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| August 20, 21, 22 | 4th TEST MATCH at Roehampton |
| September 18, 19, 20 | 5th TEST MATCH at Budleigh Salterton |
| October 6 | SOUTH OF ENGLAND v. NEW ZEALAND at Devonshire Park, Eastbourne |

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In Our August Number—

CROQUET IN RETROSPECT

NOTES BY ROVER

NOTES FROM THE CLUBS

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

BRIDGE

TOURNAMENT FIXTURES

1956

- July 9 **Open Championships (Roehampton).** *Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.*
- " 9 **Exmouth.** *Hon. Sec., Miss A. E. Mills, Greyfriars, Budleigh Salterton.*
- " 16 **Budleigh Salterton.** *Hon. Sec., L. G. Walters, 1 Braywick, Budleigh Salterton.*
- " 19-21 **Third Test Match v. New Zealand at Hurlingham.**
- " 23 **Cheltenham.** *Hon. Sec., Lt.-Col. S. Mathews, Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham.*
- " 30 **Ladies' Field Cup, Silver Jubilee Cup, Ascot and Delves Broughton Cups (Roehampton).** *Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.*
- Aug. 6 **Hurlingham.** *Games Sec., Hurlingham Club, London, S.W.6.*
- " 11 **Championship of Ireland.** *Hon. Sec., Mrs. B. T. O'Reilly, Ballynamote, Carrickmines, Co. Dublin.*
- " 15-17 **All England Handicap. Area Finals (Roehampton).** *Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.*
- " 16-18 **Challenge and Gilbey Cups (Roehampton).** *Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.*
- " 23-25 **Fourth Test Match v. New Zealand at Roehampton.**
- " 27 **Southwick.** *Hon. Sec., F. E. Corke, 60 Southwick Street, Southwick, Sussex.*
- Sept. 3 **Hunstanton.** *Hon. Sec., Mrs. B. C. Perowne, 65 Victoria Avenue, Hunstanton.*
- " 3 **Parkstone.** *Hon. Sec., Mrs. L. H. Ashton, The Orchard, Parkstone, Dorset.*
- " 10 **President's and Surrey Cups (Roehampton).** *Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.*
- " 18-20 **Fifth Test Match v. New Zealand at Budleigh Salterton.**
- " 24 **Roehampton.** *Games Sec., Roehampton Club, Roehampton Lane, London, S.W.15.*
- Oct. 1 **Devonshire Park (Eastbourne).** *Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.*
- " 6 **A Match. South of England v. New Zealand at Devonshire Park, Eastbourne.**

NON-OFFICIAL FIXTURES

- Sept. 3 **Southwick.** *Hon. Sec., F. E. Corke, 60 Southwick Street, Southwick, Sussex.*
- " 17 **Cheltenham.** *Hon. Sec., Lt.-Col. S. Mathews, Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham.*

EDITORIAL PANEL OF "CROQUET"

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

Two

CROQUET ASSOCIATION NOTICES

Annual Subscription £1 10s. 0d.

* * *

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* * *

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* * *

ELECTION OF ASSOCIATES

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L. D. Overell
H. C. S. Perry
Mrs. A. Pumfrey
Lt.-Col. F. E. Stobart
Mrs. Wainwright
Mrs. V. Wilson
P. J. Willis

* * *

LADIES' FIELD CUP

The following have been invited by the Council to compete:

Mrs. Ashton
*Mrs. Elvey
Mrs. Kirk
Miss Lintern
Mrs. McKenzie-Smart
*Mrs. Oddie
Mrs. Reeve
Mrs. Rotherham
*Miss Steel
Miss Wainwright
Mrs. Watkins

Those marked with a * were unable to accept.

* * *

CORRECTION TO HANDBOOK

E. P. C. Cotter, 402 Upper Richmond Road.
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* * *

Associates who wish to become Referees may make their own arrangements with the necessary two Examining Referees to take the examination prescribed by the Laws Committee, or, in case of difficulty, they may send in their names, to the Secretary, C.A. The names of the Examining Referees will be found in the Handbook of Laws.

* * *

ENTRY FORMS FOR TOURNAMENTS

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

LORN C. APPS,
Secretary.

NOTES by ROVER

A 'Croquadero' Dinner

The publication dates of this journal often operate to frustrate Rover's desire to keep abreast of the news. More than a month will have passed by the time these lines are read, and the Dinner given by the Council to the New Zealand team will be what is often tersely (though very inappropriately in this instance) described as "cold meat". Yet it would be a pity to pass so happy an occasion by without a reference, more especially since Mr. Kirk took this opportunity on behalf of his Council, to make a presentation of an interesting and unusual trophy to our Association. This is a product of New Zealand craftsmanship, made by ex-servicemen of that dominion, a tray or plaque made of a material found only there, of a striking blue suggesting lapis lazuli. It is the wish of its donors that this should be offered for competition in such a way that it might in due course be seen by associates in various parts of the country, and doubtless our Council will contrive to arrange this. Another happy feature of the evening was the speech by Mr. Ross in which he made generous reference to the inspiration given to Croquet in New Zealand by some of our visitors to the dominion, not least to Miss Steel, who was present to hear this testimony paid, and to find it applauded as much by the admirers of this great player in this country as by those who recalled her prowess overseas.

Should the player tell?

A speaker at the Dinner suggested that the visit of representatives of the N.Z.C.C. would have been extremely welcome even had no Test Matches been played. For their presence here provides a long desired opportunity for a "get together" on questions arising from the Laws, a matter on which it is so important that an agreed uniformity should, if possible, be maintained; our only regret is that representatives from Australia and South Africa cannot be with us on this occasion. We understand that one matter for discussion will be a proposal to modify the obligation upon a player to assure himself (and if necessary his adversary) that the croqueted ball has been shaken. It will be suggested that the striker (and presumably his opponent also) may call in a referee to decide this point in any given instance. There have always been some here who have regarded the refusal of this right in our present Laws as an anomaly; why, they ask, is this the only question of fact which a referee may not be invited to determine? It would be inappropriate to take sides on this issue here, but it may perhaps be legitimate to suggest that a conservative attitude on the matter is not necessarily due to an unreasoning obstinacy. It is possible to contend that to observe that the croqueted ball shakes is an essential element in the skill required for the stroke. It might be added too that any anomaly here is more apparent than real, since in most other cases where a referee is called in the striker is not in the best position to see exactly what happens, but in this instance surely he is.

A Singular Double?

Those associates who may be familiar with "The Official Handbook of the Laws" (an all too small proportion we suspect) may recall the "Decision" recorded therein that the departure of a player's partner—obliged in this case "to leave to catch a train"—does not automatically hand the game over to the opponents. A player in this year's County Championships found himself thus involuntarily deserted, the cause in this instance being an unexpected call upon his partner's professional abilities. As the enforced absentee had got no further than 2-back and the player was only for the second hoop, the opponents being well ahead, it might hardly have seemed worth while to continue the contest, but it was continued and a very interesting game, with a fairly close finish, resulted. The tactics in such a situation are peculiar, since while the intact partnership can of course play "either ball", the solitary survivor on the other side cannot. Had the game been a Handicap Doubles it could not, even theoretically, have been won, owing to the prohibition in Law 45. In this case the "dead" ball was in fact peeled through three hoops, and the game might well have gone to the survivor had it occurred to him (as it did not) to take a not difficult opportunity of pegging out one of his adversaries' balls, thus leaving the remaining player in a still more solitary plight than his own.

One up

First blood to England! Yet by the time these words appear that "blood" may well have been avenged at Nottingham, and if so the interest of this unique series, the first in which six players have appeared on each side, will have been still further heightened. When the New Zealand players had carried all—or almost all—before them at Hurlingham few of us, perhaps, would have given much for the chances of our team, which was without the great strength our new Men's Champion would have added to it. The skill of our lady visitors, in particular, was so impressive that it almost seemed enough in itself to guarantee a victory for their side, and at lunch time on the second day, when New Zealand had won the first game in each singles match our prospects looked far from bright. All credit then to our captain and to Major Stone for pulling the situation round, so that we went into the delightful party given that evening by Major and Lady Ursula Abbey with sober hopes—a sobriety not impaired even by the generous libations provided. Mr. Solomon and Mr. Kirk Greene duly delivered the goods next day. Congratulations to them—and more retrospectively to Mrs. Kirk for adding a second New Zealand name to our roll of Lady Champions. Perhaps it was lucky for England that she was on the sidelines in this match, but we understand that she will soon be joining in the fray, and doubtless adding a victory to those won on this occasion by Mrs. Watkins and Miss Wainwright.

Three

CROQUET IN RETROSPECT

3. CROQUET IN THE EDWARDIAN ERA

by G. F. H. Elvey

IN my last article I referred to a few players, whom I knew in my very young days, who were associated with the beginnings of scientific croquet in the Victorian era, I now come to some of the players who were prominent in the Edwardian age. It should be appreciated that it is impossible to comment on every first-class player of those days, and therefore there is not the slightest aspersion on players whom space does not permit me to mention.

After W. W. Bruce, came a man of different type altogether—Geoffrey Woolston. Woolston was a lightning player, a magnificent shot, and an adept at knocking up a break. He played with feet close together and a long-handled heavy mallet at his side. On one occasion, at Brighton, he finished a game in a quarter-of-an-hour. He usually played in white shoes, and when he had made a roquet, he twiddled the mallet-ball into position, and hardly had his foot left the ball than the mallet struck it. In complete contrast to Geoffrey Woolston was R. C. J. Beaton, of whom we used to say he never was beaten except in name. He played left-handed, with a very light mallet, one hand gripping extremely tightly at the top of the shaft, the other far down, his right foot firmly on the ground, his left a good way behind, only the toe on the lawn. It should be remembered that in the sequence game, a player having obtained the innings, could lay himself an easy break, and if his opponent cornered, as he often did, everything depended on getting away with a three-ball break, and bringing in the fourth ball, at the appropriate moment. Beaton was a master of the three-ball break. Once started, you might take it for granted that his all-rounder was assured. The one thing he did not seem to know how to do, was to break down! At the height of his career, he probably won more first-class opens than anyone else. It must be admitted that he was slow, but the Manager did not need to worry, because his extreme care over every shot, even the smallest, tended to quick results.

Mention of Mr. Beaton leads inevitably to Mrs. Beaton, whom happily we still have with us. In those days she was Miss L. Gower. A glance at our Year Book shows that she covered herself with glory, and had every possible honour to her credit. The Open Championship, The Gold Medal (open to ladies in those days) and the Beddow Cup, most coveted prize of all, which we now call the President's Cup. It must be remembered in order to appraise Miss Gower's position, that it was a time when there was an appreciable gap between the best men and the best women. The old Tournament Programmes, much on the lines of Lawn Tennis, had "Gentlemen's Opens" and "Ladies' Opens". Thus Miss Gower's position was

unique, because on the one hand we had the first-class men and Miss Gower, and on the other the women.

I must not leave the earlier days without a mention of a player whom we all regarded with affection and admiration, Mr. C. E. Willis. Willis had a style all his own. He had a short yellow mallet, which he held somewhat in the cricket-golf style. But he held it rather at the side, and almost faced the object ball. He was a marvellous shot, but his stab stroke, effective enough for the 4 inch hoops, was not so good when the 3½ inch hoops came in.

But I seem a long time coming to the man, who to me was of all players, the greatest. Perhaps this impression owed its origin to an important landmark in croquet history—i.e., the Championship of 1906. For two important changes had been made in the game. (1) The start was from a spot in the centre of the South Boundary Yard Line, and (2) A lift had been granted in all cases when a ball was wired, and less than a yard from a hoop or stick. In such a case the ball could be lifted to a spot giving an open shot, but not more than a yard from its original position.

I can see now in my mind's eye Cyril Corbally playing R. C. J. Beaton on Court 5 (at Roehampton). It will be remembered that I have just remarked how seldom Beaton was "Beaten" except in name. Corbally captured the innings at the beginning of the first game, made an all-round break and left Beaton wired by four-back. I can still see Corbally with his white shoes exactly measuring the distance so as to leave Beaton just over the yard from the hoop. The end of the second break was the same, and then Corbally went out. The next game was a repetition of the first, and Corbally had won by 28 and 28. (With the two pegs it was a 28 point game in those days.) As a matter of fact in that Championship Corbally won his first two games by 26 and 27, and all the rest by 28. In the Final he lost one game, the middle game to O'Callaghan by 28, but won the other two by 28 each. These 28 wins were, of course, a weak point of the croquet of those days, and set people thinking hard as to what could be done to make a better fight between first-class players. But nevertheless in an Open Championship for a player to continue gaining the innings and winning game after game by 28 was a great achievement. Corbally won the Open Championship five times, and I believe he only once entered for it without winning it, and on that occasion was defeated by C. L. O'Callaghan in the Final.

Corbally was certainly the greatest exponent of centre play. He was tall and thin, and was possessed of long sensitive fingers which curled

round the mallet shaft to give a firm grip. In those days both Corbally and O'Callaghan had the habit, when once they had achieved a good grip on their mallets, of not letting go until the end of the break. Corbally had a natural genius for the game. He had a good, calm croquet temperament, was a splendid tactician, and a magnificent stroke player and excellent shot, and he was a master not only of the standard strokes but of the odd awkward strokes, that come in only occasionally, but to bring off which is so extremely useful when they do.

In this year 1956, when we have a New Zealand Team among us, it is only right that I should now mention the greatest New Zealand player of the past—Keith Izard. Izard appeared upon the scene about 1907. He was a slight fellow of light build, but with rather prominent eyes that could blaze at times. Being youthful his croquet temperament had not matured, and he took adversity somewhat hardly. In his earlier croquet days he had no tactics whatever, but was such a magnificent shot that he could dispense with them. His style was the side-front style, superficially like that of Miss Steel. He held his mallet very tightly and hit terrifically hard. I once advised a spectator to move because I saw that if Izard missed a shot, his ball would come up a sloping bank and fly into the air where the spectator's head was. Happily my advice was taken, for Izard's ball did come up the bank and strike the fence in front of which the spectator had been sitting, with a resounding crash. On one occasion there was a difference of opinion between Izard and the management. It took place at Bedford. The Manager desired Izard to play a handicap game against a long bisquer, but Izard wanted to have his lunch. He was obliged to obey the Manager, but took his sandwich lunch with him. He allowed the long bisquer to go ahead, while he was having his lunch, and when he had quite finished, he quickly hit in and won the game.

In the Open Championship of 1908, he defeated both the Beatons but fell to Corbally in the Final. This Championship like that of 1906 was also a landmark in Croquet history, as this was the first occasion on which the narrow hoops were used. As the players were unused to them, they had a marked effect, indeed as marked an effect as the change over to the still narrower hoops has in our day. Izard with customary disregard to all the conventions of the old game, as soon as he had obtained a break, went straight round to the Peg—I ought perhaps to say the Winning Peg, as the old Turning Peg still existed. It should be noted that in the sequence game it was a much more terrible thing to be pegged out than now. In the Final, Izard did not quite do himself justice, which was a pity in view of his startling and brilliant play through the event, and Corbally won fairly easily.

Writing of Izard brings me to think of another player, whom Izard declared to be the finest player the world had ever known, Maurice Barry. Barry played with a short round-handled heavy lignum mallet with the shaft set to lean fractionally back. His style was not unlike that of the Beamish brothers of our day. He won the President's Cup in 1907. Like Izard he was an unconventional player. On the top of his form he seemed a magical performer. Anything up to six or seven yards seemed to be no more than a short roquet, and any position on the playing side of a hoop giving a view through the uprights and a yard or so away was quite good enough, and he was a splendid shot. On one occasion playing against Beaton on Court 4 at Roehampton a ball had been pegged out—whether Barry's or Beaton's I cannot remember, but what I do remember is that Barry had the innings, rushed a ball up to the first hoop, made it, and continued the two-ball break right round to the Winning Peg. But in spite of this brilliant feat Beaton won the match. As in life, so in Croquet, slow and sure is apt to defeat brilliance in the long run. And there for the moment we must end.

HANDICAPS CONFIRMED OR ALTERED BY THE HANDICAP CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE June 21st, 1956

BRIGHTON

N. F. Blackwood *7 new handicap.
N. F. Blackwood *7 to 7.
G. E. W. Hitchcock 3 to 2½.
L. Kirk-Greene —2½ to —3.
A. E. Roper 2½ to 2.
Lt.-Col. F. E. Stobart *7 new handicap.
Lt.-Col. F. E. Stobart *7 to 7.
Mrs. C. Watkins —2 to —2½.

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Miss J. E. Warwick 3 to 2½.

RYDE

Miss E. E. Bennett 14 (D 12) to 13 (D 12).
Mrs. R. H. Burrell 10 to 9.
G. Birch 4 to 3.
Mrs. J. G. Stevenson 12 to 11.

NON-ASSOCIATES

Miss M. M. Taylor 14 (D 12) new handicap.
Miss M. M. Taylor 14 (D 12) to 13 (D 12)
Miss K. A. Wade 14 (D 12) new handicap.

BUXTON

B. Lloyd-Pratt 10 (D 8) new handicap.
B. Lloyd-Pratt 10 (D 8) to 8 (D 7).
Mrs. Oxley 12 to 10.

NON-ASSOCIATE

Miss M. G. Allen 9 to 8.

Club Recommendations

HURLINGHAM

Mrs. A. D. Karmel 14 (D 12) new handicap.

WOKING

Lord Charles Hope 12 to 10.

Personal Applications

A. L. Megson 1½ to 2½.
Comdr. D. W. Roe 2 to 3.

THE FIRST TEST MATCH

THE lawns at Southwick were looking in splendid order and the whole setting in this lovely corner of Sussex—marred only by the incessant trains that pass close by—could not have been more perfect for the first Test Match which began at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, June 13th. A keen wind from the sea was blowing for the first two days and there were intermittent showers of rain but the last day was an ideal day for Croquet. Spectators to the number of a round 100 came to see the Aces of New Zealand and England and there was an air of excitement as they settled down to watch the battles between the giants. What was the greatest attraction? The perfect rhythmic style of A. Ross and his deadly accurate rushes and stop-shots? The "automation" of E. P. C. Cotter? The "jumps" and "hammer shots" of Mrs. McKenzie-Smart? The gentle accuracy and brilliance of J. Solomon or the "cannon balls" of Major F. Stone? At any rate, at the end of the three days everyone had seen Croquet at its best, though this is not to say that there was not bad patches of "hoopitis" on both sides. Players were sometimes "on" at other times "off" their game, but is not the charm of Croquet its unpredictable variety of situation not to say of execution? We were introduced by G. D. Rowling to the "hammer" method of making a hoop when the ball is just off the wire—this stroke proving somewhat disconcerting to the Official Referee! There was only one triple-peel, beautifully executed by J. Solomon, but, taking it all in all, we saw a splendid exhibition of the game and learnt many lessons from watching the different players.

As is, of course known, England won the first Test by 6 matches to 3—a good start to the series. The Doubles were played on the first day and England got away to a flying start by winning the first three games +23, +17, +1. Both sides were obviously a little nervous of each other and in some of the games there was a good deal of fencing and cornering.

In the second round of the match against Miss Wainwright and A. Ross, J. Solomon achieved an excellent triple-peel and won the game for England (+23). Major Stone and L. Kirk-Greene were "off" for their second game with Mr. and Mrs. C. Watkins and New Zealand won by +12, while M. B. Reckitt and Dr. Wiggins had a close game against G. D. Rowling and Mrs. McKenzie-Smart (all balls at one time being on 4-back) and only lost by 6. In the third round, Stone and Kirk-Greene, back on their mark again, beat their opponents by +10, Kirk-Greene playing particularly well, while Rowling and Mrs. McKenzie-Smart had much the better of their game overcoming Reckitt and Dr. Wiggins by +21. There is no space to describe these games in detail but one or two points are worthy of mention. Miss Wainwright's eye was unfortunately "out" and she failed to hit her long shots. J. Solomon's "triple" was engineered from an unpromising position. His partner ball was half way through 4-back; with a hard shot from 2 or 3 yards away at right angles to the hoop he hit it

through and then manoeuvred the balls into position for the other two peels and finished the game in a brilliant turn. This game only lasted 1 hour. At one point in his game Stone took a hard shot at a ball along the boundary about 6 yards away and his ball jumped clean over it!—a piece of real hard luck—Watkins then missed a 6 yard peg-out and England won by the narrow margin of 1 point. Most of these games were over in very creditable time. Generally speaking, players in Doubles are never quite on the same form as they are when they play Singles and there was a certain amount of pedestrian play at times, coupled with spasms of real brilliance.

The Singles began on Thursday, the pairs being (A) E. P. C. Cotter v. A. Ross, (B) Major Stone v. G. D. Rowling, and (C) Mrs. C. Watkins v. M. B. Reckitt. In the first game of ("A") Cotter was approaching short and missing hoops and Ross won by 16 points. In the second, Cotter took Blue to 4-back, making a good break from a nasty start: Ross hit the "lift" shot, made a beautiful cannon from the 4th corner and made a break to 4-back, leaving Blue close behind the 5th hoop and Black near the 2nd hoop—an interesting "Ross" position. Cotter refused the lift, shot at Black with Blue and missed. Later in his second break he went to the peg with Black, having double-peeled Blue on the way. Eventually he pegged out Black. By clever strategy Ross got Red on but failed at 2-back and Cotter won by 6. Ross was playing very well indeed—his rushes, cut-rushes and stop-shots being noteworthy—but Cotter had now got the measure of the lawn and was playing in his inimitable way. In the 3rd game Cotter had the advantage and, without much incident, won by 13 points after a good peg-out from 5 yards.

In the first game of "B" Stone was out-played and Rowling won in just over one and a quarter hours by 23. In the 2nd and 3rd games the position was completely reversed, Stone had the mastery and won by 22 and 26—the latter game being finished in 50 minutes. This pair was well matched because they both go in for a very "open" game, sweeping the balls from boundary to boundary as they bring other balls into play from corners and yard line positions.

In "C" Reckitt was out-played by Mrs. Watkins, who, playing first-class Croquet, won both games by 21 and 20 respectively.

On the last day the competitors were "A" J. Solomon v. C. Watkins, "B" Miss Wainwright v. Dr. Wiggins and "C" Mrs. McKenzie-Smart v. L. Kirk-Greene. The first game of "A" started as a "cat and mouse" game but eventually Solomon gained control and won by 19. In the 2nd game Watkins made an all-round break with Red and the positions not long after the start were Red on Peg, Yellow for 3-back and Blue and Black for the first hoop. Solomon threw away several chances but before long picked up a break with Blue, went to the peg and pegged out Red. By clever play he then got Black round to 4-back but failed to

run the hoop. Watkins missed a great chance to win by "fluffing" 3-back and Solomon eventually won by 4. This game was a complete contrast to that between Rowling and Stone. Watkins plays with great care and slow deliberation and revels in a "close" game, while Solomon's gentle "caressing" of the balls and easy hoop-running are a delight to see.

In the 1st game of "B" Miss Wainwright was the master. At the end of her break with Red (on Peg), Yellow being for 4-back, she left Black just on the non-playing side of the penultimate hoop and Blue close in front of the rover, only just open to Black. She took Red and Yellow to the 2nd corner and laid a perfect rush on Yellow for 4-back. Wiggins ignored the lift and shot hard at Blue with Black, missed, and Black landed in and stuck in the Rover!—a perfect position for Yellow to finish the game. However, Miss Wainwright did not get a good rush to 4-back but eventually won by 12. In the 2nd game Wiggins had the mastery and won by 25. His long rushes were notable in this game. In the 3rd game there was a ding-dong struggle but in the latter half Miss Wainwright gave a lovely display of perfect croquet and won by 15.

Kirk-Greene won both games in "C" by 15 and 7. He was well ahead in the 2nd game but Mrs. McKenzie-Smart made a very gallant effort and

caught up to Rover and 3-back. Kirk-Greene was on the top of his form.

All the players were impressed by the state of the lawns at Southwick; they were, in fact, in first-class order thanks to the good groundsman. The catering was excellent, and, though unlucky this time, we hope that the New Zealanders enjoyed their first Test Match as much as the spectators who were treated to such a diverse and brilliant display of Croquet from every angle of the game.

Scores

SINGLES

E. C. Cotter bt A. Ross —16 +6 +13.
Major F. Stone bt G. D. Rowlings —23 +22 +26.
Mrs. C. Watkins bt M. B. Reckitt +21 +20.
J. Solomon bt C. Watkins +19 +4.
Miss Wainwright bt Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins +12 —25 +15.
L. Kirk-Greene bt Mrs. McKenzie-Smart +15 +7.

DOUBLES

E. C. Cotter and J. Solomon bt Miss Wainwright and A. Ross +23 +23.
Major F. Stone and L. Kirk-Greene bt Mr. and Mrs. C. Watkins +1 —12 +10.
Mrs. McKenzie-Smart and G. D. Rowlings bt M. B. Reckitt and Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins —17 +6 +21.

THE TEST MATCHES

Teams and Scores

DOUBLES

E. P. C. Cotter and J. W. Solomon bt A. F. G. Ross and Mrs. McKenzie-Smart +14 +26.
H. O. Hicks and Mrs. Rotherham bt Mrs. Watkins and Mrs. Kirk +5 +24.
W. R. D. Wiggins and G. F. Stone lost to G. Rowling and Miss Wainwright —10 +24 —12.

SINGLES

H. O. Hicks lost to A. F. G. Ross +17 —15 —26.
E. P. C. Cotter bt Mrs. McKenzie-Smart +22 +6.
J. Solomon bt Mrs. Watkins —10 +26 +22.
G. F. Stone bt Mrs. Kirk +25 +24.
W. R. D. Wiggins bt G. Rowling —12 +26 +3.
Mrs. Rotherham v. Miss Wainwright +15 —2 last game abandoned.

RESULT.—England won 6-2, one match unfinished

An account of this Test match will appear in our August issue.

THE New Zealand team will be chosen from the following:

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| A. G. F. Ross, <i>Captain</i> | Miss I. Wainwright |
| Mrs. W. H. Kirk | Mrs. C. Watkins |
| Mrs. McKenzie-Smart | C. Watkins |
| G. Rowling | W. H. Kirk, <i>Manager</i> |

In the third match which is to be played on the lawns of the Hurlingham Club, the following will represent England.

| | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| E. P. C. Cotter | J. W. Solomon |
| H. O. Hicks | G. F. Stone |
| L. Kirk-Greene | W. R. D. Wiggins |

E. P. C. Cotter will Captain the English team.

In the second test match at Nottingham M. B. Reckitt withdrew at his own request and H. O. Hicks played in the team.

The score was as follows:—

Notes from the Clubs

Hurlingham

It is gratifying to record that no fewer than five of the seven Counties taking part in the County Championship in May enlisted Hurlingham members in their teams, and at one time or another during the tournament we saw twelve of our members on the lawns. Readers are at liberty to draw their own conclusions from the fact that the winners, Hants and Dorset, had no need of Hurlingham representation.

It is many years since our lawns were so fully bespoken at week-ends, the cause being the unusually heavy entries for the various internal competitions. For the All England Handicap there were 25 entries, by far the highest in post-war years. At the time of writing, with the first and second rounds nearly completed, Messrs. Cotter and Longman who represented Hurlingham in the final stages at Roehampton last year, are still in the hunt.

Parsons Green

The Parsons Green Club was founded in 1885 with a Club House near Parsons Green and a cricket field by Bell's Alley at the North end of what was the Hurlingham No. 2 Polo Ground. In 1912, as the result of a deal with Hurlingham the Club moved to the present ground which included at that time a cricket pitch, tennis courts and a bowling green. Not to be outdone by their husbands and the younger members of the Club, a corner of the "outfield" was bedecked with "hoops" and so the ladies introduced Croquet into the Club activities. The President, Mrs. G. Browne, and Mrs. M. Backhouse, who is still an active player, were two of the original members of the section. The loss of the cricket field for an L.C.C. school has reduced the size of the Club grounds, but has made it possible to realign the lawns so that there are now two fair-sized Croquet courts.

It was an outstanding event in the history of Parsons Green Club when the New Zealand Tourists accepted an invitation to visit the Club. Unfortunately it was raining but the guests very gallantly offered to give a demonstration of Croquet. The game between Mr. A. Ross and Mr. W. Kirk against Mr. and Mrs. C. Watkins, was to the Croquet Section, also to other members of the Club, who were watching, a truly inspiring display. The members of the Club were very pleased to welcome Mrs. Apps and Mrs. Solomon on the occasion of this visit of some of the New Zealand team.

Clifton

At the opening of the season at Easter the Club again welcomed G. N. Bright and G. Birch from Nottingham, and it looks forward to a visit by one or two members of the New Zealand Croquet Team later in the year. The Club has slightly increased its membership this year. The Club Competitions are now drawn up and competitors

are being urged to play off their games earlier than last year when two events were left unfinished. As one way of marking the Diamond Jubilee of the Club next year it is hoped to change its name to the Bristol Croquet Club.

Reigate

The secretary of the Reigate Club writes as follows:

"I am happy to report that our season opened on the 5th May, 1956, in perfect weather and with a good attendance. A Competition was arranged of 'one ball' croquet, using secondary colours, followed by other minor events the winners being:

- | | |
|-----|---------------------|
| 1st | Mr. Buckley |
| 2nd | Mrs. Maw |
| 3rd | Master Timothy Russ |

The prizes were kindly provided by Mrs. Buckley. It must be remembered that this small Club has only one lawn and consequently these occasions must of necessity be somewhat light-hearted in character in order that all members present may have a chance to take part. Playing members for 1956 total 19 of whom five are still at School. Unfortunately one of our best players has had to resign this year. For the first time since the war a knock-out competition has been arranged for 1956."

Buxton

We have had this rather sad note from Buxton, but we shall look for another tournament next year which, we hope, will have all the support it deserves.

"I write this at the conclusion of the Buxton Tournament, and as I do so, my feelings are mixed—while I am relieved to know it is over and has been enjoyed by those few who were taking part in it. I feel distinctly sad to think it may well be Buxton's last Tournament. Southerners seem to think Buxton is too far to visit, and this year, even members of the Buxton Croquet Club have not supported their Tournament as they should have done. Sad as it is to have to admit it, the Buxton Tournament seems to have become superfluous.

Roehampton

Our Roehampton correspondent writes:

"Congratulations to our Captain, Miss D. A. Lintern, on being elected Vice-Chairman of the Council of the Croquet Association. This is the first time a lady Associate has held this office and all croquet members of Roehampton are delighted that the Council have conferred this honour upon her, after eleven years of service for them, and much work in promotion of the game in general.

"The chief event in June was the Reception-lunch given by the directors of Roehampton Club to the visiting New Zealand Team, which took place on Saturday, 2nd June. The Chair was taken by Mr. W. G. Cullen, Deputy-Chairman of the Board of Directors of Roehampton Club.

After lunch Mr. Cullen welcomed the visitors from 'down-under' and said he hoped they would have a very good time and enjoy themselves and assured them that they were particularly welcome at Roehampton Club.

"Mrs. Turketine, Chairman of the Croquet Committee, said they were anxious to mark the visit of the New Zealand players by presenting them with a small souvenir. Each of the 8 members of the team, and Mr. W. H. Kirk, President of the Croquet Council in New Zealand, were then handed an initialled and dated silver pencil by Mrs. C. C. Adams.

"Mr. Kirk replied that the Team were delighted with their welcome, particularly at Roehampton, as even before they left New Zealand they learned that the Directors of Roehampton Club had generously made them honorary members for their stay, and they appreciated very much the honour thus conferred upon them. The croquet members have done everything in their power to make them feel at home. He thanked them for the gifts. The New Zealand Team needed nothing tangible

Timed Games

A Hurlingham Experiment

AN interesting experiment is to be made at the August tournament of the Hurlingham Club. Special permission of the Council of the C.A. has been given for all games throughout this competition to be time-limited to three hours. It is felt by a growing number of croquet players that games are too long and that croquet will never have a popular appeal until some change is made. It remains to be seen whether the time-limited game is the solution. We are ourselves by no means convinced, for though in theory no game played well should last three hours, yet in fact to bring a game to a close at a given minute may do scant justice to the out-player. Particularly is this the case in handicap games where it is very difficult for a minus player to give a number of bisques to an opponent in anything but a game which must be long.

There are advantages. Players, we are told, will be given a time at which to begin their games. They will be sure of a game starting punctually. They will know to a minute when they will be free at the end of the day. The manager, too, should find this timing an advantage for he should know exactly how many games will be played each day. But the best of plans sometimes go awry and the experiment may prove the advantages to be illusory. Nevertheless we are glad the Hurlingham committee has had the courage to make the experiment and we shall study the result with much interest.

* * *

to remind them of the friendship shown to them, but they would take the pencils back to New Zealand and value them very much. Personally, and on behalf of the Team and the New Zealand Croquet Council, he thanked them for the generous welcome they had received at Roehampton.

"Matches between the New Zealand Team and a team from Roehampton were played during the day, resulting in a victory for New Zealand.

"The teams were:

New Zealand

A. G. F. Ross (Capt.), C. Watkins, G. Rowling, Mrs. W. H. Kirk, Mrs. C. Watkins, Miss I. Wainwright, Mrs. T. McKenzie-Smart and Mrs. G. Rowling.

Roehampton

Miss D. A. Lintern (Capt.), W. Longman, Col. C. C. Adams, Major R. Tingey, Mrs. W. Longman, M. Spencer-Ell, J. B. Gilbert and Brigadier A. E. Stokes-Roberts."

Natal Championships

These followed the South African championships and were held at Pietermaritzburg from 30th April to 5th May.

In an extremely close game Mrs. Simkins, who had just won the South African championship, was defeated by Mrs. Low by six points in the first round.

Mr. G. D. Neaves defeated Mrs. Woodhead -7 +10 +15 and became the Natal singles champion.

Maritzburg "A" Team won the Kirby Trophy. This is a competition for teams of four players.

At the general meeting held on 4th May, Mr. Neaves was re-elected Chairman and Mrs. Simkins Secretary. Great regret was expressed that Mr. Ward Petley had been unable to attend the championships and defend his title.

* * *

No Seeding

We understand that the Council has been considering the question of seeding a few of the leading players in certain of the major events. There is of course much to be said for this in view of the visit of the New Zealand players. Many felt that it would be unfortunate if two leading players from New Zealand were to meet in the first round of an event. After due consideration it was ultimately decided that this risk must be taken, since seeding brought with it other problems which were difficult to overcome. This decision has the full approval of the New Zealand captain.

THE COUNCIL DINNER

ON May 30th last, the Council of the Croquet Association gave a dinner at the Trocadero to welcome the New Zealand Test players. The Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury (Chairman) presided. Between forty and fifty members and guests sat down to dinner which was served in the Balmoral Rooms. A feature was the "Totem glacé Zelandia"—an ice "bombe" surmounted by a grinning "totem" effigy made of confiserie—served as a compliment to the New Zealand visitors. After Her Majesty the Queen's health (proposed by the Chairman) had been drunk, the first toast was "Our Guests" fluently and entertainingly proposed by Mr. M. B. Reckitt. Those who have read his book "Croquet to-day" will have a good idea of Mr. Reckitt's style of speech, for he speaks just as he writes. After recalling great names of the past, notably Keith Izard, the famous New Zealand player, he said that Croquet in England was struggling to regain the place it had held in former days. Did people realise that players kept on with their games during the war at Roehampton with anti-aircraft guns roaring away all round them? He welcomed the New Zealand Team and hoped their visit would give a real "fillip" to Croquet over here. Mr. W. H. Kirk (President of the New Zealand Croquet Council) responded. In a well-constructed speech he emphasised with great sincerity the debt New Zealand owed to England, remarked on the warm welcome the Team had received and were receiving everywhere they went, and announced that in commemoration of the New Zealand visit this year their Croquet Council wished

to present a memento to their English counterpart. This was a plaque made of honeysuckle wood inlaid with paua shell.

After our Chairman had conveyed the thanks of the Council, the plaque was handed round for all to see and was much admired. Mr. A. G. F. Ross (Captain of the New Zealand Test Team) followed to propose "The Council". In a very lucid speech delivered in his characteristically leisurely fashion, he recalled the visit of the English Team to New Zealand in 1950, and paid a warm tribute to Miss D. D. Steel, and to those famous players of past days—Sir F. Colchester Wemyss and Col. du Pré. These tours, he said, had been organised by the Council and he pointed out that the New Zealand Council was modelled on ours and that they had the same laws and played the game there exactly as it was played over here. He emphasised that the Council was essential in both countries since it ensured the maintenance of "laws and order". Finally, the Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury (Chairman) responded for the Council. In a witty speech he said that the members of the Council welcomed criticisms, but that generally speaking he only received complaints, and when everything was going well there was complete silence. This did not mean that those who were silent were not useful members of the Council, and he recalled the story of Balaam's Ass to the general delight of his audience. Altogether a very enjoyable evening with all the speeches at a very high level—a rare treat at public dinners.

E.A.R.

BRIDGE

by E. P. C. Cotter, *British International*

Protection

WHEN the dealer opens the bidding with one of a suit and second and third hand both pass, fourth hand has to consider whether he will reopen the bidding or not and if he decides to reopen he has to consider what will be the best method of reopening. This policy of protection is all too often carried too far and suicidal reopenings are seen even at the international level. Here is a hand from an international match.

With the score Game All and the dealer North the hands were:—

| | | |
|-------------------|-----|-------------------|
| S—A, 9. | N | S—K, 7, 6. |
| H—K, Q, J, 7, 3. | W E | H—A, 10, 4. |
| D—A, Q, 10, 9, 4. | S | D—8, 2. |
| C—A. | | C—10, 7, 6, 5, 3. |
| S—Q, J, 8, 4. | | S—10, 5, 3, 2. |
| H—9, 6, 2. | | H—8, 5. |
| D—K, 7, 6, 3. | | D—J, 5. |
| C—K, Q. | | C—J, 9, 8, 4, 2. |

In Room I where England was NS the bidding between N and S was 2H-2NT-3D-3H-4H, and North duly made 10 tricks for a plus score of 620. In Room II the Scottish North bid only one heart. I think his high cards and his excellent distribution make a bid of one too great a risk. The English North was right to open 2 hearts. When the bid of one heart was passed round to West who decided to reopen by doubling informatively. Had I been West I would have passed like lightning. It is most unlikely that my meagre ten points and the barren distribution could be sufficient for game opposite a passing partner, even if he is trapping. However, West doubled. North gladly had another go with 2 diamonds and East now leapt into the arena with a bid of 3 clubs. This unhappy contract went down to the tune of 400 points, and though we gained 220 on the deal we could have gained more if West had passed. Worse still, had 3 clubs been doubled we should have lost heavily on the deal. This was a clear example of protective folly.

Later on in the same match the following hand appeared with EW game and dealer South.

| | | |
|---------------|-----|------------------|
| S—Q, 8, 4, 3. | N | S—J, 5. |
| H—8, 6, 2. | W E | H—Q, J, 10, 7. |
| D—8, 6. | S | D—K, Q, 7, 5, 2. |
| C—6, 5, 4, 3. | | C—J, 10. |
| S—K, 9, 6, 2. | | S—A, 10, 7. |
| H—K, 9, 5. | | H—A, 4, 3. |
| D—9, 3. | | D—A, J, 10, 4. |
| C—A, 9, 8, 7. | | C—K, Q, 2. |

In Room I the English South bid one diamond which was passed round to East. Again I should have passed without much reluctance as my length is concentrated in the opponent's suit. But East bid one heart. At this stage South rebid one no-trump which was unwise and had I been West I would have doubled this bid. But West bid 2 hearts which was passed all round and just made. The same score roughly would have been made if East had passed because one diamond would probably have failed by two tricks against good defence.

These are two examples of foolish protective bidding. I will deal later with correct reopening bids. *[Copyright]*

CHELTENHAM

MAY 28th—JUNE 2nd

CHALLENGE CUP.

OPEN SINGLES.

DRAW.

Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey.

PROCESS.

W. B. C. Paynter.

PLAY-OFF.

Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey bt W. B. C. Paynter by 18.

STELLA CUP.

LEVEL SINGLES.

FINAL.

G. L. P. Jackson bt Mrs. S. Mathews by 14.

MURRAY-MENZIES CUP.

HANDICAP SINGLES.

(7 or over).

FINAL.

L. C. Adye (13) bt Mrs. M. P. Miller (7) by 23.

CHALLENGE BOWL.

HANDICAP SINGLES.

FINAL.

W. B. C. Paynter (—½) bt Miss Posford (4½) by 18.

PEEL MEMORIAL CUP.

HANDICAP DOUBLES.

FINAL.

G. E. P. Jackson and Miss Leonard (15) bt Lt.-Col. A. M. Daniels and Mrs. S. Mathews (9) by 8.

OBITUARY

The Parkstone Club has suffered a grievous loss in the death of Commander S. D. Wilson. Although he had not been an Associate for very long he was a most promising player and a very popular member of the Club. He will be very much missed.

CORRESPONDENCE

Tournament Regulations

Sir,

Judging by Tournament Programmes advertised in *Croquet*, it has evidently escaped the notice of Tournament Organisers that according to Regulations 2 and 25 Law 44 cannot be suspended in whole or in part, in any open singles event, such as is usually called "A Opens" and is Event 1 in almost all Tournaments, without obtaining the permission of the Council. The imposition of the suspension or partial suspension of Law 44 without the requisite permission is illegal, and might lead to serious consequences. For example should a competitor raise an objection, the Referee of the meeting could do no other than sustain the objection.

Yours truly,

G. F. H. ELVEY

Triple Peel

Dear Sir,

A suggestion for the Triple Peel. In peeling at the Penultimate hoop instead of peeling the ball (when it sometimes only goes through about a foot or less), put the ball to be peeled just inside the hoop, and after making one-back it can be roqueted towards the rover hoop, and may possibly be peeled through the rover hoop before or after making two-back.

Yours faithfully,

A. L. MEGSON

LONGMAN (CLUB TEAM) CUP

HURLINGHAM *versus* WOKING

Played at Hurlingham on Tuesday, 19th June, 1956.

Hurlingham players named first

SINGLES.

D. E. Buckland (2½) bt A. McClure-Williams (2) by 11.

I. W. Cheavin (2½) bt T. Dalton (2) by 18.

T. E. Miles (3½) v. Brig. J. S. Omond (5) unfinished.

DOUBLES.

I. W. Cheavin and Mrs. M. L. Thom (8) bt T. Dalton and Lord Charles Hope (12) by 8.

T. E. Miles and D. E. Buckland (6) lost to A. McClure-Williams and Brig. J. S. Omond (7) by 18.

RESULT.—Hurlingham bt Woking by 3 games to 1 and 1 unfinished.

Eleven

BRIGHTON

MAY 21st—26th

Lovely weather, first-class lawns and an attractive programme of events—these are the ingredients for a pleasant croquet week and we obtained all this and much more—for the catering arrangements were excellent—at the Brighton tournament held at Southwick from May 21st to May 26th, under the able management of Major Dibley.

Of course the presence of the New Zealand team under their Captain, Arthur Ross, was an added attraction and all were eager to see how these representatives of a country where croquet is one of the major games acquitted themselves. We can say without fear of contradiction that in style, venturesome play and careful attention to the smallest detail, all the members of this team excel and it will be extremely interesting to see how our English "aces" fare in the "Tests". The women play elegantly and the men with zest and vigour. Their attractive blazers and general appearance were much admired.

Naturally they swept the board in the events in which they participated—A. Ross winning the Abbey cup for the Opens and C. Watkins being successful in the Handicap. Only five of our English players managed to survive in their games against them and those games in which they played each other were eagerly watched. Rowling beat Ross in 35 minutes; and the same player in one of the Doubles games in his second break from the first hoop triple-peeled his opponent and pegged her out! He had got his English high bisquer partner round to three-back when the other opponent (also a high bisquer) hit the peg. In another game Mrs. McKenzie-Smart made a 10 yard jump over a hoop to hit a ball on the boundary. In the Handicap G. Hitchcock (Brighton) was only beaten by C. Watkins by 1 because he failed to peg out. Mrs. C. Watkins beat Mrs. McKenzie-Smart by 2 in the Process and A. Ross beat the former in the Draw. He met her again in the play-off which he won quite easily. The "Y" was won by E. A. Roper and the "extra" by Mrs. W. Longman.

There was a large entry and several would-be players had to be refused. We were very sorry to hear that owing to the illness of Mr. N. Oddie neither he nor Mrs. Oddie could take part in the Tournament. We hope he will soon be fit to resume his croquet activities. The new way of serving teas calls for special mention. A most pleasant week, thanks to Major Dibley (Manager), Mrs. Miller (catering), the New Zealanders and, last, but not least, the perfect weather.

OPEN SINGLES.

("Two Life" System).

THE ABBEY CHALLENGE CUP.

THE DRAW.

(17 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

Miss I. Wainwright bt Mrs. W. Longman by 18.

SECOND ROUND.

R. Tingey bt G. Rowling by 15.
A. Ross bt L. Kirk-Greene by 17.
Mrs. W. Kirk bt Major J. R. Abbey by 1.
Miss I. Wainwright bt Mrs. McKenzie-Smart by 23.
Mrs. C. Watkins bt Miss D. D. Steel by 23.
G. Williams w.o. Mrs. A. Ross opponent scratched.
C. Watkins bt W. Longman by 21.
W. Kirk bt Major J. W. Cobb by 5.

THIRD ROUND.

A. Ross bt R. Tingey by 9.
Miss I. Wainwright bt Mrs. W. Kirk by 14.
Mrs. C. Watkins w.o. G. Williams opponent scratched.
W. Kirk bt C. Watkins by 3.

SEMI-FINAL.

A. Ross bt Miss I. Wainwright by 3.
Mrs. C. Watkins bt W. Kirk by 15.

FINAL.

A. Ross bt Mrs. C. Watkins by 9.

PROCESS.

(17 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

G. Rowling bt Major J. W. Cobb by 20.

SECOND ROUND.

Mrs. McKenzie-Smart bt C. Watkins by 17.
A. Ross bt Miss D. D. Steel by 7.
Mrs. W. Kirk bt G. Williams by 18.
Miss I. Wainwright bt G. Rowling by 4.
Mrs. W. Longman bt W. Kirk by 12.
L. Kirk-Greene w.o. Mrs. A. Ross opponent scratched.
Major J. R. Abbey bt W. Longman by 3.
Mrs. C. Watkins bt R. Tingey by 8.

THIRD ROUND.

Mrs. McKenzie-Smart bt A. Ross by 2.
Miss I. Wainwright bt Mrs. W. Kirk by 2.
L. Kirk-Greene bt Mrs. W. Longman by 17.
Mrs. C. Watkins bt Major J. R. Abbey by 23.

SEMI-FINAL.

Mrs. McKenzie-Smart bt Miss I. Wainwright by 5.
Mrs. C. Watkins bt L. Kirk-Greene by 17.

FINAL.

Mrs. C. Watkins bt Mrs. McKenzie-Smart by 2.

PLAY-OFF.

A. Ross bt Mrs. C. Watkins by 19.

HANDICAP SINGLES.

(43 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

Miss A. Mills (1½) bt Miss H. D. Parker (4) by 3.
Mrs. C. Watkins (—2) bt Mrs. C. A. Bishop (9) by 16.
G. W. Williams (—½) bt Mrs. N. E. Wallwork (5½) by 3.
Mrs. McKenzie-Smart (—2) bt Mrs. M. Ray (3) by 19.
N. F. Blackwood (7) bt Mrs. H. D. Wooster (6½) by 6.
Mrs. R. Tingey (3½) w.o. Dr. F. Veale (7) opponent scratched.
Mrs. C. M. Turner (8) bt Mrs. E. A. Roper (6) by 2 on time.
A. Ross (—4) bt Miss E. M. Bray (7) by 5.
Mrs. W. Kirk (—2) bt Mrs. W. Longman (—1) by 5.
Lady Ursula Abbey (4) bt Miss G. Forbes Cowan (5) by 3.
G. Rowling (—2) bt A. L. Megson (1½) by 10.

SECOND ROUND.

E. A. Roper (2½) bt W. Kirk (—1½) by 10.
C. Watkins (—2½) bt G. E. W. Hitchcock (3) by 1.
W. Longman (—3) bt Mrs. A. Ross (2½) by 2 on time.
Miss D. L. Latham (9) bt Miss I. Wainwright (—2½) by 3.
Hon. Clive Pearson (10) w.o. Mrs. F. Veale opponent scratched.
Miss A. Mills (1½) w.o. Mrs. Watkins (—2) opponent scratched.
Mrs. McKenzie-Smart (—2) w.o. G. W. Williams (—½) opponent scratched.
Mrs. R. Tingey (3½) bt N. F. Blackwood (7).
A. Ross (—4) bt Mrs. C. M. Turner (8) by 18.
Mrs. W. Kirk (—2) bt Lady Ursula Abbey (4) by 7.
G. Rowling (—2) bt Miss V. Mills (2) by 11.
Mrs. A. L. Megson (4) bt H. T. Pinkney-Simpson (0) by 12.
L. Kirk-Greene (—2½) w.o. D. Jesson Dibley (4) opponent scratched.
R. Tingey (—2½) bt Mrs. H. F. Chittenden (2) by 25.
D. Woodhams (7) bt Mrs. J. H. Dibley (4½) by 5.
Major J. R. Abbey (0) bt S. F. Sopwith (2) by 20.

THIRD ROUND.

C. Watkins (—2½) bt E. A. Roper (2½) by 16.
W. Longman (—3) bt Miss D. L. Latham (9) by 16.
Miss A. L. Mills (1½) bt Hon. Clive Pearson (10) by 6.
Mrs. McKenzie-Smart (—2) bt Mrs. R. Tingey (3½) by 14.
A. Ross (—4) w.o. Mrs. W. Kirk (—2) opponent scratched.
G. Rowling (—2) bt Mrs. A. L. Megson (4) by 20.
L. Kirk-Greene (—2½) bt R. Tingey (—2½) by 9.
Major J. R. Abbey (0) bt D. Woodhams (7) by 13.

FOURTH ROUND.

C. Watkins (—2½) bt W. Longman (—3) by 24.
Miss A. Mills (1½) w.o. Mrs. McKenzie-Smart (—2) opponent scratched.
G. Rowling (—2) bt A. Ross (—4) by 26.
L. Kirk-Greene (—2½) bt Major J. R. Abbey (0) by 3.

SEMI-FINAL.

C. Watkins (—2½) bt Miss A. Mills (1½) by 11.
L. Kirk-Greene (—2½) bt G. Rowling (—2) by 11.

FINAL.

C. Watkins (—2½) bt L. Kirk-Greene (—2½) by 21.

HANDICAP SINGLES ("X.Y.")

EVENT "X".

(35 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

Miss V. E. Mills (2) bt Mrs. N. E. Wallwork (5½) by 2.
G. E. W. Hitchcock (3) bt Col. F. E. Stobart (7) by 4.
Mrs. F. Veales (6½) bt S. F. Sopwith (2) by 9.
Miss H. D. Parker (4) bt Miss M. Roy (3) by 11.
Mrs. R. Tingey (3½) bt Mrs. H. F. Chittenden (2) by 6.
Lady Ursula Abbey (4) bt Mrs. Paxton (8) by 12.
Miss D. L. Latham (9) bt H. T. Pinkney-Simpson (0) by 17.
D. Woodhams (7) w.o. Mrs. C. A. Bishop (9) opponent scratched.

SECOND ROUND.

Mrs. H. F. Roberts (6½) bt Mrs. C. M. Turner (8) by 5.
Mrs. E. A. Roper (6) bt Mrs. A. L. Megson (4) by 12.
G. E. W. Hitchcock (3) bt Miss V. E. Mills (2) by 8.
N. F. Blackwood (7) bt Mrs. F. Veales (6½) by 1 on time.
Miss D. D. Steel (—4) bt Major J. W. Cobb (—1) by 9.
G. Williams (—½) bt Miss L. Elphinstone-Stone (3½) by 10.
Miss E. M. Bray (7) bt Hon. Clive Pearson (10) by 2.
Miss G. Forbes Cowan (5) bt Mrs. H. D. Wooster (6½) by 14.
A. L. Megson (1½) w.o. Dr. F. Veales (7) opponent scratched.

Miss A. Mills (1½) bt Mrs. J. H. Dibley (4½) by 15.

L. Kirk-Greene (—2½) bt A. E. Roper (2½) by 11.

THIRD ROUND.

Mrs. R. Tingey (3½) bt Miss H. D. Parker (4) by 5 on time.
Miss D. L. Latham (9) bt Lady Ursula Abbey (4) by 2.
D. Woodhams (7) bt Mrs. H. F. Roberts (6½) by 1 on time.
G. E. W. Hitchcock (3) bt Mrs. E. A. Roper (6) by 7.
Miss D. D. Steel (—4) bt N. F. Blackwood (7) by 13.
G. Williams (—½) bt Miss E. M. Bray (7) by 15.
Miss D. Forbes Cowan (5) bt A. L. Megson (1½) by 9.
L. Kirk-Greene (—2½) bt Miss A. Mills (1½) by 13.

FOURTH ROUND.

Mrs. R. Tingey (3½) bt Miss P. L. Latham (9) by 7.
G. E. W. Hitchcock (3) bt D. Woodhams (7) by 1.
Miss D. D. Steel (—4) w.o. G. Williams (—½) opponent scratched.

L. Kirk-Greene (—2½) bt Miss G. Forbes Cowan (5) by 13.

SEMI-FINAL.

G. E. W. Hitchcock (3) bt Mrs. R. Tingey (3½) by 7.

L. Kirk-Greene (—2½) bt Miss D. D. Steel (—4) by 16.

FINAL.

G. E. W. Hitchcock (3) bt L. Kirk-Greene (—2½) by 2.

EVENT "Y".

(17 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

Mrs. N. S. Wallwork (5½) bt Col. F. E. Stobart (7) by 5.

SECOND ROUND.

Mrs. H. F. Chittenden (2) bt Mrs. M. Ray (3) by 19.
H. T. Pinkney-Simpson (0) bt Mrs. Paxton (8) by 19.
Mrs. C. M. Turner (8) bt Mrs. C. A. Bishop (9) by 2.
Mrs. A. L. Megson (4) bt Mrs. N. S. Wallwork (5½) by 2.
S. F. Sopwith (2) bt Major J. W. Cobb (—1) by 8.
Hon. Clive Pearson (10) bt Miss L. Elphinstone-Stone (3½) by 18.

Mrs. H. D. Wooster (6½) w.o. Dr. F. Veale (7) opponent scratched.

A. E. Roper (2½) bt Mrs. J. H. Dibley (4½) by 14.

THIRD ROUND.

Mrs. H. F. Chittenden (2) bt H. T. Pinkney-Simpson (0) by 4.

Mrs. A. L. Megson (4) bt Mrs. C. M. Turner (8) by 10.

Hon. Clive Pearson (10) bt S. F. Sopwith (2) by 9.

E. A. Roper (2½) bt Mrs. H. D. Wooster (6½) by 18.

SEMI-FINAL.

Mrs. A. L. Megson (4) bt Mrs. H. F. Chittenden (2) by 12.

E. A. Roper (2½) bt Hon. Clive Pearson (10) by 21.

FINAL.

E. A. Roper (2½) bt Mrs. A. L. Megson (4) by 17.

HANDICAP DOUBLES.

(19 Pairs).

FIRST ROUND.

E. A. Roper and Mrs. C. Watkins (½) bt F. E. Corke and Miss H. D. Parker (8½) by 6.

G. E. Hitchcock and N. F. Blackwood (8) bt W. Kirk and Major J. H. Dibley (½) by 10.

Mrs. W. Kirk and Mrs. Roberts (3½) bt Major J. R. Abbey and Hon. Clive Pearson (8) by 5.

SECOND ROUND.

R. Tingey and Mrs. Tingey (1) bt N. E. Wallwork and S. F. Sopwith (6) by 10.

Mrs. V. Mills and Mrs. McKenzie-Smart (0) bt W. Longman and Mrs. W. Longman (—4) by 2 on time.

Miss G. Forbes Cowan and C. Watkins (2) bt Miss A. Mills and Miss I. Wainwright (—½) by 5.

E. A. Roper and Mrs. Watkins (½) bt G. E. W. Hitchcock and N. F. Blackwood (8) by 8.

Mrs. W. Kirk and Mrs. H. F. Roberts (3½) bt Mrs. A. Ross and Mrs. H. D. Wooster (7½) by 18.

G. Rowling and Mrs. W. Alford Naylor (8) bt Mrs. A. Badcock and Mrs. C. A. Bishop (8½) by 9.

Mrs. E. A. Roper and A. Ross (1½) bt Miss D. D. Steel and Mrs. H. F. Chittenden (—1½) by 14.

Col. F. E. Stobart and Major J. W. Cobb (5) bt D. Woodhams and Mrs. Turner (12) by 7.

THIRD ROUND.

Miss V. Mills and Mrs. McKenzie-Smart (0) bt R. Tingey and Mrs. Tingey (1) by 8 on time.

Miss G. Forbes Cowan and C. Watkins (2) bt E. A. Roper and Mrs. C. Watkins (½) by 11.

Mrs. W. Kirk and Mrs. H. F. Roberts (3½) bt G. Rowling and Mrs. W. Alford Naylor (8) by 6.

Col. F. E. Stobart and Major J. W. Cobb (5) bt Mrs. E. A. Roper and A. Ross (1½) by 5.

SEMI-FINAL.

Miss V. Mills and Mrs. McKenzie-Smart (0) bt Miss G. Forbes Cowan and C. Watkins (2) by 9.

Mrs. W. Kirk and Mrs. H. F. Roberts (3½) bt Col. F. E. Stobart and Major J. W. Cobb (5) by 9.

FINAL.

Miss V. Mills and Mrs. McKenzie-Smart (0) bt Mrs. W. Kirk and Mrs. H. F. Roberts (3½) by 16.

INTER-COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

May 28th

This, the 42nd meeting to decide which county contains today the most highly skilled croquet players—both in actual play and in the tactical side of the game—was favoured with three most delightful days of sunshine.

It was refreshing to find that the energetic captains of the counties, had managed to collect teams from seven of them. This was a fine achievement, and, ignoring the saying that comparisons are odious, a tremendous improvement on the small number—four—that competed last year.

Neither Middlesex nor Surrey could produce that high standard of play that has resulted, during the last eight years, in one or the other county proving itself to be the birth-place of the best players.

Of the nine lawns provided, six were those fine croquet courts for which Hurlingham has long been renowned; the other three were on the cricket field. Not even that lovely copper beech tree, which graces the ground with its presence, could quite compensate the twelve players who periodically were destined to play croquet there.

Several games were decided by the 3½ hours' time limit, and, as so often happens in Doubles, one player of the side would quite soon place his clip on 4-back while that of his partner remained spasmodically vertical.

Hants and Dorset, the winners of the Event, very quickly began to show their quality, and that their captain, Major J. H. Dibley, knew how to pair his players to produce the best results. Indeed they were all three couples, well matched and remained together to the last round—played on the cricket ground.

In the sixth round a most unusual—and indeed skilful—start was made by Mrs. Rotherham. She was for the second hoop, with her partner ball Yellow close to it; Blue and Black were in the first corner. She took off from Yellow to those two balls, but failed to get a rush on either of them; this meant a tremendously long split-approach shot to the second hoop—the Blue ball going to the third. Red, Mrs. Rotherham's ball, came up in perfect position for the second hoop; this was run, Yellow retrieved, and the break proceeded to the peg.

In the last round, Surrey v. Sussex, Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins, M. B. Reckitt's partner, unfortunately was called away. Reckitt managed very cleverly to peel his absent partner through three hoops; but his skill was not ultimately rewarded, they lost the game.

Oxon, Berks and Bucks, who played so well last year, were second in the competition. They were another side who seemed to believe in keeping their three couples together during the play; unless something unavoidable prevents this, there is it seems much to commend it.

Scores in Matches and Games

Hants and Dorset won 6 matches: namely against Eastern Counties 2-1, Surrey 2-1, Oxon, Berks and Bucks 3-0, Bedford 2-1, Sussex 3-0, Middlesex 2-1.

Oxon, Berks and Bucks won 4 matches: namely against Sussex 2-1, Middlesex 2-1, Eastern Counties 2-1, Bedford 2-1 and lost 2 matches against Hants and Dorset 0-3, Surrey 1-2.

Bedford won 3 matches: namely against Middlesex 2-1, Eastern Counties 2-1, Surrey 2-1; and lost 3 matches against Sussex 0-3, Hants and Dorset 1-2, Oxon, Berks and Bucks 1-2.

Middlesex won 3 matches: namely against Surrey 2-1, Sussex 2-1, Eastern Counties 2-1; and lost 3 matches against Oxon, Berks and Bucks 1-2, Bedford 1-2, Hants and Dorset 1-2.

Eastern Counties won 2 matches: namely against Surrey 3-0, Sussex 2-1; and lost 4 matches against Hants and Dorset 1-2, Oxon, Berks and Bucks 1-2, Bedford 1-2, Middlesex 1-2.

Surrey won 2 matches: namely against Oxon, Berks and Bucks 2-1, Sussex 2-1; and lost 4 matches against Middlesex 1-2, Eastern Counties 0-3, Hants and Dorset 1-2, Bedford 1-2.

Sussex won 1 match: namely against Bedford 3-0; and lost 5 matches against Oxon, Berks and Bucks 1-2, Middlesex 1-2, Eastern Counties 1-2, Hants and Dorset 0-3, Surrey 1-2.

MEN'S and WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS and GOLD CASKETS

JUNE 4th-9th

This old established event which started its career in 1896—both as a competition for men and women, and for women only—in 1909, apparently, considered it necessary to keep the sexes apart.

Though last year it was thought advisable to revert to the previous nomadic nature of the Event—which was for many years its characteristic—we now found it at home again on the lovely lawns of the Hurlingham Club. This delightful feature of the Club was, in every sense of the word, clouded by the cold and rainy weather; because this was the first really important Calendar Fixture in which the New Zealand visiting Test Match Team were competing, it really did seem most inhospitable of it. Nevertheless, as we shall hereafter see, our friends from overseas seemed quite unaffected by such unpleasant conditions.

The Men's Event was, in consequence of the welcome addition of our Test Match opponents, 24, exactly twice as many as last year's entry at Cheltenham. The lower half was entirely a home entry, the top half crowded with our visitors. Among them was G. Rowling, the New Zealand Open Champion; after getting through the first two rounds without the loss of a game, he then met W. Longman. This was an amazing match; Rowling played two good breaks, but neither of them to the necessary conclusion—both balls lingering about the middle hoops. Then Longman began to play well—so well that he won the first game; the second game was almost of a similar and exceptional kind; the first he won by four points and the second by three. In the next, the semi-final round, Ross was in his best form against Longman and won both games.

Col. G. E. Cave had two long three-game matches, against M. B. Reckitt, and Dr. H. J. Penny, both of which he won; against J. Solomon he was not allowed to enter the semi-final round. H. O. Hicks became the other one of the last four—but only after a 3-game match, with V. A. de la Nougerede, the scores suggesting the character of it.

The play in the Solomon v. Hicks semi-final was not characteristic of either of the two players; perhaps the appalling weather must be blamed for this.

The final, Ross v. Hicks was played under comparatively better and drier conditions. Hicks, after a delayed start, at last played really good croquet in the first game—as the score suggests.

Ross, in the second game, played a beautiful first break to 4-back, then Hicks intervened; shortly after Ross shot in right across the lawn, but stuck in the first hoop. This at once let Hicks in, and Ross failed to prevent him becoming a rover with both balls. But Hicks missed the peg out. Onlookers wondered if this would provide a proof of the saying that a game of croquet is never won till both balls have hit the peg; Hicks at once robbed them of such an exceptional occurrence by an accurate long rush to within a yard of the peg, and both balls made contact with it.

This is the fifth time Hicks has won this Event—two years now in succession. In 1948 he won it, and the next two years in sequence.

The Women's Event contained fourteen players, five of whom were members of the New Zealand Test Match Team. Mrs. R. C. J. Beaton, as the scores suggest, gave Mrs. G. Rowling two very close games. Miss J. Warwick compelled Miss I. Wainwright to play three games—a very fine performance. The semi-final round contained only one home player, Miss D. A. Lintern, who has won this Event on three previous occasions. After a close two-game match Miss Wainwright became entitled to meet Mrs. Kirk in the final. The other semi-final, Mrs. MacKenzie-Smart v. Mrs. W. H. Kirk, was a tremendously keen three-game contest—as the score suggests. The final was decided by two straight games in which Mrs. Kirk showed her quality. Miss Wainwright had played good croquet at the start; but then her opponent put up very formidable opposition which the two straight games exemplify. This is the second New Zealand player to win the Women's Championship here; Mrs. G. Rowling—then Miss M. Cloughton—was the winner in 1950.

The Mixed Doubles Championship also went to New Zealand. In one half of the semi-final—Cotter and Miss Warwick v. Mr. and Mrs. C. Watkins—a tremendously close match took place, the latter pair winning by two points. The final was another all New Zealand affair; Rowling and Mrs. MacKenzie-Smart, the winners were apparently the better pair, though the fine quality of the play, generally speaking, was evident on both sides.

The Du Pre Cup, which was won last year by Miss D. D. Steel, this year went to R. Tingey. His opponent in the final was W. Longman. The Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury, under the most severely trying weather conditions that persisted almost every day, performed his exceptionally arduous managerial duties in his usual calm and efficient manner.

THE MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP.

GOLD CASKET.

(25 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

G. Rowling bt W. B. C. Paynter +11 +6.
E. P. C. Cotter bt Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts +13 +25.
A. Ross bt Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins +22 +14.
Capt. H. G. Stoker bt W. J. Hawkings +16 +23.
C. Watkins bt W. H. Kirk +17 +17.
E. P. Duffield bt Major J. W. Cobb —5 +10 opponent retired.
J. W. Solomon bt M. Spencer Ell +17 +8.
Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave bt M. B. Reckitt —22 +24 +10.
Dr. H. J. Penny bt Rev. G. F. H. Elvey +23 +8.
The rest had byes.

SECOND ROUND.

W. Longman bt F. H. Fisher +3 +5.
G. Rowling bt J. G. Warwick +11 +6.
A. Ross bt E. P. C. Cotter +16 —7 +25.
C. Watkins bt Capt. H. G. Stoker +10 +18.
J. W. Solomon bt E. P. Duffield +25 +10.
Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave bt Dr. H. J. Penny +8 —13 +5.
H. O. Hicks bt Major R. Tingey +13 +8.
V. A. de la Nougerede bt E. V. Carpmal +6 —4 opponent retired.

THIRD ROUND.

W. Longman bt G. Rowling +4 +3.
A. Ross bt C. Watkins +4 +10.
J. W. Solomon bt Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave +9 +26.
H. O. Hicks bt V. A. de la Nougerede +6 —14 +14.

SEMI-FINAL.

A. Ross bt W. Longman +15 +24.
H. O. Hicks bt J. W. Solomon +8 +17.

FINAL.

H. O. Hicks bt A. Ross +25 +17.

THE WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP.

GOLD CASKET.

(14 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

Mrs. MacKenzie-Smart bt Mrs. L. C. Apps —17 +13 +26.
Mrs. G. Rowling bt Mrs. R. C. J. Beaton +3 +2.
Mrs. Kirk bt Mrs. E. Rotherham +1 —16 +16.
Miss D. Lintern bt Mrs. E. Reeve +13 +23.
Mrs. Watkins bt Mrs. W. Longman +8 +24.
Miss I. Wainwright bt Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey +17 +3.
The rest had byes.

SECOND ROUND.

Mrs. MacKenzie-Smart bt Mrs. V. C. Gasson +12 +23.
Mrs. Kirk bt Mrs. G. Rowling +14 +10.
Miss D. Lintern bt Mrs. Watkins +14 —15 +12.
Miss I. Wainwright bt Miss J. Warwick +23 —12 +14.

SEMI-FINAL.

Mrs. Kirk bt Mrs. MacKenzie-Smart +25 —12 +3.
Miss I. Wainwright bt Miss D. Lintern +3 +11.

FINAL.

Mrs. Kirk bt Miss I. Wainwright +13 +17.

MIXED DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP.

SILVER CHALLENGE CUP.

(16 Pairs).

FIRST ROUND.

M. B. Reckitt and Miss D. A. Lintern bt J. G. Warwick and Mrs. G. W. Solomon by 11.
J. W. Solomon and Mrs. G. Rowling bt W. H. Kirk and Mrs. W. H. Kirk by 13.
Rev. G. F. H. Elvey and Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey bt R. Tingey and Mrs. R. Tingey by 4.
G. Rowling and Mrs. MacKenzie-Smart bt Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave and Mrs. R. C. J. Beaton by 12.
W. Longman and Mrs. W. Longman bt E. P. Duffield and Mrs. L. C. Apps by 20.
C. Watkins and Mrs. C. Watkins bt H. O. Hicks and Mrs. E. Rotherham by 12.
A. Ross and Miss I. Wainwright bt Major J. W. Cobb and Mrs. E. Reeve by 13.
E. P. C. Cotter and Miss J. E. Warwick bt V. A. de la Nougerede and Mrs. V. C. Gasson by 12.

SECOND ROUND.

J. W. Solomon and Mrs. G. Rowling bt M. B. Reckitt and Miss D. A. Lintern by 16.
G. Rowling and Mrs. MacKenzie-Smart bt Rev. G. F. H. Elvey and Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey by 25.
C. Watkins and Mrs. C. Watkins bt W. Longman and Mrs. W. Longman by 22.
E. P. C. Cotter and Miss J. E. Warwick bt A. Ross and Miss I. Wainwright by 25.

SEMI-FINAL.

G. Rowling and Mrs. MacKenzie-Smart bt J. W. Solomon and Mrs. G. Rowling by 13.
C. Watkins and Mrs. C. Watkins bt E. P. C. Cotter and Miss J. E. Warwick by 2.
G. Rowling and Mrs. MacKenzie-Smart bt C. Watkins and Mrs. C. Watkins by 13.

THE "DU PRE" CUP.

(26 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

W. H. Kirk w.o. Mrs. C. Watkins opponent scratched.
Mrs. L. C. Apps bt Dr. H. J. Penny by 14.
Miss J. E. Warwick bt E. P. Duffield by 3.
Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts bt W. B. C. Paynter by 15.
The rest had byes.

SECOND ROUND.

Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey bt F. H. Fisher by 7.
Mrs. W. Longman bt Mrs. E. Reeve by 5.
Capt. H. G. Stoker bt W. J. Hawkings by 16.
W. H. Kirk bt Mrs. L. C. Apps by 11.
Miss J. E. Warwick bt Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts by 1.
M. B. Reckitt w.o. Mrs. G. Rowling opponent scratched.
Mrs. E. Rotherham bt E. V. Carpmal by 16.
R. Tingey bt Mrs. V. C. Gasson by 10.

THIRD ROUND.

Mrs. W. Longman bt Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey by 15.
W. H. Kirk bt Capt. H. G. Stoker by 3.
Miss J. E. Warwick bt M. B. Reckitt by 3.
R. Tingey bt Mrs. E. Rotherham by 11.

SEMI-FINAL.

Mrs. W. Longman bt W. H. Kirk by 11.
R. Tingey bt Miss J. E. Warwick by 13.

FINAL.

R. Tingey bt Mrs. W. Longman by 18.

HANDICAP SINGLES.

(9 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

E. V. Carpmal (—½) bt F. H. Fisher (—½) by 2.
The rest had byes.

SECOND ROUND.

Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts (2) bt Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave (1) by 13.
Capt. H. G. Stoker (0) bt E. V. Carpmal (—½) by 10.
Mrs. V. C. Gasson (½) w.o. W. B. C. Paynter (—½) opponent retired.
E. P. Duffield (—1) w.o. W. J. Hawkings (8) opponent retired.

SEMI-FINAL.

Capt. H. G. Stoker (0) bt Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts (2) by 7.

Mrs. V. C. Gasson (2) w.o. E. P. Duffield (—1) opponent scratched.

FINAL.

Mrs. V. C. Gasson (½) w.o. Capt. H. G. Stoker (0) opponent scratched.

CARRICKMINES

June 9th—16th

The writer has played croquet at many clubs in different parts of the world, but has seen no club more beautifully situated than Carrickmines, not even Budleigh Salterton, where we look down over the sparkling sea. Here we look across a wooded valley at a background of the Three Rock Mountains of Co. Dublin, with their softly changing colours; purple to green with splashes of yellow furze; then to brown, then purple again as the white clouds drift slowly over them beneath a sky of brilliant blue.

At first the weather was perfect for the tournament, hot sun with a gentle breeze; latterly it deteriorated, but was never bad enough to check the progress of the tournament, which, due to the efficient preparations of our Hon. Secretary, Mrs. B. T. O'Reilly, and the tactful but firm management of Lady FitzGerald, ran smoothly and pleasantly to an end.

Mr. FitzPatrick showed a welcome return to form to win the Co. Dublin Championship, and among the veterans Col. Boxwell and Mr. McCormick were models of steadiness and accuracy.

We look forward to welcoming a contingent of New Zealand players in August for the Irish Championships, and hope that some visitors from England will also be coming.

CHAMPIONSHIP OF CO. DUBLIN, 1956.

PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP.

(Two Life System).

THE DRAW.

(8 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

W. S. Beamish bt Mrs. Boxwell by 10.
Lady FitzGerald bt Col. Boxwell by 10.
A. V. McCormick bt J. K. Maconchy by 5.
G. M. FitzPatrick bt Mrs. B. T. O'Reilly by 1.

SECOND ROUND.

Lady FitzGerald bt W. S. Beamish by 3.
G. M. FitzPatrick bt A. V. McCormick by 20.

FINAL.

G. M. FitzPatrick bt Lady FitzGerald by 2.

PROCESS.

(8 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

Mrs. B. T. O'Reilly bt Col. Boxwell by 9.
Mrs. Boxwell bt J. K. Maconchy by 2.
Lady FitzGerald bt A. V. McCormick by 10.
G. M. FitzPatrick bt W. S. Beamish by 16.

SEMI-FINAL.
Mrs. B. T. O'Reilly bt Mrs. Boxwell by 23.
G. M. FitzPatrick by Lady FitzGerald by 16.
FINAL.
G. M. FitzPatrick bt Mrs. B. T. O'Reilly by 25.

HANDICAP SINGLES.
(10 Entries).
FINAL.
Col. Boxwell bt W. S. Beamish by 11.

LEVEL SINGLES.
(3½ Bisques and over).
(5 Entries).
FINAL.
Col. Boxwell bt Miss E. Haire by 5.

HANDICAP DOUBLES.
(5 Entries).
FINAL.
G. M. FitzPatrick and D. Hopkins bt Col. Boxwell and A. V. McCormick by 7.

RYDE

JUNE 4th-9th, 1956

Thanks to the untiring efforts of Miss Isaac, the tournament Secretary, and the ladies of the catering committee, a most enjoyable week was spent by visitors to this tournament.

Our indefatigable Manager, Major J. H. Dibley, by his wonderful gift for combining courtesy with firmness, was in a large measure, responsible for the success of the tournament. In addition to the usual vicissitudes of a manager he had to contend with the vagaries of our climate.

We were particularly pleased to note and welcome a number of comparatively newcomers to the game. The form shown by some of these was very promising and quite a lot more will be heard of them in the future without doubt.

Visitors to the island tournaments are accustomed to spending a most enjoyable week in perfect surroundings. This week was certainly no exception. The only flaw, if it can be described as such, was the bad behaviour of that person aloft known as the "Clerk of the Weather". Intermittent rain and high winds were the usual order of the day. Even this, however, failed to detract from a most enjoyable and excellently organised week. We cannot express our thanks too much to all those whose hard work and organising ability provided visitors with a croquet week "par excellence".

It was a pleasure to see Mrs. Latham, from Southsea, playing tournament croquet after a lapse of some years. She still retains that free and easy style of hers and we all enjoyed watching her play.

Among some of the promising high bisquers was Mrs. Stevenson from Leamington. She is a good shot and has an easy style but at present does not take her bisques to the best advantage. Mrs. Burrell did well to beat her in the final of the D Handicap. Miss Bennett has much improved and when she acquires more knowledge in the art of tactics should be quite promising.

Commander Beamish won the Open Challenge Cup for the second year in succession beating Victor Evans quite comfortably. Congratulations to him.

G. Birch, from Nottingham, had a good tournament. He has confidence and played well to his handicap throughout, winning both the "B" Levels and the Handicap "X". Congratulations to him, too. He had a very good opponent in Miss Walker in the final of the "B" Levels. Miss Walker played really well and held her own up to the last half hour of the game when Birch went ahead and finally won.

The final of the "Y" Handicap was an exciting affair when Miss Watson after a gruelling battle with Mrs. Dibley won by the narrowest margin of one point.

At the close of the Tournament the cup winners were photographed by a member of the press, after which Mrs. Latham very kindly presented the prizes to the winners at which the President of the Club, Mr. A. B. Ward, presided.

ISLE OF WIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP.

OPEN SINGLES.
THE DRAW.
(4 Entries).
SEMI-FINAL.
Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish bt G. Victor Evans by 8.
Major J. H. Dibley bt Mrs. F. N. Latham by 5.
FINAL.
Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish bt Major J. H. Dibley by 10.

PROCESS.
(4 Entries).
SEMI-FINAL.
Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish bt Mrs. F. N. Latham by 7.
G. V. Evans bt Major J. H. Dibley by 8.
FINAL.
G. V. Evans bt Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish by 1.
PLAY-OFF.
Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish bt G. V. Evans by 15.

LEVEL SINGLES (CLASS "B").
(3 Bisques and over).
(10 Entries).
FIRST ROUND.
G. A. H. Alexander bt Mrs. J. H. Dibley by 6.
Mrs. C. R. Farnsworth bt T. A. Chignell by 2.
SECOND ROUND.

Mrs. C. F. Rand bt Mrs. R. A. Hill by 13.
G. Birch bt G. A. H. Alexander by 6.
Miss E. Walker bt Mrs. C. R. Farnsworth by 8.
Miss J. Birch bt Miss L. Newman by 6.

SEMI-FINAL.
G. Birch bt Mrs. C. F. Rand by 15.
Miss E. Walker bt Miss J. Birch by 3.
FINAL.
G. Birch bt Miss E. Walker by 11.

HANDICAP SINGLES (CLASS "C").
THE BENEST CUP.
NO ENTRIES.

HANDICAP SINGLES (CLASS "D").
THE HUTTON CUP.
(10 Bisques and over).
(8 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.
Mrs. G. Ratsey (10) bt Mrs. R. W. Hutton (10) by 13.
Mrs. R. W. Burrell (10) bt Miss M. M. Taylor (14) by 4.
Mrs. J. G. Stevenson (12) bt Mrs. A. R. Brown (12) by 9.
Miss E. E. Bennett (14) bt Mrs. A. B. Ward (10) by 14.

SEMI-FINAL.
Mrs. R. H. Burrell (10) bt Mrs. G. Ratsey (10) by 2.
Mrs. J. G. Stevenson (12) bt Miss E. E. Bennett (14) by 22.

FINAL.
Mrs. R. H. Burrell (10) bt Mrs. J. G. Stevenson (12) by 2.

HANDICAP SINGLES ("X.Y").
THE DIBLEY CUP.
EVENT "X".
(24 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.
Miss J. Birch (4½) bt Miss K. A. Wade (14) by 13.
Miss E. E. Bennett (14) bt Mrs. J. H. Dibley (4½) by 8.
G. A. H. Alexander (8) bt Mrs. A. B. Ward (10) by 8.
G. V. Evans (—½) bt Miss E. Walker (3½) by 12.
Mrs. R. A. Hill (6) bt Mrs. A. R. Brown (12) by 4.
Mrs. F. N. Latham (1½) bt Mrs. C. R. Farnsworth (5½) by 3.
Mrs. R. W. Hutton (10) bt Miss E. Watson (5) by 5.
Mrs. G. Ratsey (10) bt Miss L. Newman (5½) by 1.

SECOND ROUND.
T. A. Chignell (5½) bt Miss L. Isaac (12) by 8.
G. Birch (4) bt Mrs. R. H. Burrell (10) by 19.
Miss J. Birch (4½) bt Miss E. E. Bennett (14) by 3.
G. V. Evans (—½) bt G. A. H. Alexander (8) by 15.
Mrs. R. A. Hill (6) bt Mrs. F. N. Latham (1½) by 6.
Mrs. G. Ratsey (10) bt Mrs. R. W. Hutton (10) by 17.
Mrs. J. G. Stevenson (12) bt Miss M. M. Taylor (14) by 18.
Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish (½) bt Mrs. J. Cowper Blake (6) by 16.

THIRD ROUND.
G. Birch (4) bt T. A. Chignell (5½) by 17.
G. V. Evans (—½) bt Miss J. Birch (4½) by 4.
Mrs. R. A. Hill (6) w.o. Mrs. G. Ratsey (10) opponent retired.
Mrs. J. G. Stevenson (12) bt Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish (½) by 7.

SEMI-FINAL.
G. Birch (4) bt G. V. Evans (—½) by 25.
Mrs. J. G. Stevenson (12) bt Mrs. R. A. Hill (6) by 8.
FINAL.
G. Birch (4) bt Mrs. J. G. Stevenson (12) by 8.

EVENT "Y".
(12 Entries).
FIRST ROUND.
Mrs. J. H. Dibley (4½) bt Miss K. A. Wade (14) by 7.
Miss E. Walker (3½) bt Mrs. A. B. Ward (10) by 5.
Mrs. C. R. Farnsworth (5½) bt Mrs. A. R. Brown (12) by 5.
Miss E. Watson (5) bt Miss L. Newman (5½) by 8.

SECOND ROUND.
Miss L. Isaac (12) bt Mrs. R. H. Burrell (10) by 4.
Mrs. J. H. Dibley (4½) w.o. Miss E. Walker (3½) opponent scratched.
Miss E. Watson (5) bt Mrs. C. R. Farnsworth (5½) by 4.
Miss M. M. Taylor (14) w.o. Mrs. J. Cowper Blake opponent scratched.

SEMI-FINAL.
Mrs. J. H. Dibley (4½) bt Miss L. Isaac (12) by 7.
Miss E. Watson (5) bt Miss W. W. Taylor (14) by 8.
FINAL.
Miss E. Watson (5) bt Mrs. J. H. Dibley (4½) by 1.

HANDICAP DOUBLES.
(Combined Handicaps of not less than one bisque).
(11 Pairs).

FIRST ROUND.
Miss E. Walker and Mrs. G. Ratsey (13½) bt T. A. Chignell and Mrs. C. F. Rand (9) by 1 on time.
G. Birch and Mrs. A. R. Brown (16) bt Mrs. J. Cowper Blake and Miss J. Birch (10½) by 21.
Mrs. C. R. Farnsworth and Miss E. E. Bennett (17½) bt Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish and Miss L. Isaac (12½) by 14.

SECOND ROUND.
Mrs. R. W. Hutton and Miss M. M. Taylor (22) bt G. A. H. Alexander and Mrs. R. H. Burrell (17) by 15.
G. Birch and Mrs. A. R. Brown (16) bt Miss E. Walker and Mrs. G. Ratsey (13½) by 12.
Mrs. F. N. Latham and Miss E. Watson (6½) bt Mrs. C. R. Farnsworth and Miss E. E. Bennett (17½) by 9.
G. V. Evans and Mrs. J. G. Stevenson (10½) bt Major J. H. Dibley and Miss K. A. Wade (12½) by 9.

SEMI-FINAL.
G. Birch and Mrs. A. R. Brown (16) bt Mrs. R. W. Hutton and Miss M. M. Taylor (22) by 19.
G. V. Evans and Mrs. J. G. Stevenson (10½) bt Mrs. F. N. Latham and Miss E. Watson (6½) by 6.

FINAL.
Divided.
No time possible as two competitors were each in two separate single finals on last day.

BUXTON

June 11th-16th

As one of the competitors visiting Buxton for the first time, I should like to advise all those who have never visited this charming place, to do so without fail next year. The six courts are in beautiful surroundings and for those who appreciate social amenities the best court is situated in "Lovers Retreat". Miss Steel, the perfect manager, always chooses her couples for this court with tact. All types of players are kept busy with Draws and Processes, X, Y and Zs and Doubles.

Mrs. Chorlton and her committee work so hard but still have ample time to make everyone welcome. My advice to Southerners is "Come North Next Year". Some of the standards of play may surprise you too!

NORTH OF ENGLAND CHALLENGE CUP.
OPEN SINGLES.
("Two Lives").
THE DRAW.
(9 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.
Mrs. Fotiadi bt R. H. Newton by 7.
SECOND ROUND.
Col. Beamish bt H. O. Hodgson by 22.
Mrs. Fotiadi bt Mrs. Briggs by 9.
R. Faulkner bt Mrs. Curnick by 23.
Miss J. Warwick bt Dr. Penny by 26.

SEMI-FINAL.
Mrs. Fotiadi bt Colonel Beamish by 12.
R. Faulkner bt Miss J. Warwick by 26.
FINAL.
R. Faulkner bt Mrs. Fotiadi by 5.

PROCESS.
(9 Entries).
FIRST ROUND.
Miss J. Warwick bt Col. Beamish by 8.
SECOND ROUND.
R. Faulkner bt Mrs. Fotiadi by 4.
Miss J. Warwick bt Mrs. Curnick by 9.
Dr. Penny bt R. H. Newton by 17.
H. O. Hodgson bt Mrs. Briggs by 2.

SEMI-FINAL.
R. Faulkner bt Miss J. Warwick by 8.
H. O. Hodgson bt Dr. Penny by 1.
FINAL.
R. Faulkner bt H. O. Hodgson by 22.

DRAW and PROCESS.
R. Faulkner winner of both.

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

FIRST ROUND.
Mrs. Chorlton bt Rev. F. J. Denbow by 9.
Mrs. Perowne bt W. T. Bell by 14.
J. Hunter bt Miss Schofield by 23.

SEMI-FINAL.
Mrs. Chorlton bt Mrs. Perowne by 7.
J. Hunter w.o. Miss Warwick opponent retired.
FINAL.
Mrs. Chorlton bt J. Hunter by 18.

HANDICAP SINGLES (CLASS "C").
(8 Bisques and over).
(7 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.
Mrs. Oxley (12) bt Mrs. Riddey (9) by 16.
Miss Allen (9) bt Miss Ruthven (13) by 11.
B. Lloyd Pratt (10) bt Miss Catchpole (10) by 3.

SEMI-FINAL.
Mrs. Oxley (12) bt Miss Allen (9) by 11.
B. Lloyd Pratt (10) w.o. Miss Gill (12) withdrawn.
FINAL.
Mrs. Oxley (12) bt B. Lloyd Pratt (10) by 13.

HANDICAP SINGLES ("X.Y").
(Unrestricted).
EVENT "X".
(17 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.
Mrs. Curnick (1½) bt R. H. Newton (2) by 7.
SECOND ROUND.
Mrs. Perowne (6) bt Mrs. Briggs (2) by 6.
Miss M. G. Allen (9) bt Rev. F. J. Denbow (5) by 2.

Mrs. Oxley (12) bt H. O. Hodgson (0) by 12.
Mrs. Chorlton (3½) bt Mrs. Curnick (2½) by 13.
Mrs. Riddey (9) bt Mrs. Fotiadi (0) by 6.
B. Lloyd Pratt (10) bt W. T. Bell (3) by 26.
Miss J. Warwick (2½) bt Miss Schofield (3½) by 17.
J. Hunter (4½) bt Miss Catchpole (10) by 12.

THIRD ROUND.
Miss M. G. Allen (9) bt Mrs. Perowne (6) by 15.
Mrs. Chorlton (3½) bt Mrs. Oxley (12) by 2.
B. Lloyd Pratt (10) bt Mrs. Riddey (9) by 17.
Miss J. Warwick (2½) bt J. Hunter (4½) by 13.

SEMI-FINAL.
Miss M. G. Allen (9) bt Mrs. Chorlton (3½) by 6.
B. Lloyd Pratt (10) bt Miss J. Warwick (2½) by 21.
FINAL.
B. Lloyd Pratt (10) bt Miss Allen (9) by 11.

EVENT "Y".
(8 Entries).
FIRST ROUND.
Mrs. Briggs (2) bt Rev. F. J. Denbow (5) by 8.
R. H. Newton (2) bt H. O. Hodgson (0) by 3.
Mrs. Fotiadi (0) bt W. T. Bell (3) by 22.
Miss Catchpole (10) bt Miss Schofield (3½) by 15.

SEMI-FINAL.
Mrs. Briggs (2) bt R. H. Newton (2) by 7.
Mrs. Fotiadi (0) bt Miss Catchpole (10) by 12.
FINAL.

Rain stopped play.
Prizes divided between Mrs. Briggs and Mrs. Fotiadi.

HANDICAP DOUBLES.
(Unrestricted).
(8 Pairs).

FIRST ROUND.

Mrs. Fotiadi and Mrs. Oxley (12) bt Rev. F. J. Denbow and Miss D. Schofield (8½) by 15.
R. H. Newton and B. Lloyd Pratt (10) bt Miss M. G. Allen and Miss Catchpole (19) by 2.
H. O. Hodgson and Mrs. Riddey (9) bt J. Hunter and Miss Ruthven (16½) by 5.
Miss J. Warwick and Mrs. Perowne (8½) bt Mrs. Briggs and Mrs. Curnick (3½) by 8.

SEMI-FINAL.

Mrs. Fotiadi and Mrs. Oxley (12) bt R. H. Newton and B. Lloyd Pratt (10) by 8.
Miss J. Warwick and Mrs. Perowne (8½) bt H. O. Hodgson and Mrs. Riddey (9) by 13.

FINAL.

Mrs. Fotiadi and Mrs. Oxley (12) bt Miss J. Warwick and Mrs. Perowne (8½) by 5.

EXMOUTH, Devon

AN OPEN CROQUET TOURNAMENT

(Under the Laws and Regulations of the Croquet Association)

will be held on the Grounds of

The Exmouth Croquet and Lawn Tennis Club,
Cranford, 42 Salterton Road, Exmouth

Monday, July 9th, to Saturday, July 14th, 1956

Manager and Handicapper.—Miss A. E. Mills.

Referee.—To be appointed.

Tournament Committee.—Major G. F. Stone, Col. D. W. Beamish, Lt.-Col. C. S. Lazenby, Miss A. E. Mills, Rev. F. E. Copleston.

EVENTS.

- 1.—OPEN SINGLES (Draw and Process). Challenge Bowl. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d.
- 2.—LEVEL SINGLES (Class B). 2½ bisques and over (Law 44 suspended). Entrance Fee, 7s.
- 3.—HANDICAP SINGLES (Class C). 6½ bisques and over. Entrance Fee, 7s.
- 4.—"X.Y." HANDICAP SINGLES. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d.
- 5.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Combined Handicaps to be not less than "3". Entrance Fee, 7s. each player.
- 6.—GOLF CROQUET HANDICAP DOUBLES. Commencing each day 6 p.m. at the latest. Entrance Fee, 2s. 6d.

N.B.—Fees include C.A. Levy charge of 2s. 3½in. hoops will be used in all events. No player may enter for more than one of the first three events.

Hotels: Cranford, Devoncourt, Maer Bay, Moriglen (opposite Club).

CONDITIONS.

Play will commence each day at 10 a.m. (or earlier if necessary). Competitors are requested to report themselves to the Manager on arrival. Players wanted at 10 a.m. on Monday will be notified. All others should be present on the ground by 11 a.m. Six Lawns (standard setting) will be provided. Entries for Events 1, 2, 3 and 4 close first post Thursday, July 5th, and the draw will take place at 11 a.m., Thursday, July 5th, at the Exmouth Croquet and L.T.C. Entries for the handicap doubles and Golf Croquet close at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, July 10th. All entries to be sent to Miss A. E. Mills, Greyfriars, Budleigh Salterton.

The Committee reserve the right to refuse an entry without assigning a reason.

1st Prizes in all Events. 2nd Prizes if entries are sufficient.

Sandwich Lunches and Teas will be provided at the Club.

Free Parking for cars in Club Grounds, at owner's risk.

THE "LADIES' FIELD" CUP

Holder—Mrs. E. Rotherham

For the eight best available women players in the C.A. invited to compete by the Council of the C.A.

No Entrance Fees.

Will be played for at THE ROEHAMPTON CLUB
On MONDAY, JULY 30th, and following days

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the C.A. Manager and Handicapper.—Mrs. E. E. Turner.
Referee.—L. H. Ashton.
Secretary.—The Secretary, C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

Hoops 3½in. wide. Jaques' "Eclipse" balls will be used. Each Competitor meets each of the other Competitors twice in each Competition.

If a Competitor fails from any cause to play through the whole of the games in the series, her score in that series will be entirely eliminated from the Competition. No substitute will be permitted in either series in any circumstances after the Competition has once begun. Single games throughout provided that in the event of a tie in the score the possession of the Cup for the year will be decided by a match of three games.

In the event of a tie between three Competitors, each of these three will play a single game against each of the other two. If the issue is still undecided, the three names will be drawn on the Bagnall-Wild system, and single games will be played in each round. In the event of a tie between more than three Competitors, the names of the winners will be drawn on the Bagnall-Wild system, and single games will be played in each round.

All Competitors must furnish the Secretary with the address at which messages will reach them during the Tournament.

Flat-soled footwear must be worn.

PLAY.

Play will begin at 10.30 a.m. on Monday and at 10 a.m. on other days, unless otherwise notified.

THE SILVER JUBILEE CUP and GOLF CROQUET CUPS

Challenge Cup presented to the C.A. in 1935 by H. T. Pinckney Simpson, Esq.

Holder.—R. C. V. de Wesselow.

Will be played for at the ROEHAMPTON CLUB
On MONDAY, JULY 30th, and five following days

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the Croquet Association.

Manager, Referee and Handicapper.—L. H. Ashton.

OPEN TO ASSOCIATES ONLY

- 1.—HANDICAP SINGLES. An Event open to Associates who are classed at scratch or more. Entrance Fee, 6s. Matches of singles games throughout. The Event will be drawn in two or more approximately equal blocks, the winners of which will play off as for the Gilbey Cup.
- 2.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Combined handicaps of 1 bisque or over. Entries should be made in pairs. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. each person. Matches of single games throughout. Holders, E. P. C. Cotter and Mrs. S. Adler (4½).
- 3.—GOLF CROQUET SINGLES. THE "ASCOT" CHALLENGE CUP. Open to all. Entrance Fee, 4s. 6d. The competition will be played under the Official Rules of Golf Croquet. Played in two blocks according to handicaps; the winners of the blocks playing-off to decide the winner of the Cup. Holder, Mrs. H. J. Philpot.
- 4.—GOLF CROQUET DOUBLES. THE "DELVES BROUGHTON" CHALLENGE CUPS. Presented by the late Sir Delves Broughton. Open to pairs with a combined Croquet handicap of not less than scratch. Entrance Fee, 4s. 6d. The competition will be played under the Official Rules of Golf Croquet. Entries should be made in pairs. Holders, E. P. C. Cotter and Miss J. Warwick (1).

Hoops 3½ ins. wide and Jaques' "Eclipse" balls will be used. Flat-soled footwear must be worn.

ENTRIES.

The Entries, accompanied by the Entrance Fee, must be sent to the Secretary, C.A., so as to reach her not later than the first post on Wednesday, July 25th.

Competitors must give with their entries the address at which messages will reach them during the Tournament.

DRAW.

The Draw will take place at 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1., on Wednesday, July 25th, at 11 a.m.

PLAY.

Play will begin at 10 a.m. on Monday, and at 10 a.m. on other days unless otherwise notified.

HURLINGHAM

THE ANNUAL CROQUET TOURNAMENT

including the

"LADIES' FIELD" CANDLESTICKS

(Under the direction of the C.A.) will be held from
MONDAY, AUGUST 6th, to WEDNESDAY,
AUGUST 15th, 1956

Committee.—The Croquet Committee of the Club.

Manager and Handicapper.—Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury.

Referee.—W. Longman.

Secretary.—Lieut.-Col. R. F. J. Hayward, V.C., M.C.

EVENTS.

- 1.—THE HURLINGHAM CUP. Holder, J. W. Solomon. Level Singles. Best of three games throughout. Entrance Fee, 11s.
 - 2.—THE TURNER CUP. Holder, Capt. H. G. Stoker. Level Singles. For players handicapped at scratch or over not entered for Event 1. Challenge Cup presented by Mrs. Ernest Turner. Single games throughout. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d.
 - 3.—THE HURLINGHAM DOUBLES. Holders, E. P. C. Cotter and Miss D. A. Lintern. Level Play. Mixed Pairs. Challenge Cup presented by Mrs. Henry Franc. Singles games throughout. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. each player.
 - 4.—THE YOUNGER CUP. Holder, G. W. Hitchcock. Level Singles. For players handicapped at 2½ bisques and over not entered for Events 1 or 2. Challenge Cup presented by Lt.-Col. J. A. C. Younger. Singles games throughout. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. Law 44 suspended.
 - 5.—THE LONGWORTH CUP. Holder, Mrs. M. L. Thom. Level Singles. For players handicapped at 6 bisques and over not entered for Events 1, 2 or 4. Challenge Cup presented by Mrs. R. C. Longworth. Singles games throughout. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. Law 44 suspended.
 - 6.—HANDICAP SINGLES. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d.
 - 7.—THE "LADIES' FIELD" CANDLESTICKS. (Ladies' Handicap Doubles). Holders, Miss D. A. Lintern and Mrs. M. L. Thom. Open to Lady Members of the C.A. only. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. each player.
 - 8.—MEN'S HANDICAP DOUBLES. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d.
- Tournament Plant by Messrs. John Jaques and Son Ltd., 3½in. Hoops and Standard Setting.

PRIZES.

The winners of Trophies will be entitled to hold them for one year. Other prizes in accordance with the entries.

ENTRIES AND DRAW.

All Entries with Fees for Events 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6, with the addresses of the competitors (and telephone number) must reach the Secretary, Croquet Tournament, The Hurlingham Club, Fulham, S.W.6, by first post on Wednesday, 1st August. Entries for Events 3, 7 and 8, will close at noon on Tuesday, 7th August. The Draw for Events, 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6, will take place at the Club on Wednesday, 1st August, at 2.30 p.m.; for other Events as announced on the ground.

ALL GAMES WILL HAVE A TIME LIMIT OF 3 HOURS.

GENERAL.

The Committee reserves the right of altering the conditions and refusing entries without assigning a reason.

Flat-soled footwear must be worn.

Play will commence at 10 a.m. daily and continue till 7.30 p.m. if necessary.

Competitors will be made Honorary Members of the Club for the duration of the Tournament.

At least six Lawns will be provided.

Luncheons, Teas and Dinners can be obtained at the Club. There will also be a Snack Bar.

CROQUET PUTTING COMPETITION

There will be a Putting Competition with Croquet Mallets and Balls on the Club Putting Course from 7th to 14th August (excluding the week-end). Entrance Fee, 1s. per round. Prizes will be given according to number of entries.

CROQUET DINNER.

There will be a Dinner for Croquet players and their friends at the Hurlingham Club on Thursday, 9th August. Tickets, price 12s. 6d., can be obtained from the Secretary, The Hurlingham Club.

CROQUET CHAMPIONSHIP MEETING OF IRELAND

CARRICKMINES CROQUET AND LAWN TENNIS CLUB

Saturday, 11th August, to Saturday, 18th August,
1956

Committee.—The Croquet Committee of the Club.

Manager.—Lady Fitzgerald.

Referee.—To be appointed.

Hon. Secretary.—Mrs. B. T. O'Reilly, Ballynamote, Carrickmines, Co. Dublin.

EVENTS.

- 1.—CHAMPIONSHIP OF IRELAND. Silver Salver (Perpetual). Presented by P. D. Matthews, Esq. Entrance Fee, 10s. Holder, Col. W. S. Beamish.
- 2.—LEVEL SINGLES. Challenge Cup (Perpetual). Presented by the late J. W. Green, Esq. 3 bisques and over. Single games. Entrance Fee, 6s. Holder, J. K. Maconchy. Law 44 suspended.
- 3.—HANDICAP SINGLES. Founders Cup (Perpetual). Entrance Fee, 6s. Holder, A. V. McCormick.
- 4.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Stonebrook Cups (Perpetual). Presented by the late Col. Cooke. Single games. Entrance Fee, 6s. each player. Holders, Lady Fitzgerald and Mrs. B. T. O'Reilly.

Entries for all events will close on Tuesday, August 7th, at 6 p.m. and the Draw will then take place.

Play will commence at 10.30 a.m. on Saturday, August 11th.

Competitors residing over 25 miles distance from Dublin will not be required for play till 10 a.m. on Monday, August 13th.

Standard setting and Jaques' "Eclipse" balls will be used.

Flat-soled shoes must be worn.

The committee reserve the right of refusing any Entry without assigning a reason.

THE CHALLENGE CUPS, GILBEY CUP

Will be played for at THE ROEHAMPTON CLUB
On AUGUST 16th, 17th and 18th, and AUGUST
23rd, 24th and 25th

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the Croquet Association.

Managers and Referees.—Miss D. A. Lintern and Mrs. L. E. G. Nickisson.

Handicapper.—Miss D. A. Lintern.

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

EVENTS.

OPEN TO ASSOCIATES ONLY

THE CHALLENGE CUPS

- 1.—FIRST DIVISION. THE ROEHAMPTON CHALLENGE CUP (Open). Entrance Fee, 11s. 6d. **This Event will be played on the "Two Life" system.** Holder—Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins.
- 2.—SECOND DIVISION. THE COUNCIL CHALLENGE CUP. Open to Associates handicapped at $\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ bisques inclusive. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. Matches of single games except that matches best of three games will be played in the semi-final (if time permits) and final. Level play. Law 44 partially suspended. No lift after 4-back. Holder—W. D. Ormerod.
- 3.—THIRD DIVISION. THE LUARD CHALLENGE CUP. Open to Associates handicapped at 3 to 5 bisques inclusive. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. Matches of single games throughout. Level play. Holder—Miss J. Warwick.
- 4.—FOURTH DIVISION. THE RECKITT CHALLENGE CUP. Open to Associates handicapped at $5\frac{1}{2}$ to $7\frac{1}{2}$ bisques inclusive. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. Matches of single games throughout. Level play. Holder—E. Whitehead.
- 5.—FIFTH DIVISION. THE STEVENSON CHALLENGE CUP. Open to Associates handicapped at 8 bisques or over. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. Matches of single games throughout. Level play. Holder—Miss M. M. Morgan.

Law 44 will be suspended in respect of Events 3, 4 and 5.
N.B.—No competitor may enter for more than one of the above events.

- 6.—THE "GILBEY" CUP HANDICAP SINGLES. This event will be drawn in four blocks. "A", "B", "C" and "D" according to handicaps. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. Matches of single games throughout. To qualify for the "Gilbey" Cup the winner of "A" v "B" will play the winner of "C" v "D". Holders—The Event—Mrs. W. A. Traill (3 $\frac{1}{2}$). Block "A"—Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins. Block "C"—Brig. J. S. Omond (7). Block "D"—Major-Gen. F. H. N. Davidson (8 $\frac{1}{2}$).

An extra event will be played if time permits.

CONDITIONS.

Hoops 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide. Jaques' "Eclipse" Balls will be used. Eight courts will be provided. Flat-soled footwear must be worn.

ENTRIES.

The entries accompanied by the Entrance Fees must be sent to the Secretary, C.A., so as to reach her not later than the first post on Monday, August 13th.

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

DRAW.

The Draw for the Challenge Cups and Gilbey Cup will take place at 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1, on Monday, 13th August, at 11 a.m.

PLAY.

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

BRIGHTON, 1956

THE FORTY-THIRD
AUTUMN TOURNAMENTMONDAY, AUGUST 27th, and FIVE FOLLOWING
DAYS

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

Committee.—Mrs. H. F. Chittenden, Mrs. H. Franc, Mrs. E. Miller, S. F. Sopwith, G. E. W. Hitchcock, A. S. Bland and Miss H. D. Parker.

Manager.—Miss D. D. Steel.

Referee.—N. Oddie.

Hon. Secretary.—F. E. Corke, 60 Southwick Street, Southwick.

EVENTS.

- 1.—OPEN SINGLES ("Two Lives" system). Law 44 partially suspended. No lift after 4-back. THE SUSSEX GOLD CUP presented by the late E. R. Harrison. Entrance Fee, 11s.
- 2.—LEVEL SINGLES (CLASS B). Law 44 suspended. THE FRANC CUP presented by Mrs. H. Franc. Open to players handicapped 2 to 5 bisques. Entrance Fee, 8s.
- 3.—HANDICAP SINGLES (CLASS 3). THE MONTEITH BOWL presented by the late G. C. Branthisaite. Open to players handicapped $5\frac{1}{2}$ bisques and over. Entrance Fee, 8s.
- 4.—HANDICAP SINGLES. THE MAURICE RECKITT BOWL presented by Mr. M. B. Reckitt. Entrance Fee, 8s.
- 5.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Entrance Fee, 8s. each partner.

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

ENTRIES.

Players may not enter for more than one of Events 1, 2 or 3. Entries for 1, 2, 3 and 4, must reach the Hon. Secretary by first post on **Thursday, August 23rd**, but may close earlier if necessary.

THE DRAW.

The Draw for 1, 2, 3 and 4, will take place at Southwick on Thursday, August 23rd, at 2.30 p.m., and Event 5 on Tuesday, August 28th.

PLAY.

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

GENERAL.

Standard setting 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch hoops and Jaques' Eclipse Balls will be used. Ten Courts will be available.

Flat-soled footwear must be worn.

Competitors will be made hon. members of the Club during the Tournament.

TRANSPORT

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

PARKSTONE (East Dorset)

CROQUET TOURNAMENT

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3rd, and five following days

(Under the Laws and Regulations of the C.A.)

Committee.—Croquet Committee of the Parkstone Club.

Manager and Handicapper.—L. H. Ashton.

Referee.—Lt.-Col. F. E. W. Baldwin.

Hon. Secretary.—Mrs. L. H. Ashton, L.T. and Croquet Club, Saltern's Road, Parkstone, Dorset.

EVENTS.

- 1.—OPEN SINGLES. Single games. Entrance Fee, 8s. Bournemouth Bowl. Loser of the first match qualifies for the Ashton Trophy. Single games. Entrance Fee, 5s.
- 2.—LEVEL SINGLES. Law 44 suspended. For players of $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 bisques inclusive. Entrance Fee, 8s. Deshon Cup.

- 3.—HANDICAP SINGLES. For players of $4\frac{1}{2}$ bisques and over. Entrance Fee, 8s. Halse Salver.

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

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

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

CONDITIONS.

Entries for Events 1, 2, 3 and 4, must reach the Hon. Secretary by midday Thursday, August 30th. Entries for Event 5 close at midday on Tuesday, September 4th.

The Draw will take place at the Club on Thursday, August 30th, at 3 p.m.

Five or six courts will be provided and Jaques' "Eclipse" balls will be used. Standard 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. hoops.

Play will commence at 10 a.m. (or earlier if necessary).

Flat-soled footwear must be worn.

Lunch and tea at the Club at moderate prices.

The Hon. Secretary will be pleased to help in finding accommodation if notified in time. Kindly send full particulars as to type required.

BRIGHTON

(UNOFFICIAL)

An Unofficial Tournament will be held on **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3rd, and FIVE FOLLOWING DAYS**

(Under C.A. Laws and Regulations).

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

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

EVENTS.

- 1.—HANDICAP SINGLES. $5\frac{1}{2}$ and under. Entrance Fee, 8s.
 - 2.—HANDICAP SINGLES. 6 and over. Entrance Fee, 8s.
 - 3.—HANDICAP SINGLES. 9 and over. Entrance Fee, 9s.
 - 4.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Combined Handicap to be not less than 4. Entrance Fee, 8s.
- All games in Event 4 will start at No. 3 hoop.

Entries for 1, 2 and 3, must reach the Hon. Secretary not later than **first post, Thursday, August 30th**.

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

Luncheons and Teas will be obtainable in the Club canteen.

Extra event if time permits.

HUNSTANTON

THE FIFTY-NINTH HUNSTANTON OPEN
CROQUET TOURNAMENT

Will be held on the Club Grounds on **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3rd, 1956** and five following days

(Under C.A. Laws and Regulations).

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

Manager.—C. B. Bird.

Referee and Handicapper.—Mrs. Edmund Reeve.

Hon. Secretary.—Mrs. B. C. Perowne, 65 Victoria Avenue, Hunstanton.

EVENTS.

- 1.—OPEN SINGLES (Class "A"). Draw and Process. Law 44 partially suspended. No lift after 4-back. The Norfolk Challenge Cup. Entrance Fee, 11s.
 - 2.—LEVEL SINGLES (Class "B"). Law 44 suspended. THE HUNSTANTON CHALLENGE BOWL. 2 to 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ bisques. Entrance Fee, 8s.
 - 3.—HANDICAP SINGLES (Class "C"). 9 bisques and over. Entrance Fee, 8s.
 - 4.—HANDICAP SINGLES. "X.Y." INGLEBY CHALLENGE CUP. Entrance Fee, 9s.
 - 5.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. No players of 2 handicap or less may partner each other. Entrance Fee, 8s.
- At the discretion of the Committee, any of these events may be played on the American system if number of entries warrants it.
- No player may enter for more than one of Events 1, 2 and 3.

CONDITIONS.

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

Entrance Fees must be paid at the time of entry.

THE DRAW.

The Draw for Events 1, 2, 3 and 4, will take place in the Club's Pavilion on Saturday, September 1st, at 5 p.m.

Play will begin at 10 a.m. on each day and continue to 7 p.m.

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

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

CHELTENHAM

N.O. TOURNAMENT

To be held on the Club Lawns, Old Bath Road
On Monday, September 17th, and five following days

EVENTS.

- 1.—OPEN SINGLES (Two Lives). (Law 44 partially suspended.) Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d.
- 2.—LEVEL SINGLES (Law 44-suspended). 3 bisques or more. Entrance Fee, 6s.
- 3.—HANDICAP SINGLES. $5\frac{1}{2}$ bisques to 9 bisques. Entrance Fee, 6s.
- 4.—HANDICAP SINGLES. 10 bisques or over. Entrance Fee, 6s.
- 5.—HANDICAP SINGLES (X.Y. system). Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d.
- 6.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Unrestricted. Entrance Fee, 6s. each player.

Entries to Lt.-Col. S. Mathews, Cheltenham Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham, by midday, September 13th. Draw 2 p.m. same day.

Manager.—Comdr. D. W. Roe.

Referee and Handicapper.—Rev. G. F. H. Elvey.

Play will begin daily at 10 a.m. or earlier if necessary.

SMALL ADVERTISEMENT

WANTED. "Croquet and How to Play it" (Second Edition) by Arthur Ross. Write N. F. Blackwood, Flat 2, 4 Third Avenue, Hove, Sussex.