between Hands and Jackson. The latter had put on his coat and was preparing to congratulate his opponent, since Paul had all but completed this third triple of the week. However, in taking off with Red to his partner balli which had been placed ready in the jaws of Rover, Hands lodged the Red against the wire of Rover and was quite unable to hit Yellow, even though the latter ball was only a fraction of an inch away. From this position Jackson went 4-back. Hands missed the lift; Jackson went round with his second ball, pegged out Hands' Yellow and laid up; Hands missed the lift and Jackson finished the game.

By the Friday Hands had achieved five triples, and William Prichard was tripling too. After these two met in the Opens, each went on to defeat his next victim by 26 with a triple. It would have been astonishing if, after a week-long display of croquet of the very highest quality, Hands had not won the Opens. With his consistent and able partner, Martin, he also took the Doubles.

William Prichard, the holder of the President's Cup, also played beautifully for much of the week and nearly won the Final of the Process against Hands. Prichard also entered the Big Handicap. In this event his meeting with Neil Williams produced the latter's best game of the week. Williams used his bisques to double-peel and peg out Prichard, and he had bisques to spare to make sure of victory. This was followed by convincing wins in both the semi-final and the final and led, deservedly, to a drastic reduction in handicap.

Mention must also be made of Mrs Digby's rapid, highly accurate and positive croquet in her progress towards well-deserved victory in the 'B' levels, and of Mrs Handley's play in the Calthrop Cup, in which she won both Draw and Process.

Our President once declared in these pages how precious Budleigh was to him. Many of us feel the same about Cheltenham. In every respect this was a week to strengthen that feeling. It is not only the superb setting, the quality of the lawns and the impeccable standard in everything. It is, basically, the warmth of its welcome and the care it takes of every individual.

Results

Event 1: The Cheltenham Challenge Cup (26 Entries)

DRAW

First Round

J.A.Wheeler	bt. I.G.Vincent	+ 8
Miss K.M.O.Sessions	bt. D.H.Moorcraft	+ 6
C.G.Pountney	bt. T.G.S.Colls	+11
H.O.Hicks	bt. Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	+16
Mrs G.F.H.Elvey	bt. Prof. B.G.Weitz	+10
E.J.Tucker	bt Mrs A.M.Daniels	+ 3
G.E.P.Jackson	bt. T.O.Read	+ 3
Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	bt. Miss F.Joly	+20
W. de B.Prichard	bt. R.S.Stevens	+12
P.W.Hands	bt. Mrs H.M.Read	+26

Second Round

Revd W.E.Gladstone	bt. Mrs A.Fotiadi	+17
J.A.Wheeler	bt. Miss K.M.O.Sessions	+12
H.O.Hicks	bt. C.G.Pountney	+26
E.J.Tucker	bt. Mrs G.F.H.Elvey	+22
G.E.P.Jackson	bt. Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	+10
P.W.Hands	bt. W. de B. Prichard	+17
Mrs. E.M.Lightfoot	bt. Col. G.T.Wheeler	+ 9
P.Newton	bt. Miss R.M.Allen	+12

Third Round

J.A.Wheeler	bt. Revd W.E.Gladstone	+12
H.O.Hicks	bt. E.J.Tucker	+10
G.E.P.Jackson	bt. P.W.Hands	+ 2
P.Newton	bt. Mrs. E.M.Lightfoot	+20

Semi-Final

J.A.Wheeler	bt. H.O.Hicks	+ 8
G.E.P.Jackson	bt. P.Newton	+24

Final

G.E.P.Jackson	bt. J.A.Wheeler	+17
---------------	-----------------	-----

PROCESS

First Round

Revd W.E.Gladstone	bt. Miss F.Joly	+17
Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	bt. Miss R.M.Allen	+21
Miss K.M.O.Sessions	bt. Mrs. H.M.Read	+11
W. de B. Prichard	bt. J.A.Wheeler	+26
Mrs E.M.Lightfoot	bt. T.G.S.Colls	+15
R.S.Stevens	bt. Mrs A.Fotiadi	+13
Prof. B.G.Weitz	bt. I.G.Vincent	+ 9
C.G.Puntney	bt. Col. G.T.Wheeler	+18
P.W.Hands	bt. D.H.Moorcraft	+26
H.O.Hicks	bt. P.Newton	+ 9

Second Round

Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	bt. Revd W.E.Gladstone	+ 2
Miss K.M.O.Sessions	bt. Mrs A.M.Daniels	+23
W. de B. Prichard	bt. Mrs G.F.H.Elvey	+25
G.E.P.Jackson	bt. Mrs E.M.Lightfoot	+22
Prof. B.G.Weitz	bt. R.S.Stevens	+13
T.O.Read	bt. C.G.Pountney	+22
P.W.Hands	bt. E.J.Tucker	+24
Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	bt. H.O.Hicks	+12

Third Round

Miss K.M.O.Sessions	bt. Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	+ 7
W.de B.Prichard	bt. G.E.P.Jackson	+26
Prof. B.G.Weitz	bt. T.O.Read	+ 2
P.W.Hands	bt. Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	+16

Semi-Final

W. de B. Prichard	bt. Miss K.M.O.Sessions	+22
P.W.Hands	bt. Prof. B.G. Weitz	+26

Final

P.W.Hands	bt. W. de B. Prichard	+ 4
-----------	-----------------------	-----

PLAY-OFF

P.W.Hands	bt. G.E.P. Jackson	+26
-----------	--------------------	-----

Event 2: The Money Salver (19 Entries)

First Round

N.Williams	bt. Miss E.M.Brumpston	+19
Mrs P.Newton	bt. Mrs C.Bagnall	+ 6
J.W.Haynes	bt. Mrs R.A.Lewty	+ 9

Second Round

Miss I.M.Roe	bt. G.S.Digby	+ 6
Mrs G.S.Digby	bt. Mrs D.M.Aubrey	+ 9
G.B.Martin	bt. R.A.Carte	+16
N.Williams	bt. Mrs P.Newton	+ 5
J.W.Haynes	w.o.	opp. scr.
W.J.Sturdy	bt. Miss E.C.Brumpston	+ 8
Miss E.H.Arkell	bt. Miss H.D.Parker	+ 9
Mrs J. Povey	bt. C.Edwards	+ 8

Third Round

Mrs G.S.Digby	bt. Miss I.M.Roe	+ 4
N.Williams	bt. G.B.Martin	+ 5
J.W.Haynes	bt. W.J.Sturdy	+10
Miss E.H.Arkell	bt. Mrs J.Povey	+ 7

Semi-Final

Mrs. G.S.Digby	bt. N.Williams	+11
Miss E.H.Arkell	w.o. J.W.Haynes	opp.scr.

Final

Mrs G.S.Digby	bt. Miss E.H.Arkell	+16
---------------	---------------------	-----

Event 3: The Calthrop Cup (6 Entries)

DRAW

First Round

Mrs. H.G.Handley (8)	bt Mrs E.J.Tucker (12)	+ 7
Miss W.K.Allardyce (7½)	bt. Miss E.K.Hawkins (10)	+ 5

Semi-Final

Mrs H.G.Handley (8)	bt. R.A.Lewty (10)	+15
Miss I.M.Hawkins (12)	bt. Miss W.K.Allardyce (7½)	+11

Final

Mrs H.G.Handley (8)	bt. Miss I.M.Hawkins (12)	+14
---------------------	---------------------------	-----

PROCESS

First Round

R.A.Lewty (10)	bt. Miss W.K.Allardyce (7½)	+20
Miss I.M.Hawkins (12)	bt. Mrs E.J.Tucker (12)	+ 7 (T)

Semi-Final

Mrs H.G.Handley (8)	bt. R.A.Lewty (10)	+12
Miss E.K.Hawkins (10)	bt. Miss I.M.Hawkins (12)	+ 4 (T)

Final

Mrs H.G.Handley (8)	bt. Miss E.K.Hawkins (10)	+20
---------------------	---------------------------	-----

Event 4a: The Daniels Cup (50 Entries)

First Round

W. de B. Prichard (-5)	bt. Prof. B.G.Weitz (1½)	+ 8
Mrs E.J.Tucker (12)	bt R.A.Lewty (10)	+ 6
G.E.P.Jackson (-3)	w.o.	opp.scr.
Miss I.M.Hawkins (12)	bt. Mrs C.Bagnall (4½)	+16
Miss R.M.Allen (1½)	bt. Mrs H.M.Read (½)	+ 9
Mrs E.M.Lightfoot (-½)	w.o.	opp. scr.
G.S.Digby (5½)	bt. Miss E.H.Arkell (2½)	+ 7
Mrs A.Fotiadi (0)	bt. Miss W.K.Allardyce (7½)	+ 7
Miss E.M.Brumpston (4½)	bt. T.G.S.Colls (3)	+18
Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard (-3)	bt. Miss F.Joly (-1)	+16
P.Newton (-2½)	bt. P.W.Hands (-4½)	+16
Mrs H.G.Handley (8)	bt. Miss H.D.Parker (3½)	+13
Mrs D.M.C.Prichard (-1)	bt. E.J.Tucker (-½)	+16
D.H.Moorcraft (-1)	bt. Mrs G.S.Digby (2½)	+ 5
Mrs D.M.Aubrey (2)	bt. Mrs G.F.H.Elvey (-½)	+20
Revd W.E.Gladstone (-2)	bt. T.O.Read (-3½)	+10
Miss I.M.Roe (2)	bt. Miss E.C.Brumpston (3)	+ 6
C.G.Poutney (1)	bt. J.A.Wheeler (1½)	+16

Second Round

Mrs R.A.Lewty (5)	bt. R.A.Carte (2)	+11
R.S.Stevens (½)	bt. I.G.Vincent (1½)	+24
N.Williams (3)	bt. W.J.Sturdy (2½)	+26
W. de B.Prichard (-5)	bt. Miss E.K.Hawkins (10)	+14
G.E.P.Jackson (-3)	bt. Mrs E.J.Tucker (12)	+ 7
Miss R.M.Allen (1½)	bt. Miss I.M.Hawkins (12)	+ 6
G.S.Digby (5½)	bt. Mrs E.M.Lightfoot (-½)	+25
Miss E.M.Brumpston (4½)	bt. Mrs A.Fotiadi (0)	+18
P.Newton (-2½)	bt. Lt-Col D.M.C. Prichard (-3)	+20

Mrs D.M.C.Prichard (-1)	bt. Mrs H.G.Handley (8)	+ 9
D.H.Moorcraft (-1)	bt. Mrs D.M.Aubrey (2)	+23
Revd W.E.Gladstone (-2)	bt. Miss I.M.Roe (2)	+10
J.W.Haynes (3)	bt. C.G.Pountney (1)	+22
G.B.Martin (5)	bt. Miss K.M.O.Sessions (-3)	+26
Col. G.T.Wheeler (1)	bt. C. Edwards (2)	+12
Mrs J.Povey (3)	bt. Mrs P.Newton (5½)	+16

Third Round

Mrs R.A.Lewty (5)	bt. R.S.Stevens (½)	+15
N.Williams (3)	bt. W. de B. Prichard (-5)	+13
G.E.P.Jackson (-3)	bt. Miss R.M.Allen (1½)	+14
G.S.Digby (5½)	bt. Miss E.M.Brumpston (4½)	+18
Mrs D.M.C.Prichard (-1)	bt. P.Newton (-2½)	+ 6
D.H.Moorcraft (-1)	bt. Revd W.E.Gladstone (-2)	+11
G.B.Martin (5)	bt. J.W.Haynes (3)	+ 5
Mrs J.Povey (3)	bt. Col. G.T.Wheeler (1)	+26

Fourth Round

N. Williams (3)	bt. Mrs R.A.Lewty (5)	+11
G.E.P.Jackson (-3)	bt. G.S.Digby (5½)	+15
D.H.Moorcraft (-1)	bt. Mrs D.M.C.Prichard (-1)	+26
G.B.Martin (5)	bt. Mrs J.Povey (3)	+13

Semi-Final

N.Williams (3)	bt. G.E.P.Jackson (-3)	+22
D.H.Moorcraft (-1)	bt. G.B.Martin (5)	+7

Final

N.Williams (3)	bt. D.H.Moorcraft (-1)	+25
----------------	------------------------	-----

Event 4b: 'Y' Handicap Singles (24 Entries)

Final

J.A.Wheeler (-1½)	bt. W.J.Sturdy (2½)	+7
-------------------	---------------------	----

Event 5: The Barwell Salvers (24 Pairs)

First Round

N.Williams & Mrs A.Fotiadi (3)	bt. D.H.Moorcraft & Miss W.K.Allardyce (6½)	+11
G.E.P.Jackson & Mrs G.F.H.Elvey (-3½)	bt. Mr & Mrs P.Newton (3)	+5
Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard & Mrs C.Bagnall (1½)	bt. Col. G.T. Wheeler & Miss K.M.O.Sessions (-2)	+5
Revd W.E.Gladstone & Miss E.M.Brumpston (2½)	bt. J.A.Wheeler & Mrs H.G.Handley (6½)	+4
Mr & Mrs G.S.Digby (8)	bt. Mrs H.F.Chittenden & Miss H.D.Parker (4)	+14
E.J.Tucker & Miss I.M.Roe (1½)	bt. Prof. B.G.Weitz & J.W.Haynes (4½)	+20
Mrs D.M.C.Prichard & Miss E.C.Brumpston (2)	bt. R.A.Carte & Mrs D.M.Aubrey (4)	+20
T.O.Read & Mrs H.M.Read (-3)	bt. W.J.Sturdy & Mrs J.Povey (5½)	+4

Second Round

Mr & Mrs R.A.Lewty (14)	bt. R.S.Stevens & C.Edwards (2½)	+14
I.G.Vincent & Miss E.H.Arkell (4)	bt. Miss E.K.Hawkins & Miss I.M.Hawkins (17)	+5
Williams & Mrs Fotiadi	bt. Jackson & Mrs Elvey	+3
Revd W.E.Gladstone & Miss E.M.Brumpston	bt. Lt-Col Prichard & Mrs Bagnall	+20
Tucker & Mrs Roe	bt. Mr & Mrs Digby	+17
Read & Mrs Read	bt. Mrs Prichard & Miss E.C.Brumpston	+3
P.W.Hands & G.B.Martin (½)	bt. C.G.Pountney & Mrs E.J.Tucker (13)	+10
W. de B.Prichard & T.G.S. Colls (-2)	bt. Mrs E.M.Lightfoot & Miss F.Joly (-1½)	+10

Third Round

Vincent & Miss Arkell	bt. Mr & Mrs Lewty	+9
Revd W.E.Gladstone & Miss E.M.Brumpston	bt. Williams & Mrs Fotiadi	+9
Read & Mrs Read	bt. Tucker & Mrs Roe	+2
Hands & Martin	bt. W.Prichard & Colls	+21

Semi-Final

Vincent & Miss Arkell	bt. Revd W.E.Gladstone & Miss E.M.Brumpston	+5
Hands & Martin	bt. Read & Mrs Read	+15

Final

Hands & Martin	bt. Vincent & Miss Arkell	+2
----------------	---------------------------	----

The Secretary and The Editor

For general reference, the Secretary of the Croquet Association is Mr Vandeleur Robinson, The Hurlingham Club, London S.W.6 (Tel. (01) 736 3148). The standard annual rate of subscription to the C.A. is £4.

The Editor of the Croquet Gazette is Revd P.D.Hallett, Teversham House, 18 Hillside, Sawston, Cambs. After September 27 his address will be 58 Romsey Road, Lyndhurst, Hampshire, but material for the October gazette should be sent to the Editor at Sawston.

Deadline

Material for the October gazette must reach the Editor by Tuesday September 18. Late contributions cannot normally be accepted.

Handicap Alterations

Veterans' Championship: June 11-16

H.A.Sheppard 0 to -½.

Nottingham Weekend: June 15-17

Mrs L.A.Coombs 5 to 4½; G.Henshaw 3½ to 3; C.Risebrow 2 to 1½; B.Slater 3½ to 3; G.G.Strutt 2 to 1½

Men's and Women's Championships: June 18-23

A.B.Hope 1 to -1; C.H.L.Prichard ½ to -1, Mrs J.B.Meachem 0 to -½.

Challenge and Gilbey Cups: June 25-30

G.Betts 1 to ½; R.F.A.Crane 9 to 8; Sir Leonard Daldry -1½ to -2; R.S.Eades 7½ to 5; C.Edwards 3 to 2; G.B.Martin 7 to 5; P.A.Tunmer 6 to 5½; R.S.Stevens 1½ to ½.

Budleigh Salterton: July 2-7

R.H.C.Carder 6½ to 5½; Lt-Col G.E.Cave 0 to -1; R.A.Godby -1½ to -2; Mrs E.M.Lightfoot 0 to -½; P.H.Mann 7½ to 6½; Prof. B.G.Weitz 2 to 1½; Mrs G.H.Wood 2 to 1½; Mrs E.C.Tyrhwitt Drake 12 to 11.

Colchester: July 9-14

Miss A.Benton 3½; P.Bishop 8 to 6; Mrs G.S.Digby 3 to 2½; Mrs H.F.Nalder 5½ to 5; Capt. D.E.Reeves 5 to 4; Mrs M.E.W.Heap 16 D12.

Open Championships: July 16-21

D.V.H.Rees -1 to -1½;

Cheltenham: July 23-28

Miss E.H.Arkell 2½ to 2; Miss E.M.Brumpston 4½ to 4; G.S.Digby 5½ to 5; Mrs G.S.Digby 2½ to 2; Mrs H.G.Handley 8 to 7; Mrs E.K.Hawkins 10 to 8; Miss I.M.Hawkins 12 to 9; G.B.Martin 5 to 4; D.H.Moorcraft -1 to -1½; Mrs P.Newton 5½ to 5; Prof. B.G.Weitz 1½ to 1; Neil Williams 3 to 1½;

Caversham Club Recommendations

Mrs H.A.Pim 10 to 9; L.Adams 3* to 2.

Cheltenham Club Recommendations

G.F.Blumer 13 to 11 D9; F.E.Pearson 2½ to 2.

Hurlingham Club Recommendation

Mrs S.Oriel 10 to 9.

Southwick Club Recommendations

Miss M.G.Anderson 4½ to 3½; A.F.Coleman 12* to 8; W.B.C.Paynter 5 to 4; E.E.Rees 12* to 10; I.G.Vincent 2 to 1½.

Wrest Park Club Recommendations

T.W.Anderson 9 to 8; Davren 4½ to 4; A.G.Dumont 7 to 6.

Secretary's Notes

- Mrs E.M.Lightfoot and Mr I.Howard Wright have been appointed Managers.
- The New York Croquet Club and the Palm Beach Croquet Club have proposed *all their members* as individual Overseas Associates. Others who have recently enrolled await election by the Council in October.
- Col. Prichard's Commentary on the Laws of Croquet is being re-printed and will be on sale at 50p, post free. I will keep a list of those who order it and send their copies when the re-issue has been received.

Vandeleur Robinson,
Secretary,
August 1973.

Golf Croquet, played at Ipswich, June 22 - 24

Event 1: The Ascot Challenge Cup

BLOCK WINNERS: A. L.Stagg
B. Miss G.Edwards

PLAY-OFF

L.Stagg bt. Miss G.Edwards

Event 2: The Delves Broughton Challenge Cups

BLOCK WINNERS: A. Miss Day & Mr Wright
B. R.F.Rothwell & Mrs Ransome

PLAY-OFF

R.F.Rothwell & Mrs Ransome bt. Miss Day & Mr Wright

The Longman Cup 1973

RESULTS IN ORDER

First Round			
Stourbridge	beat	Radbroke Hall	4 - 1
Harrow Oak	w.o.	Phyllis Court	opp. scr.
Hurlingham	beat	Colworth	3 - 2
Southwick	beat	Compton	4 - 1
Second Round			
Stourbridge	beat	Bretby	4 - 1
Edgbaston	beat	Wolverhampton	3 - 2
Caversham	beat	Harrow Oak	4 - 1
Trawscoed	w.o.	Rochampton	opp. scr.
Hurlingham	beat	Parsons Green	4 - 1
Colchester	w.o.	Woking	opp. scr.
Southwick	beat	Tunbridge Wells	3 - 1 (one game unfinished)
Herstmonceux	beat	Ryde	4 - 1

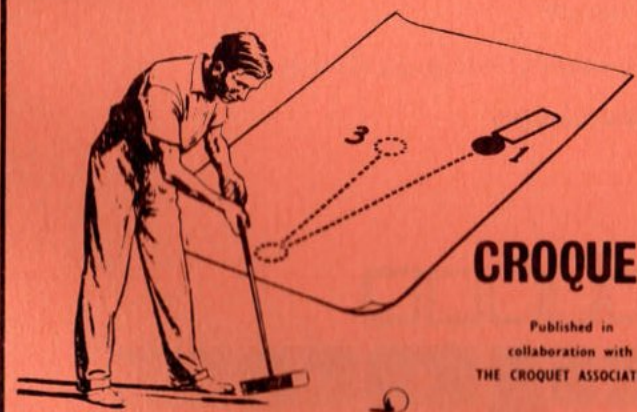
Corrigendum

The tournament described on p. 9 of the July gazette as "Edinburgh" was in fact organised by the Scottish Croquet Committee, and not the Edinburgh Club; it was held at Gleneagles which, I am informed, is some 40 miles from Edinburgh.

Referees' Course

A training course for referees will be held at Wrest Park November 2 - 4 1973; the course will be given by Mrs D.M.C.Prichard. If time permits, those wishing to do so may take the Referee's Examination at the end of the course. Further details will appear in the October gazette. Those interested should write for further details to J.A.Wheeler, 4 Newbury Close, Silsoe, Bedfordshire.

KNOW THE GAME : CROQUET



by Dr. G. L. Ormerod

A complete, fully illustrated guide to the game in pocket book form, covering the Lawn, personal equipment, contestants, object of the game, style and stance, strokes and terms, Laws, and the game. 36 pages. 25p.

"This very useful little book . . . a remarkable bargain at the price . . . The book can be confidently recommended not only to beginners but to middle bisquers who haven't bothered latterly to refresh their minds on some of the basic book-work of the game."

The Croquet Gazette

Available from all good bookshops and sports dealers



THE EP GROUP OF COMPANIES

Educational Productions Ltd., East Ardsley, Wakefield, Yorks.