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May 24—28	HURLINGHAM	Inter-County Championships
May 31—June 4	ROEHAMPTON	Men's and Women's Championships
July 5—10	HURLINGHAM	Open Championships
July 26—31	HURLINGHAM	Ladies' Field Cup
Aug. 12—21	ROEHAMPTON	Challenge and Gilbey Cups
Sept. 6—11	ROEHAMPTON	President's Cup

For dates of other events see the calendar on page 2

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

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WHY YOU BREAK DOWN

By E. P. C. COTTER

DO YOU KNOW?

By ARTHUR ROSS

GOLF CROQUET

A QUESTION OF LAW

BEGINNERS, PLEASE

THE THIRD LESSON

NOTES FROM THE CLUBS

TOURNAMENT FIXTURES

May	10	Peel Memorials (Roehampton). Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
"	17	Brighton. Hon. Sec., F. E. Corke, 28 Mansfield Road, Hove 3.
"	24	Inter-County Championships (Hurlingham). Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
"	31	Men's and Women's Championships and Gold Caskets (Roehampton). Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
June	7	Ryde. Hon. Sec., H. Compton, 67 Monkton Street, Ryde, I.O.W.
"	14	Nottingham. Hon. Sec., N. L. Bright, 5 Premier Road, Sherwood Rise, Nottingham.
"	14	Woking. Hon. Sec., Major J. W. Cobb, Farm Hotel, Woking.
"	21	Buxton. Hon. Sec., Mrs. D. Chorlton, 6 The Square, Buxton.
"	21	Parkstone. Hon. Sec., Mrs. L. H. Ashton, The Orchard, Parkstone.
"	28	Bedford. Hon. Sec., Miss D. D. Steel, Kings Close, Biddenham, Bedford.
"	28	Compton. Hon. Sec., Lt.-Col. R. A. Irwin, The Lawn, Willingdon, Sussex.
July	5	Croquet Championships (Hurlingham). Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
"	12	Budleigh Salterton. Hon. Sec., Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave, Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, Budleigh Salterton.
"	19	Exmouth. Hon. Sec., Miss A. E. Mills, Grey Friars, Budleigh Salterton.
"	19	Cheltenham. Hon. Sec., T. J. Gould, Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham.
"	26	Warwickshire Croquet Club (Leamington Spa). Hon. Sec., Major A. M. Deakin, Cliffe House, Guys Cliffe Avenue, Leamington Spa.
"	26	Ladies' Field Cup and Silver Jubilee Cup (Hurlingham). Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
Aug.	2	Hurlingham. The Games Secretary, Hurlingham Club, London, S.W.6.
to 11	7	Match. Hurlingham v. The Rest (Hurlingham).
"	11	All England Handicap Final Stages (Roehampton).
to 13	12	Challenge Cups and Gilbey Cup. Golf Croquet, Ascot and Delves Broughton Cups (Roehampton). Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
to 21	23	Brighton. Hon. Sec., F. E. Corke, 28 Mansfield Road, Hove 3.
"	30	Hunstanton. Hon. Sec., Mrs. B. C. Perowne, 65 Victoria Avenue, Hunstanton.
"	30	Parkstone. Hon. Sec., Mrs. L. H. Ashton, The Orchard, Parkstone.
Sept.	6	President's Cup and Creyke Cups (Roehampton). Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
"	20	Roehampton. Games Secretary, Roehampton Club, Roehampton Lane, London, S.W.5.
"	27	Eastbourne, Devonshire Park. Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
Oct.	2	Match. Men v. Women (Devonshire Park).
NON-OFFICIAL FIXTURES		
May	10	Budleigh Salterton. Hon. Sec., Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave, Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, Budleigh Salterton.
Aug.	23	Hunstanton (American). Hon. Sec., Mrs. B. C. Perowne, 65 Victoria Avenue, Hunstanton.
"	30	Brighton. Hon. Sec., F. E. Corke, 28 Mansfield Road, Hove 3.
Sept.	6	Cheltenham. Hon. Sec., T. J. Gould, Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham.

Two

CROQUET ASSOCIATION NOTICES

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

ELECTION OF ASSOCIATES

F. E. M. Beatley
Mrs. F. E. M. Beatley
Miss E. Catchpole
Mrs. Knight Gibson
Mrs. J. Jackson
Mrs. E. Watson
Rev. C. W. Wordsworth

HANDICAP EVENTS IN TOURNAMENTS

During 1954 Tournament Committees are recommended to consider arranging for one of the authorized shortened games to be played in events limited to players with handicaps of 8 bisques or over.

DUTIES OF REFEREES

To enable the Referee of the Meeting to carry out the duties laid down in Reg. 15 (b) the Committee of the Tournament shall have available (a) a hoop gauge (b) a ball gauge (c) a yard-stick.

INTERVENING REFEREES

The Regulation giving power to the Referee of a tournament to call attention at once to any infringement of the Laws and to appoint, at his discretion, Assistant Referees with similar powers introduced last season, will be continued in force for the present. The Council has authorized the removal of any restriction on the number of such persons whom the Referee of the tournament may appoint.

HANDBOOK OF LAWS

Price 1s. 6d. new edition (Non-Associates, 2s.).

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.

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"Brento" balls used at the Peel Memorials Meeting will be for sale at £3 10s. 0d. per set, carriage 1s. 6d. Apply Secretary, C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

EDITORIAL PANEL OF "CROQUET"

Miss D. A. Lintern
L. F. C. Darby
M. B. Reckitt
Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury

LORN C. APPS,
Secretary.

The More We are Together . . .

BY the time these lines are read club players everywhere will be returning to their happy hunting grounds to renew the familiar delights and tackle the perhaps still more familiar frustrations of their so fascinating game. How many of them, we wonder, will pause to give thanks for their good fortune in having a club to play at at all. For this is the sort of blessing that most of us all too easily take for granted. Yet no attitude could be more perilous, not only to the prospects of our own future enjoyment, but to the fortunes of Croquet itself. It is because too many players have taken their clubs for granted in the past that these clubs no longer exist today. Whether due to shortsightedness or to selfishness, this sort of obtuse complacency is a grave menace. Croquet knows no enemy more dangerous than the man who says, whether of his club or of the game itself, "anyway it will last my time." Such people thoroughly deserve to be proved wrong—and often are.

The health of any game ultimately depends upon the vitality of its local units. It is in our clubs that Croquet must be taught and fostered; that interest in it will be stimulated by amicable rivalry, and friendships made which can immensely add to the pleasure we gain from the actual playing of the game. A Croquet club is something more than an enclosure within which a number of courts are laid out; it is a little society, a unit of human association. But just in this may lie one of the dangers to its enduring success. The members of this circle may become too well satisfied with each others' company, too ready to assume that all will go on as it always seems to have done, and to fail to notice that in fact old hands are dropping out and no new recruits are coming in. But a truly successful club never in fact goes on merely by its own momentum. It requires a propagandist spirit in its members, and organized and continuous effort to welcome and to aid all those whom it can contrive to attract. The club with its eyes turned inwards, "introverted" as today's jargon has it, is in danger, however satisfactory its credit balance may appear to be at the moment.

Now the opening of the season is perhaps the best time of all for club players to consider and take counsel together upon how they may bring a new accession of vitality into their membership. Local conditions vary so greatly that it would be

hardly possible to lay down any explicit directions as to how this may best be done, even if we felt called upon—as we do not—to dictate to our readers on such a matter. But one suggestion may be tentatively advanced. This is the "croquet party." In its more ambitious form the occasion might be organized somewhat as follows. Each keen member of the club makes a resolute effort to bring at least one friend on the appointed afternoon. An exhibition game is staged and the course of this is expounded to the visitors, either through a loudspeaker or by a number of commentators addressing small groups. Tea follows with a talk given by a competent speaker once all are comfortably settled. Then all those ready "to have a go" are taken on the lawns and given some elementary instruction. The party finishes maybe with cocktails, and perhaps a further talk and an opportunity for questions. We believe that many clubs might find both the effort and the outlay involved in "throwing a party" like this to be a profitable investment.

Too many clubs have gone under in the past from lack of the spirit which gets such things done. Let us resolve that no such loss shall ever occur again. And do not let us be deflected from our purpose by the suggestion that people have no time today to give to the game. We believe it to be axiomatic that in any large centre of population there is a sufficient number of potential croquet players to fill any club to overflowing. But club members must go out and find them and publish widely the existence of their club and the attractions it provides. May we never forget that clubs are preserved—as games are won—less by good luck than by good management.

We have been speaking up to now principally of what club members must do to bring new recruits to their company. But of course this is but half the battle. New members have not only to be attracted, they have to be retained. And they will not be retained if, when they join a club, no one seems to pay any particular attention to them. Croquet, unlike some other games, is not much fun unless a player has a fairly clear idea of what he should be trying to do, and how he should go about doing it. We have got to make our new members feel that they have become our friends, and there is no quicker way of doing that than by showing them how to play well enough to become our partners—and ere long our victorious opponents.

Three

NOTES by ROVER

AGLANCE at the list of Calendar Fixtures shows that an insatiable tournament player might find somewhere to exhibit his skill in every week of the season from now until early October. Or to be precise in all but two, since on September 6th, unless invited for the President's Cup, he must enter for a non-official fixture, and in the following week he cannot enter for anything at all. (We wonder whether some club will be enterprising enough to fill up this gap next year.) That anyone will in fact compete in each of these 22 weeks is highly improbable and, we should imagine, would be somewhat undesirable. Too many tournaments can be as bad for one's game as too few. It would be interesting to know what most Associates would regard as an optimum in this respect. Our own suggestion is that three weeks running of competitive play should be enough for anyone, and that a maximum of about a dozen might well represent the limit of one's ambition—to say nothing of one's purse.

However long Croquet tournaments remain a feature of the nation's life, we may be sure that one subject of discussion will be equally enduring. This perennial theme is the Time Limit. It was interesting to find one of Croquet's most admired veterans protesting in our last number against any shortening of games, while one of its newer recruits was calling for a limit of 2½ hours on all single matches. It is natural that those with larger handicaps should at first sight feel aggrieved at the Council's suggestion (it neither is nor can be anything more) that their games should be shortened. The real issue at stake here, however, is whether it is better to curtail a possibly protracted contest at the beginning or at the end; it was no doubt because the end is likely to be the

A Letter from Cape Town

"SUNNY SOUTH AFRICA"

March, 1954.

IT is not true that the sun shines every day in the Union or even in Cape Town, any more than that Cape Town and Table Mountain face South, or that the Cape Peninsula is the southernmost bit of land on the African Continent.

True it is that we play Croquet all through the year, being held up by rain a dozen days, maybe, per annum. Wednesdays and Saturdays are "Tea" days, when each member in turn provides milk and cakes, tea, sugar and crockery being kept at the Club. Only the minimum of such are we able to leave in the Club buildings, owing to periodic burglaries. Police protection would run us into about five pounds a month, so we find burglaries more economical! On most Tea days our three courts are in full use. On Wednesdays we draw for partners, and on Saturdays play according to handicap.

Our courts are of the hard variety, something like a hard tennis court, with a light spreading of

really exciting part of any match that the Council decided to put forward its proposition. It is not games only which are lost by the imposition of time limits; it is often—and quite understandably perhaps—nerves and tempers too.

We would take this occasion to remind Associates that both the day and the venue of their Annual Meeting is changed from those of last year, the Council reverting to the long established practice of holding this gathering during Peels Week at Roehampton. We say "their" Annual Meeting, for we wish more Associates realized that this is, of all days in the year, that which really belongs to them, and that on which their inquiries and complaints can be most effectively voiced. Even if no motions were to be moved it should not be difficult for any Associate to bring up almost any point he would like to raise in discussion of the Report and Balance Sheet. We are most of us familiar with "Any Questions?" on the radio. It might be a good alternative title for our A.G.M.

The layout and general appearance of our first number has been so much praised that the Editorial Panel, blushing with gratification, nevertheless feel it incumbent upon them to confess that very little of the credit for this belongs to them. It is due almost entirely to the generous way in which professional knowledge and experience were put at their disposal on a number of occasions by a member of the Association, Mr. R. C. V. de Wesselow. *Palmarum qui meruit ferat*, which—for the benefit of any reader whose Latin may be a little rusty—means that if anyone has done a really fine job it is only fair to say so, and this it gives us the greatest pleasure to do.

heavy river sand. After watering they are easy; but during our hottest months, December to March, they are hard and control is difficult; moreover the strong glare from the light tan surface requires sun glasses unless one is used to it.

We have a number of Club Events, which occupy us for quite a while, it being difficult for most of us, here at Rondebosch Club, close to the city, to travel the long distances to Tournaments in other parts of the Union.

I am looking forward to some grass court play in the Durban district early in May. I hope to write something of the Natal Tournaments later and tell you how it is run, and of our 9.0 a.m. starts!

It is unlikely the South African titles will be played for this year, owing to the problem of finding a Club with at least three courts willing to stage such a tournament and to guarantee a sufficient entry of good players from various parts of the country.

It is with the utmost interest that we are looking forward to the new *Croquet* magazine; may it be well and truly launched.

E. L. WARD PETLEY

Beginners, Please !

—by the Rev. G. F. H. Elvey

2—*The Question of Style*

IN this article and in two which will follow, I shall imagine that I am talking to beginners on a lawn. There are several mallets that an obliging Club Secretary has lent them, and we are going to see what we can do.

Now to start off, we have got to decide what style of play we are going to adopt. Perhaps because there are no professional teachers of Croquet, no standardized style has ever been developed. No one would wish to say anything against professionalism of this sort; probably it would be a very good thing if we had one or two professional instructors, but we have not, and that is that.

But though there is no standardized style for me to recommend you to adopt, there are, as we shall see in a few minutes, certain definite principles that you will have to bear in mind. But before we talk about them, we will try and decide *our*, or rather *your* method of play.

Probably the easiest way of playing, and the one that is likely to give the quickest results, is to swing the mallet between the feet, for in playing one has one's eyes right over the line of aim. By many exponents the left hand is placed at the top of the mallet shaft with the fingers in front and with the thumb behind or on the top, the right hand is placed lower down the shaft the reverse way, that is the palm of the hand behind and the fingers curling round the shaft.

I shall have something to say about one or two variations of this method before we pass on to another style altogether. But first I want to answer a question that one of my pupils of the opposite sex is obviously wanting to fire at me. She says "Can a woman play between the feet?" My answer is that a woman can play between the feet, and some of them do. But some adjustment of dress—a short skirt or even a divided skirt may be necessary. However, some of my women friends play this way, and play quite well without any special clothes for the occasion. The leading woman exponent of this style is Mrs. Longman, who plays first-class croquet in this way.

Now, having answered my woman friend's question, we will go ahead. There are two variations of this style to be considered. The first is a new one exemplified by Mr. John Solomon. Solomon—for all single strokes—places his right hand at the top of the shaft with the thumb behind, and his left hand just below it, also with the thumb behind. You cannot help noticing that he presses the mallet back in his stroke, leaving it

to come forward by its own swing. Some people are beginning to copy this style, and it certainly has a great deal to recommend it.

Then there is another variation. I hardly think I ought to call it a variation, because a few years ago, it was THE "between-the-feet" style, and had as its exponents most of the greatest men players of the day. We might well call it the "Golf-grip" style—palms of the hands behind the shaft, fingers coming round, and thumbs in front pointing downwards. There is usually an interlocked grip with the little finger of the right hand, or even both the little finger and the third covering the first and second fingers of the left hand. But the interlock is not necessary, and the hands may be placed touching, one below the other. The thing that is important is that the two thumbs should be in front as far as possible pointing downwards. The mallet is mainly actuated by pressing with the two thumbs. I am inclined to think that this "interlocked grip" method is not suitable for women, as I think it requires hands and wrists of male size and strength. I even incline to think that this method is not so suitable, even for men, as the first that I have mentioned, if they are just beginning the game rather late in life; because it requires great flexibility of wrist. On the other hand, for those who are wise enough to take up the game in their young days, I strongly recommend it. I am fortified in this decision by my memory of some of the great players of the past—the two Corballys, O'Callaghan, Maurice Barry and many more, and in more recent years that splendid player Geoffrey Reckitt, whose loss to Croquet was so great. Of between-the-feet players of this style at the present time, there is still a goodly company.

Now two of my pupils have decided the question for themselves; as you cannot see them I must tell you that one is a woman, one a man. By the way they are handling those mallets that the obliging Secretary has lent them, they evidently intend playing between the feet. By the bye, I have called this the "between-the-feet" style in order to be clear and simple, but the time has come for me to give it its correct name. It is called CENTRE-PLAY or (because of the great Irish players who popularized it) THE IRISH STYLE.

But I have some other pupils, who do not seem to have made up their minds yet, so I must tell them about another style—the style in which the mallet is swung outside the feet. You can have the right foot slightly in front of the left and the left

beside it, or slightly behind: or you can put the left foot forward and the right behind. This is really a matter of what we might call body-build and taste. But whichever way you place your feet, you must still face the object ball, and swing the mallet straight out towards it.

You hold the mallet with one hand at the top, fingers in front, thumb behind, or on the top; the other hand a few inches lower the reverse way. One of the greatest of players, Mr. Humphrey Hicks, has his top hand like the bottom one with thumb in front and palm behind. And with this top hand he seems to grip very lightly with just his thumb and first two fingers.

There is another style I must mention. Years ago it was popular, and even today it has one or two good exponents. I will call it the cricket or golf-style; because the mallet is swung across the body like a cricket bat, or golf club. The hands are usually placed close together with the thumbs pointing downwards. The obvious advantage of this style is that the mallet is easy to hold, and there is great control. The disadvantage is that you are swinging all the time across the body and therefore it is much more difficult to aim straight, and even if you do aim straight it is not too easy to avoid pulling the ball off its correct course. The people who play this way would seem, so to speak, to have taken to it naturally; but I could not take the responsibility of recommending it to you beginners.

I think before I lay down certain general principles that are applicable to all the styles I had better talk for a few minutes about the ordinary Side Style with the mallet swung outside the feet. Like most things in life, it has merits and demerits. One of its merits is that you can stand more upright, and so perhaps it may not be so tiring as Centre Play. On the other hand, you have to bend the head, and twist the body round and that somewhat outweighs this seeming advantage. Its main demerit is that there is a tendency to pull the mallet round the body, and even when some proficiency has been gained it is difficult to eliminate the danger of occasionally missing a short roquet or an easy hoop. But from the days of Bruce at the beginning of the century, of Woolston and the Beatons who followed him, and of Miss D. D. Steel between the wars, there have been players second to none who have used this style. So nobody who feels inclined need hesitate to adopt it.

Just as two of my pupils (one a woman one a man) have obviously decided on Centre-play; so I notice that my other two (also a woman and a man) are inclined for Side-play. So I think the time has come when I can talk to my four pupils about matters that apply to all styles. If there is anything that applies to one and not to another I will mention it in passing. But almost everything I have got to say will apply to all styles.

To start with you must above all feel at ease. Head, body, feet must all be comfortably placed. You must hold the mallet in a way that is comfortable to you. If you are not at ease you won't

get anywhere except possibly into an easy chair tired-out, deciding that you do not want to play any more. It is a curious thing about Croquet that the style the beginner chooses at the very start, he or she usually sticks to all through his or her croquet career; therefore it is all the more important to choose a good style, but before all, a comfortable one.

Then there is the matter of holding the mallet. The old exponents of Billiards used to say "Hold the cue lightly" the more modern Billiards experts have modified this, and instead say "Hold the cue firmly." But they add, "Don't grip it as though it was a barge pole." I would say the same about holding a croquet mallet. Don't hold it so lightly that it may wobble in your hands, but though holding it firmly, be careful not to grip it too tightly. If you use a vice-like grip you stun the ball, and the whole stroke becomes a matter of brute-force instead of a nice rhythmical swing in which you are sweeping the ball away rather than hitting it. And this brings me to the most important word on the executive side of croquet—RHYTHM! RHYTHM is the essence of the executive side of croquet. Watch a first-class player as he makes a long break. There are no jerks! There are not even hits! The mallet comes backwards and forwards just like the pendulum of a clock.

Now to get this all-important rhythm you must be very careful of your back-swing. If you snatch or jerk the mallet back, in the language of today, "You have had it"; you have missed your roquet or your ball is stuck in its hoop. Remember that your business is to swing the mallet rhythmically and so give it a chance of doing its job. Don't try to do the job with your arms and wrists, still less with your body.

There is one trouble that every croquet-player has to face, and that is the tendency to hand or foot predominance. If you are a centre-player and find that you are inclined to miss the object ball mostly on one side look at your feet. Perhaps a slight adjustment of the feet will put the business right, or, of course, it may be a matter of altering the position of the hands. If you are a side-player, you will have to be *especially* careful not to pull the mallet round the body. If you are committing this fault, look at the position of your upper hand, which, of course, is the guide-hand. Are you trying to twist it round behind the shaft. If you are doing this, you will certainly pull the ball out of the straight. Take your hand off, and put it back with the thumb on the top—this will stop your trying to twist it too far round. After you have put the thumb on the top, thus correcting the error, you can then, without altering the position of your hand, drop the thumb behind, if that should be more comfortable for you. And, of course, you may have to adjust your feet also.

I must say "Good-evening" now, but when we come out on the lawn next time, we will have a talk first about mallets, and then about using them on the lawn for actual strokes.

HOW TO FINISH A BREAK

by

Humphrey Hicks

Holder of Open Championship 1947-50

ONE of the most important things in Croquet is to leave the balls well at the end of a break.

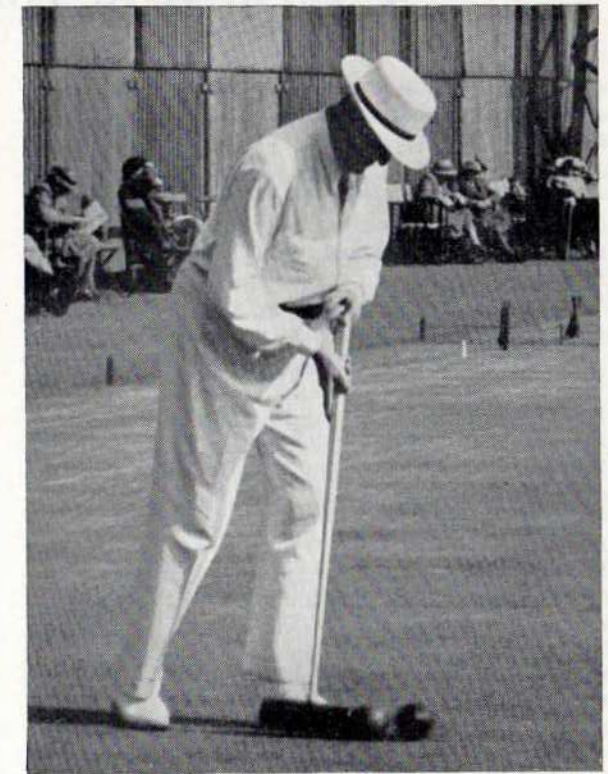
Too many players are content to lay up for their partner-ball by leaving a short rush near the partner-ball's hoop, having separated each of the opponents' balls as far as possible. This may be all right; or it may be all wrong. It will be wrong if your opponent is left a "double" shot with *either* ball. It is not safe to assume that your adversary will necessarily play with the ball you have so carefully sent to your partner-ball's next hoop. If there is a "double," or even a tempting target for the other ball, it is quite likely that this shot will be taken—and, worse still, that it will be hit. (And if it is it will be your own fault.)

Forewarned is forearmed, and if the player realizes that it *really* is all-important NOT to leave any sort of a "double" for either of the opponents' balls—then—unless a ball "rolls right round," "runs down a hill," or "comes in a yard" (any or all of which contingencies seem always to be happening to some players), surely there will be no "double" left.

Special care should be taken in this respect when the opponent has a "lift." The reason is surely clear; nevertheless it is extraordinary how often a "double" can be obtained from a lift shot.

Having got a four-ball break going perfectly, it is advisable to start thinking early on—say after you have made the 4th hoop, about how you are going to leave the balls at the end of your turn. Let us assume you are in play with Yellow (with a 4-baller) and that you intend to put the yellow clip on the rover hoop. You should say to yourself, "I don't want to make penultimate off red"—it is never a good thing to make the last hoop of a break off your partner-ball—"therefore, I don't want to make 3-back off red—and therefore I don't want to make 1-back off red." After making the 4th hoop, is an excellent time to see to it that you don't make 1-back off red. It should, at this point, be comparatively simple to arrange matters accordingly—but, one word of warning here. Don't—whatever you do—risk sacrificing your break by attempting some sort of split-shot you don't perhaps feel very happy about.

It is, of course, also necessary to think where the opponents' balls are to be left. We all *know* that Black should not be left near Blue's hoop (yet how often one sees this done), and we all know that, generally speaking, it is a good thing to leave Blue near to Blue's hoop.



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Photo Harry Hardy Ltd., Eastbourne

If the opponent already has one ball round, it is very important that he should be made to play with this ball—it is never *quite* so serious if the long shot is hit with the forward ball, for you know you are bound to have at least one more chance. Provided that this point is thought of in reasonable time, it should always be possible to force the opponent to play with his forward ball, or to make him "pay" very heavily should he decide to shoot with his backward ball—and miss.

Four-ball breaks—fortunately for the opponent—sometimes go awry. Unless one has failed at a hoop—or sent a ball off—(or missed a short roquet) there may yet be time to make some sort of a leave. At any rate, don't play your last shot in a despairing fashion. A ball may hit the wire of a hoop on its way to a corner, if there has been a careless mis-cue.

Sometimes it is a good idea to "guard" the boundary, by going say four or five yards away from your partner-ball. Again, it may be possible to "scatter" two balls successfully, but this shot should not be undertaken just for the fun of it. It is very likely that more harm than good will be achieved.

At the end of the game, when you are laying for your partner-ball to go out, it is possible to err on the side of over-caution. You are so anxious—naturally—to leave very little for your opponent if he hits in, that you find—after he has missed—that you yourself cannot finish the game after all. In most cases it is wiser to leave something comparatively easy for yourself, and to bank on the opponent's long shot being missed. But, please, *no "double."*

CROQUET RECRUITS

SOMETIMES one is told that Croquet has no young recruits. Indeed I hear that not long ago a visitor from overseas returned home after a season's play quite convinced that Croquet in this country had had its day. Yet, so far as I can tell, that assertion was based upon a pure assumption that the young do not play. That just is not true. I admit that there are more middle-aged than young recruits but that, as a moment's reflection will show, is no more than we ought to expect. Croquet, besides being a very scientific and intriguing game, is also a very leisurely one. It is not therefore to be expected that those who in their youth look for an active and quick-moving game would be the first to turn to Croquet. Yet those who go to the trouble of discovering what real Croquet is do become devotees of the game. It is making this discovery that is the difficulty, and therein, I think lies the rub. I have heard so many say of Croquet, "Oh Croquet! Yes, of course, I could play that game." Then they find they can't, except with much practice and much hard work. And that is the end as far as they are concerned.

Let me illustrate this point. I remember a golfing friend of mine who was always a little amused at my fondness for Croquet. I invited him one day to come and try his hand at the game, and, whether he did so because he thought this was an opportunity to show me how anyone could do what I did, or whether it was because I was his employer and he thought it politic, I shall never know. He came. He was a good scratch player at golf, who particularly fancied himself on the green, and rightly so, for many a time had I envied him the way he seemed with easy skill to sink a ten foot putt. But Croquet had something to teach him! It was enlightening so see him gradually discover that croquet strokes cannot just be made by the light of nature; that experience on the golf green does not necessarily mean that you can run hoops from any angle, and that the technique required to make a small ball drop into a large hole is quite different from that needed to make a large ball pass through a small hoop. At the end of an hour he confessed that Croquet needed just as much study and practice as golf. He never took up Croquet, but he certainly acquired a respect for the game. I think he lacked humility. He could not bring himself to say, "I know nothing and I want to learn." But that is in fact the way to start. Fortunately for Croquet there are quite a number of people who do say that and they are of all ages.

Now I am relatively new to the game. I never knew the glories of Ranelagh, with its smart clothes and military band. Unknown to me, too, were the country house parties collected for local tournaments. I was never among the guests carried, they say, at a furious speed to a northern tournament. Though I love these stories of the past, I am looking at the present and what I see I find rather good.

Eight

I see a Croquet Association which maintains its numbers in spite of the set-back of two wars, and I see a number of very keen players with a steady flow of recruits. No young players indeed! Listen to what John Solomon has to say about Croquet. True, he is by no means a recruit, but he is young and was not so very long ago a boy at Charterhouse. "I play Croquet," he told a reporter, "because there is so much more in it than in other games. So much more thinking out and manoeuvre—it is far, far ahead of lawn tennis. I play hockey, fives and lawn tennis but to my way of thinking Croquet beats the lot!" "Yes," but the critic says, "he is an exception." He is certainly an exceptionally good player, but there are other young players as well. A lady recently wrote for information about Croquet because of her sons' enthusiasm for the game to which they had been introduced by their housemaster at Eton. Not long ago I met a young lady who in her twenties is an ardent croquet recruit. Lady champions beware! This girl is an athlete and has an eye for a ball game. Then you ought to meet the Bright young things of Nottingham. Yes, their name is Bright and they are young, both under twelve. One has just had her first croquet mallet made for her and with her brother will doubtless feature in Nottingham tournaments in the not too distant future. Nottingham is going to provide some surprises for the championship meetings in London one of these years. I expect to see Geoffrey Bright, a very able player, with a delightfully free style, among our leading players before very long. Though he has played for many years I suppose he has another thirty or forty of croquet before him. His two young children will doubtless follow in their father's footsteps. I have never met but have often heard of a young player from the Clifton Club who shares with his father an enthusiasm for Croquet. Croquet doomed to die! How can that be with players such as these?

Now here is a postscript to show how some fortunate people take to Croquet like ducks to water. I had a friend staying with me not long ago who is a canon of the church and a grandfather. I took him to our local club and after a little instruction he started to play, and then saying "this game intrigues me" he began hitting the ball perfectly, running hoops with beginner's ease and placing the balls wherever he wished. In case you have a wrong picture of the canon he is not bent and old in appearance but six foot tall and as straight as a poker. He was a hockey international in his youth and a Cambridge blue. And there is a certain diocesan bishop who in his youth played with the great Duff Mathews and declares he will return to the game when he resigns his See. Physically he resembles the canon in stature and carriage. If only they would retire and come south we might have a chance to see the church militant active on the lawns of Roehampton.

Yes, we have the recruits and they are both young and old.

THE ROEHAMPTON CLUB

IT is difficult to believe, when we are sitting in the beautiful gardens, or playing on the well-kept lawns, of the Roehampton Club, that a little over fifty years ago the whole of the grounds which comprise the club were rough and undulating farmland. For it was in the year 1901 that Col. C. E. Miller conceived the idea of starting a polo ground on the site. For this purpose he and his brothers, with a capital of seven thousand pounds, took a seven years lease of a few acres and laid out two polo grounds, at the same time adding ten croquet courts. The freehold of a hundred acres was acquired in 1928 and it is on these hundred acres that the club stands today.

For many years Roehampton was one of the three principal polo grounds in the country—the other two being of course Hurlingham and Ranelagh. In pre-war days during three months of the summer hundreds would flock to each of these clubs in order to enjoy watching the game. All this is unfortunately changed. There is no longer any polo at Hurlingham and alas! Ranelagh is but a memory. Polo is now played solely at Roehampton, and then only for a short season in July.

Since the formation of the club the changes and improvements that have been effected are very striking. In addition to its gardens which have a charm of their own, something of its wide appeal can be understood when we learn that, in addition to the polo, Roehampton has an 18 hole golf course, numerous tennis courts, three squash courts, eight croquet lawns and also a swimming pool. It is, in fact, a games club rather than a club with facilities for games.

The success of the club can be said to be largely due to the enterprise and foresight of the late Col. Miller. He took the keenest interest in its various activities and was always unsparing in his efforts to increase its amenities and promote its prosperity. His death was a great loss.

For croquet players particularly the Roehampton Club has a special interest, for as early as 1903 it became the Headquarters of the Croquet Association and in that year an agreement was entered into between the Club and the Association. Among the terms of the agreement it was stipulated that a sub-committee should be formed on behalf of the croquet players and that the principal Association tournaments should be held in the club. The club also agreed to provide a challenge cup.

Thus for many years most of the important croquet events have been—and still are—played on the courts of the Roehampton Club. To mention the leading exponents of the game who have played on these lawns would be to give a list of the names of nearly all the noted croquet players of the present century. The Men and Women's Championships, the President's Cup and the Challenge Cups will all be competed for this year at the Roehampton Club.

The various tournaments which are held here during the season attract players from all over the country and many would think their education incomplete if they had not at some time played croquet at the Roehampton Club.

NORMAN OLIVER

Golf Croquet . . . Some Memories and Criticisms

OUR first introduction to the game goes back nearly 40 years—long before it had received official recognition—and we have derived tremendous pleasure from this vivacious offspring of croquet-cum-golf. Among those who were expert players in those far off days—and from whom we learned the subtle tactics of golf croquet—were J. E. H. Lomas, F. R. D. Onslow, Col. C. E. Wilson and R. Leatham Jones. W. Longman and the writer are now the only living members of that coterie of friendly rivalry. Our games were remarkable for being a pleasant blend of keen concentrated endeavour and much merriment. There is no need to disguise the fact that we played for money, generally threepence a hoop; Lomas particularly enjoyed this financial feature—it seemed to spur him on to make wonderful hoops from almost impossible-looking positions, and, from an incredible distance, to hit away an opponent's ball perfectly positioned for making its hoop.

There was no written code of laws to guide us in those days; but we had played together so often that there was never any doubt as to the proper procedure and the game continued on an even course. Except for the fact that there was of course no croquet stroke following a roquet, our golf croquet in those days followed the laws of croquet.

A tactical scheme that was often employed—especially at the fourth hoop—is worth recording. Blue, for this fourth hoop, played when a suitable opportunity occurred to stop in that hoop. Black then took position on the non-playing side of this hoop so that Blue, after running the hoop, could be rushed by Black to the playing side of the fifth hoop. The value of this device was great; Blue, playing before Red, was in a position either to stop-shot Red well away and keep position for the hoop himself; or, if his partner Black had rushed him to that hoop accurately, to run it.

Nine

Blue was at the fifth hoop without playing the stroke himself with the obvious advantages thus resulting. Today, of course, no such skilful device is possible because of Law 5, Alternative Y.

It was not until December, 1933, that the Council of the C.A. decided to give Golf Croquet a code of laws, and these appeared in the 1934 Year Book—10 in number. But they did not remain in their original simple form for long. In 1936 an eleventh law was added decreeing that "a yard-line or corner ball which is prevented by a ball in contact from obtaining an unimpeded shot in some desired direction may be moved, so as to obtain a clear shot but must still maintain contact."

Two years later the present Law 10 was introduced which stopped the striker moving his ball; he now has to play it as best he can, i.e. "a stroke similar to a croquet-stroke may be made."

We find it hard to understand why Law 5 was introduced—neither of the alternatives bears any close analogy to the Laws of Croquet. Alternative

X makes the player who sticks in a hoop pay a very high price for the error, and hands the point on a plate to the striker who has caused the ball "to run a hoop in order." Alternative Y is a long complicated law, and tends to hold up the game in consequence; it is based on so many fortuitous circumstances—and, again is mostly so foreign to the laws of Croquet that it certainly does not "apply". Alternative Y was only introduced at the end of the 1947 season and has since been slightly altered.

Law 8, though definitely stating that the jump stroke is a foul in Golf Croquet invites the reply—"Why?" It is not a foul in Association Croquet, requires skill, and can be a valuable stroke.

We fear we have been indulging too freely in criticism—but one last word. Golf Croquet is a pleasant and simple game and we should have liked to see the 10 simple laws which the Council drew up in 1933 almost completely retained. Nevertheless it has established itself as a "prep" school for Croquet; long may it continue to do this valuable work for its ancestor. H.F.C.-S.

A QUESTION OF LAW . . . by Lex

ATTENTION was drawn in our April issue to the possible penalties of the failure of the out-player to keep his eye on the game during the adversary's turn. Apart from the obvious fouls there are recognised instances calling for interruption (law 49), which would seem to place upon the out-player some obligation to pay close attention.

There is, however, another point of view which claims that it is not in the best interest of the out-player to watch his opponent continually, that the opportunity should be taken to rest the eyes and relax. How often is the opinion heard that to watch another game before starting a match is a mistake. If this advice is sound, and it seems reasonable, then surely it is equally wise to rest the eyes and relax between turns. A game of croquet, and particularly a "best of three," can be an exhausting experience and any means of conserving energy is surely justified.

Can these points of view be reconciled? Is it wise to watch, or not? Bearing in mind that opportunities to relax can only occur when the break is long enough to allow it these cannot in most games be very frequent. Moreover the out-player must be ready at any time to move on to court at the end of the opponent's turn which would seem to necessitate at least intermittent attention. And at the end of a break the state of the game will certainly have altered, and, should the out-player have been "resting," a quick appreciation

of the changed position will be necessary if time is not to be wasted.

Is this in fact a matter of temperament? There are undoubtedly those who find it almost impossible to look away while the opponent is in play, while others, with apparent indifference, seem almost unaware that a game is in progress.

* * *

Can you answer the following?

1. In handicap doubles, through how many hoops may a player peel his partner's ball?
2. Which boundary of the court is known as the East?
3. In doubles may a player place his partner's ball for the purpose of taking croquet?
4. A receiver of bisques, after saying that he will not take a bisque wishes to change his mind. Is this permitted?
5. At the beginning of the game the player with red and yellow plays red again before yellow is in court. This is noticed after he has run the second hoop and he claims under law 36c to put his clip on the third hoop. Is this correct?

Answers on page 15.

Notes from the Clubs

WE have good news from the CLIFTON Club. There was a grave risk last year that this long established Club might find itself dispossessed of its lawns. The freehold was for sale at a sum beyond the resources of the Club. We now hear that the Bristol City Council has bought the land and that the Croquet Club has become the tenant of the Council. Not only do we congratulate the club but we are also very glad to hear of this generous action on the part of a public authority which has thus given very valuable assistance to the game of Croquet. In a large centre of population such as Bristol there must be a number of potential Croquet players. We hope they will get in touch with the Secretary of the Clifton Club, whose address is 60 Hampton Park, Bristol 6.

* * *

The HUNSTANTON Club arranged an informal weekend tournament for its members and their friends at the end of April. Another year we hope that much greater publicity will be given to this tournament, for there are players who cannot afford to give more time than a weekend to the game who would have welcomed the opportunity of visiting Hunstanton. Is there any other club which would consider making the experiment of holding a long weekend unofficial tournament during the summer? If the open singles event were limited to one game instead of the best of three and all games were limited to 2½ hours we think the normal week's tournament programme could be completed between noon Friday and Monday evening.

* * *

An unofficial tournament is to take place at BUDLEIGH early in May. This is in addition to the Budleigh Club's important July event. We see that an event in this first tournament is for high bisquers, handicap eleven and over and that it is to be a shortened game. We think that such an event will appeal to high bisquers. In time the game will probably be no shorter than a full game played by more expert players but there will be no risk of a time limit being imposed and the game left unfinished. It is such games as this which seem to us to leave an unsatisfactory feeling behind them and we believe that on reflection most players will agree.

* * *

We hear that the NOTTINGHAM Club had a very successful social evening early in the year and have thus been able to augment their Club funds. The success of such an evening's entertainment depends on enthusiasm and much hard work. Mr. G. M. Bright and Mr. E. C. Cook provided both and had their reward.

All good wishes to Mr. H. O. Hodgson on his retirement as Organist at St. Mary's Church, Nottingham, a position which he has occupied with so much distinction for so long (25 years). Apart from his profession as F.R.C.O. H.O., as many

of his more intimate friends call him, holds the place of honour as the best Croquet player in Nottingham and Shire. It was in 1915 that the name of H. O. Hodgson appears as a C.A. Silver Medallist, his present Official Handicap is ½.

* * *

MARLBOROUGH is the first public school to form a Croquet club. We understand that the Master has provided a croquet lawn and that the equipment is to be given by an Old Marlburian croquet player. There is no reason why Croquet should not have a place in the public schools. It is an admirable game for those boys, who, for one reason or another—perhaps medical—are unable to play either cricket or tennis. We hope other schools will follow the example of Marlborough. There are several Old Marlburian members of the Croquet Association. Is it too much to hope that a Past v. Present match might be held before the school summer term comes to an end?

* * *

The CHELTENHAM Club has great hopes that their lawns will be much improved in the coming season. An expert groundsman has visited the Club and given advice on the treatment required for the eradication of moss and the general improvement of the texture of the turf. The lawns should be firmer and faster. Cheltenham is one of the largest croquet clubs in the country. In spite of a recent increased subscription its membership has remained unchanged. There can be few places where the lawns are so attractively situated.

* * *

Croquet at HURLINGHAM started in the middle of April. The lawns appear to be as good as ever. A number of Club events have been arranged and competitions will be played throughout the season. An outstanding event will be the match on Saturday, August 7th, when Hurlingham will play the Rest. This should provide Croquet of the highest standard and prove most popular. This is just the sort of opportunity which Associates should seize upon to bring with them friends whom they are attempting to interest in the game.

OBITUARY

MISS M. E. T. HORNSBY

The Bedford Croquet Club regrets to announce the death of Miss M. E. T. Hornsby. She was Honorary Secretary of the Club for nine years and was a very sound player at her handicap. Though unable through failing health to play during the last few years she took great interest in the Club till her death. She will be much missed by the elder members.

Eleven

LIST OF OVERSEAS ASSOCIATIONS OR CLUBS AFFILIATED TO THE CROQUET ASSOCIATION

- AUCKLAND CROQUET ASSOCIATION—*Hon. Secretary*, Mrs. R. Urquhart, 18 Rangitoto Avenue, Remuera, Auckland, New Zealand.
- AUSTRALIAN CROQUET COUNCIL—*Hon. Secretary*, Mrs. L. R. Steele, 48 Clifton Street, Prospect, South Australia.
- CANTERBURY CROQUET ASSOCIATION, NEW ZEALAND—*Hon. Secretary*, Mrs. J. P. Maddren, 35 Aylmer Street, Somerfield, Christchurch, New Zealand.
- CAULFIELD RECREATION CROQUET CLUB—*Hon. Secretary*, Caulfield R.C.C., Queen's Avenue, Caulfield, S.E.7, Victoria, Australia.
- GEELONG CROQUET ASSOCIATION—*Hon. Secretary*, Mrs. W. G. N. Windmill, 106 Aphrasia Street, Newton, Geelong, Victoria, Australia.
- HAWKE'S BAY CROQUET ASSOCIATION—*Hon. Secretary*, Mrs. Boyes, 27 Tom Parker Avenue, Marewa, Napier, Hawke's Bay, New Zealand.
- NAPIER—United Croquet Club, *Hon. Secretary*, Mrs. Z. Frude, 21 Jull Street, Napier, New Zealand.
- NATAL CROQUET ASSOCIATION—*Hon. Secretary*, Mrs. S. C. Low, 317 Clark Road, Durban, Natal, South Africa.
- NEW SOUTH WALES CROQUET ASSOCIATION—*Hon. Secretary*, Mrs. H. Oxley, 262 Willoughby Road, Narenburn, Sydney, N.S.W.
- NEW SOUTH WALES CROQUET PLAYER ASSOCIATION—*Hon. Secretary*, Lt.-Col. A. E. Saalfeld, O.B.E., 7 Curraghbeena Road, Mosman, N.S.W.
- NEW ZEALAND CROQUET COUNCIL—*Hon. Secretary*, Mrs. W. S. Austin, 23 North Terrace, Kelburn, Wellington, New Zealand.
- MANAWATU CROQUET ASSOCIATION—*Hon. Secretary*, Mrs. O. R. Parkes, 47 Victoria Avenue, Palmerstone North, New Zealand.
- QUEENSLAND CROQUET ASSOCIATION—*Hon. Secretary*, Mrs. F. Malcolm, 27 Lowerson Street, Lutwyche Queensland, Australia.
- SOUTH AFRICA CROQUET ASSOCIATION—*Hon. Secretary*, Mrs. S. C. Low, 317 Clark Road, Durban, Natal, South Africa.
- SOUTH AUCKLAND CROQUET ASSOCIATION—*Hon. Secretary*, Mrs. T. Church, Box 59, Hamilton, New Zealand.
- SOUTH AUSTRALIAN CROQUET ASSOCIATION—*Hon. Secretary*, Mrs. S. Patten, 5 Brougham Street, Magill, S. Australia.
- SOUTHLAND CROQUET ASSOCIATION—*Hon. Secretary*, Mrs. G. T. Stevens, 39 Park Street, Ivercargill, New Zealand.
- TARANAKI CROQUET ASSOCIATION—*Hon. Secretary*, Mrs. V. Roberts, 22 Morley Street, New Plymouth, New Zealand.
- TASMANIAN CROQUET ASSOCIATION—*Hon. Secretary*, Mrs. J. A. Gunton, 5 White Street, Hillside Crescent, Launceston, Tasmania, Australia.
- VICTORIAN CROQUET ASSOCIATION—*Hon. Secretary*, Mrs. A. Nelson, 703 Barkly Street, Footscray W.2, Victoria, Australia.
- VICTORIAN CROQUET REFEREES ASSOCIATION—*Hon. Secretary*, Mrs. M. Cecil, 113 Napier Street, Essendean, Melbourne, Australia.
- WELLINGTON CROQUET ASSOCIATION—*Hon. Secretary*, Mrs. W. E. Caldon, 38 Lonsdale Terrace, Rongotai, Days Bay, Wellington, New Zealand.
- WESTERN AUSTRALIAN CROQUET ASSOCIATION—*Hon. Secretary*, Mrs. L. S. Cruttenden, 25 Fourth Avenue, Bassendean, Western Australia.

CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editor, *Croquet*.

Dear Sir,

I should like to propose that in view of the excellent standard set by the new magazine *Croquet* that Associates should be asked to agree to the annual subscription becoming £1 7s. 6d. to include the monthly magazine. It is hoped that this proposal will eliminate the need for raising the subscription to £1 10s. 0d. or £2, as mentioned in the council proceedings and by taking care of the cost of the gazette to some extent, will thereby relieve the Association finances by that amount.

Yours faithfully,

GERALD E. CAVE, Lt.-Col.

Moorpark, Budleigh Salterton,
Devon.

To the Editor, *Croquet*.

Dear Sir,

I feel moved to cross swords with the writer of the article "Beginners Please" in the last issue of *Croquet*. The writer is moving along in quite a pleasant and non-controversial manner when he suddenly becomes dogmatic and says "whatever method you adopt the shaft of the mallet should not lean to one side." As a pleader for the unorthodox, an *advocatus diaboli*, I hold that the mallet can be used with perfectly good results with the shaft inclined out of the vertical: witness the players of an older generation who adopted the quasi-golfing stance and address to the ball.

The essence of the enjoyable use of any tool to my mind consists of the two C's Control and Comfort. I personally find myself unable to get either of them with a vertical shaft. When a boy first kicks a football he kicks with the point of the toe, leg and foot in one vertical plane. As he progresses he learns that to get drive and direction he has to turn the foot over and slap the ball with the flat of the instep. This is how I visualise my mallet's impact on the ball. To do this the leg below the knee has to be slightly out of the vertical in relation to the foot. With the shaft vertical I feel I have no control and no power and I find myself frequently miscueing and getting the timing wrong. I am conscious that my handicap does not suggest that I can write with any authority, but, who knows, I may be on the way down, and I get a lot of fun out of my method.

So I remain, Sir, unrepentantly a deviationist.

Yours truly,

G. L. JARRATT

Patchwork, Watlington,
Oxford.

To the Editor, *Croquet*.

Dear Sir,

Congratulations. I think the style and production of the first number of *Croquet* is excellent. As I am an amateur Printer, and am at the moment printing a book, I feel justified in expressing my opinion.

Yours faithfully,

J. B. MORGAN

8 Bodenham Road,
Folkestone.

To the Editor, *Croquet*.

Dear Sir,

I understand that the subscription to the Association is likely to be raised next year.

It is important that young people should play croquet and join the Association. For this reason it would surely benefit the Association to reduce the subscription for students and those under 21 years.

Several who have recently become interested in croquet would thus be encouraged to join.

Yours truly,

W. P. ORMEROD

2 Henleaze Road, Westbury-on-Trym,
Bristol.

BRIDGE

THE Editorial Panel wishes to discover the views of readers about a Bridge column in *Croquet*. So the writer has consented to subscribe an opening article. He makes no pretensions to be a Bridge scribe and therefore makes no apologies for posing one of the oldest problems of Bridge. It is a simple illustration of the double squeeze, furbelows and red herrings all being carefully excluded.

S—A, 3, 2.

H—A, 2.

D—A, 2.

C—

S—Q, J, 10.

H—J, 10.

D—J, 10

C—

W	N	E
	S	

S—K.

H—K, Q, 9.

D—K, Q, 9.

C—

S—

H—4, 3.

D—4, 3.

C—4, 3, 2.

Clubs are trumps. South to lead and make all seven tricks.

No prize is offered for the solution to the above problem. Nevertheless as a small bait to readers, or as a gesture to the Editorial Panel and as a means of the writer buying himself exemption from further "jury service," he is offering three prizes each of £1 1s. 0d. for what the Editor considers to be the three best answers to the following questions.

Question 1

South plays the following hands in 3 No Trumps, neither opponent having made a bid. West leads the 7 Clubs.

<p><i>South</i></p> <p>S—K, J. H—A, Q, 3. D—A, 9, 3, 2. C—10, 9, 3, 2.</p>	<p><i>North</i></p> <p>S—Q, 10, 9, 2. H—J, 4, 2. D—K, Q, 5, 4. C—A, 4.</p>
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(a) How should declarer play to the first trick?

(b) If declarer takes with the Ace or if East wins and returns a Club, how should South continue? Analyse the problems calculated to arise and give the best plan of action to meet such problems.

Question 2

<p><i>South</i></p> <p>S—A, 10, 4, 3, 2. H—A, K, Q, J, 10. D—2. C—3, 2.</p>	<p><i>North</i></p> <p>S—7, 6, 5. H—7, 6, 5. D—9, 7, 6, 5. C—A, K, 4.</p>
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A little consideration will reveal that 4 Spades is a vastly superior contract to 4 Hearts. Explain the principle to be derived therefrom?

(These two hands which have afforded the writer much pleasure are two among so many excellent hands presented by Mr. Culbertson in Auto-Bridge. Those persons who like to receive instructions coupled with entertainment, will find in Auto-Bridge series of hands which are recommended to Bridge players of all classes.)

Question 3

When the declarer holds 5 Spades and 4 Hearts and his partner holds 3 Spades and 4 Hearts illustrate when and why it is preferable to play the contract with the Heart suit as trumps.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1953

EXPENDITURE.		INCOME.	
1952.	£ s. d.	1952.	£ s. d.
To Medals	35	By Subscriptions	568
Prizes at Meetings—		Donations	7
Roehampton	48	Affiliation Fees Overseas Clubs	16
Hurlingham	15	Entry Fees—	
Eastbourne	42	Roehampton	127
		Hurlingham	44
		Eastbourne	110
Expenses at Meetings—		Levy and Tribute	281
Roehampton	15	Sales—	
Hurlingham	48	Year Book	233
Eastbourne	122	Laws to Long Blaquers	21
Roehampton Club Associates' Fees	49	Croquet Entry Forms	70
Engraving and Carriage of Trophies	21		9
		Advertisements in Gazette	101
Printing and Publications—		Dividends and Interest less Tax—	
Publication of C.A. Gazette	379	Roehampton Club Debentures	11
Editor's Salary	59	London County Consolidated 3½%	8
Printing Laws	46	War Stock 3½%	9
Printing Year Book	55	P.O.S.B. Interest	8
		Rent Received	32
Secretary's Salary	539		150
Rent Office, Cleaning, Light and Heat	100		
Telephone	284		
Insurance Trophies and Office Contents	41		
Postage	11		
Audit Fee	18		
Travelling and Sundry Expenses	11		
Corporation Duty	50		
	3		
Excess of Income over Expenditure	1,458		
	5		
	£1,463		£1,476 9 11

Fourteen

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1953

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
1952.	£ s. d.	1952.	£ s. d.
ACCUMULATED FUND—		OFFICE FURNITURE—	
As at 1st January, 1953	2,767 19 11	At Cost per last Balance Sheet	75
Add Excess Income 1953	7 19 9	Trophies	572
Victory Fund—		At Valuation per last Balance Sheet	2,775 19 8
As per last Balance Sheet	50 2 4	INVESTMENTS AT COST—	
Subscriptions Received in Advance	13 11 0	£453 9s. 9d. London County Consolidated 3½% 1953-68	430 10 0
Sundry Creditors—Expenses Outstanding	47 10 0	£493 3s. 9d. War Stock 3½%	500 0 0
	61 1 0	(Market Value 31.12.52, £798 5s. 2d.)	980 10 0
		(500 Roehampton Club Debentures)	500 0 0
		£10 Roehampton County Club Ordinary Shares	10 0 0
		CASH—	
		At Bank	573 10 7
		Post Office Savings Bank	221 14 3
		In hand	4 10 8
			799 15 6
			£2,887 3 0

E. P. DUFFIELD, *Chairman of Council.*
Col. C. C. ADAMS, *Vice-Chairman of Council.*
L. F. C. DARBY, *Hon. Treasurer C.A.*

We have received all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit. In our opinion proper books of account have been kept. We have examined the Balance Sheet and annexed Income and Expenditure Account which are in agreement with the books. In our opinion and to the best of our information and the explanations given to us, the Balance Sheet gives a true and fair view of the Association's affairs at 31st December, 1953, and the Income and Expenditure Account gives a true and fair view of the excess of Income for the year ended on that date.

3 RAYMOND BUILDINGS, GRAY'S INN, LONDON, W.C.1.

13th January, 1954.

BEGBIE, ROBINSON & CO., *Chartered Accountants.*

Annual General Meeting of the Croquet Association

THE Annual General Meeting of the Croquet Association will be held at the Roehampton Club, Roehampton Lane, S.W.15, on Tuesday, May 11th, at 2.30 p.m.

The Council proposes that the following loyal address be sent to Her Majesty—

May it please Your Majesty

The Croquet Association, representing Croquet Players in Great Britain and the Affiliated Associations in Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, present their humble duty and offer their heartfelt felicitations on the safe return of Your Majesty and the Duke of Edinburgh to these shores after the very exacting but extremely successful tour to various parts of the Commonwealth where your Majesty's Subjects in distant lands were enabled to express their loyalty and devotion to Your Majesty and the Throne.

All the Members sincerely appreciate Your Majesty's gracious Patronage of the Association and hope that it may continue for many years to come.

AGENDA

- Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting.
- Accounts and Balance Sheet.
- Report of the Council for 1953.
- Election of President. Sir Compton Mackenzie offers himself for election.
- Election of Hon. Treasurer. Mr. L. F. C. Darby retires and offers himself for re-election. Mr. D. E. Buckland also offers himself as a candidate for this office.
- Election of Eight Members of Council for a period of three years. The following retire by rotation and offer themselves for re-election: Mrs. R. C. J. Beaton, Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury, Col. J. G. Clarke, Major J. H. Dibley, Mrs. L. E. G. Nickisson, N. Oddie, B. H. Wiggins. Lady Gurney-Dixon retires.
The following offer themselves for election:
Mrs. L. H. Ashton proposed by V. A. de la Nougerede, seconded by Lt.-Col. F. E. W. Baldwin. C. W. R. Hodges proposed by J. W. Solomon, seconded by Mrs. R. C. J. Beaton. Mrs. E. Rotherham proposed by Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury, seconded by H. O. Hicks.
- Motion by E. Carlile, seconded by G. W. Solomon "That no Member of the Selection Committee for the President's Cup shall be eligible to play in that competition."
- Motion by E. Carlile, seconded by R. H. Park "That in future no fundamental change such as that recently made in the management, format, etc., of the official organ of the Croquet Association shall be carried through without reference to the Annual General Meeting of the C.A."

- Motion by H. F. Crowther-Smith seconded by Dr. N. Oliver "That though 24 members of the Council may have been a requisite number 40 years ago, when there were over 2,000 Associates, today such a number is not only unnecessary but quite inequitable, being so greatly out of proportion to the present number of Associates as to jeopardise or completely prevent a resolution moved by an Associate from being carried."
- Motion by J. W. Solomon "That the President's Cup Selection Committee for 1954 and onwards, shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting. That it shall be 5 in number, including a Chairman, not necessarily Council members."
- Any other business.

All Associates attending the Annual General Meeting (not being members of the Roehampton Club) will be admitted free on production of C.A. membership card for 1954 and signing the Gate Book.

RETURN OF ATTENDANCES AT COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS May, 1953, to April, 1954

	Laws					Tournament		Finance, Election and Gazette		Publicity		Golf Croquet		Special		Handicap Appeal		Total Attendances		Total Possible Attendances		
	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	
Adams, Col. C. C.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	8	11	18	
Beaton, Mrs. R. C. J.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	8	12	13	
Bird, C. B.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	7	10	
Brackenbury, Rev. B. V. F.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	9	15	15	
Bright, N. L.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	4	4	10	
Buckland, D. E.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	7	11	
Clarke, Col. J. G.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	8	10	11	
Cotton, W. E. C.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	10	
Cotter, E. P. C.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	3	3	10	
Dibley, Major J. H.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	8	10	12	
Duffield, E. P.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9	9	18	18	
Gurney-Dixon, Lady	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	954	...	10	
Evans, G. V.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	8	11	12	
Lintern, Miss D. A.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	9	16	16	
Nickisson, Mrs. L. E.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	9	12	12	
G.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	4	10
Oddie, N.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	6	12	15	
Reckitt, M. B.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	7	9	11	
Reeve, Mrs. E.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	6	9	12	
Solomon, G. W.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	6	9	12	
Solomon, J. W.	Co-opted	Co-opted	Co-opted	Co-opted	Co-opted	Co-opted	Co-opted	Co-opted	Co-opted	Co-opted	Co-opted	Co-opted	Co-opted	Co-opted	Co-opted	Co-opted	Co-opted	1	5th	6	6	
Stokes-Roberts, Brig. A. E.	Co-opted	Co-opted	Co-opted	Co-opted	Co-opted	Co-opted	Co-opted	Co-opted	Co-opted	Co-opted	Co-opted	Co-opted	Co-opted	Co-opted	Co-opted	Co-opted	Co-opted	5	5	5	6	
Turketine, Mrs. G. J.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	6	8	11	
Wiggins, B. H.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	9	13	13	
Wiggins, Dr. W. R.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	9	9	10	
D.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	4	7	17	
Darby, L. F. C.	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	4	7	17	

- ### ANSWERS
- Not more than four.
 - That alongside hoops 3 and 4.
 - Yes.
 - No. Law 46e.
 - No. Law 36c does not permit this and Law 1 makes clear "that no ordinary turn may be played with the same ball again until all four balls are in play."

THE CLUB TEAM CUP (Handicap)

Presented by William Longman, Esq.

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the Croquet Association.

Manager and Referee.—Secretary, Croquet Association.

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

Holders—Woking

1. Competitors must be both members of the C.A. and bona-fide members of the Club for which they play. No individual may play for more than one Club during the Competition.
2. The teams shall normally consist of 4 players who will play 2 Doubles and 3 Singles. By mutual consent, however, the teams in any match may consist of 6 players. In this case the match will include as a minimum 3 Doubles which must be completed, and 2 Single games, though two competing Clubs may increase the number of Single games to 4 or 6 if they mutually agree to do so.
3. **HANDICAPS.** This Competition is to be played under C.A. Handicap. The gross handicap of any team of four players must be at least 12 bisques, or 18 bisques for a team of 6 players. The gross handicap of any pair in a team must be at least 6 bisques. Every Competitor must have a C.A. handicap of at least half a bisque.
4. To be played with the same general arrangements and conditions as hold for the All-England Handicap and the Inter-Club Championship in so far as they apply.
5. The Clubs entering will be drawn on the "Bagnall-Wild" system.
6. Competing Clubs will play on mutually agreed grounds. If they cannot agree, the match shall be played on a convenient neutral ground chosen by the Manager. If such ground cannot be found, or made available, the Manager shall draw lots as to which side has choice of ground.
7. The results of matches with names, initials, and handicaps of the players should be sent by the winning teams to the Secretary, C.A., who will arrange for publication in *Croquet*.
8. **PRIZES.** The winning Club will hold the Cup for one year, or until the next Competition, whichever is the shorter period.
9. There are no entry fees.
10. Entries must reach the Secretary, C.A., by the **8th May, 1954.**

Sixteen

ALL-ENGLAND HANDICAP 1954

Winner 1953—Major J. H. Dibley (2)

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the Croquet Association.

Manager, Referee and Handicapper.—Miss D. A. Lintern.

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

1. Competitors must be members of the C.A. or members of a Registered Croquet Club.
A member of the C.A. not being a member of a Registered Club must arrange to play in a Registered Club's All-England Competition in order to become eligible for the Final Stages.
A Competitor may not play in more than one Registered Club's Competition.
2. **Preliminary Stage.**—Each Club, members of which enter for the All-England Handicap, will hold a competition, under Club arrangements, to be finished by the 18th July.
Clubs entering 16 to 31 competitors will be entitled to have two representatives (the winner and the runner-up) in the Final Stages.
3. **Final Stages.**—The Club representatives will be drawn on the Bagnall-Wild System and will meet in London during a period extending over August 11th to 13th.
The *Final* will be played at Roehampton on August 14th. Where there are two representatives from a Club they will be allocated to opposite quarters of the draw.
4. **Qualification to hold a competition:**—No Club with an entry of less than 4 competitors is eligible to be represented.
5. **Handicaps.**—In the Club Competitions the handicapping will be under Club arrangements.
In any match of the Final Stages a competitor shall play on the C.A. Handicap that he would have been playing at in an Official Tournament during that week.
If a Non-Associate wins or is runner-up in a Club Competition, the Club Secretary will furnish the Manager with sufficient data to enable him to allot a handicap.
6. **Entry Fees.**—Entry Fee for each Competitor 3s., to be paid to the Club Secretaries. 1s. of the Entry Fee will be retained by the Competitor's Club, and 2s. will be sent to the Secretary, C.A., by the Club Secretary.
7. Club Secretaries are requested to notify the Secretary C.A., by the **8th May**, if they are holding a Competition.
8. The results of Club Competitions should be sent to the Secretary, C.A., to reach her not later than **July 19th.**
9. Matches of single games throughout.
10. **Prizes.**—Winner and Runner-up, The Tingey Trophies, others in last eight, Bronze Medals.

THE PEEL MEMORIALS

will be played for at

THE ROEHAMPTON CLUB
The Headquarters of the Croquet Association

On **MONDAY, MAY 10th, 1954**
AND FIVE FOLLOWING DAYS

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the Croquet Association.

Manager and Handicapper.—Mrs. G. J. Turketine.

Referee.—T. Wood-Hill.

Assistant Referees on the Official List will be appointed on the ground under Reg. 15 (a).

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

EVENTS.

Open to Associates only.

- 1.—"**PEEL MEMORIAL HANDICAP**" SINGLES for men. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. Prizes: A Silver Challenge Bowl, and the number of other prizes will be according to the number of entries received. **This Event will be played under the "Two Life" system.** Holder—Brig. A. E. Stokes Roberts (10).
- 2.—"**PEEL MEMORIAL**" HANDICAP SINGLES for Women. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. Prizes: A Silver Challenge Bowl, and the number of other prizes will be according to the number of entries received. **This Event will be played under the "Two Life" system.** Holder—Miss D. A. Lintern (—3).
- 3.—**HANDICAP DOUBLES** (Combined handicaps scratch or over). Entries must be made in pairs. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. for each person. Prizes: Two Silver Challenge Cups presented in memory of Lady Murray, and the number of other prizes will be according to the number of entries received. Holders—F. H. Fisher and Brig. A. E. Stokes Roberts (11½).

CONDITIONS.

Hoops 3¼ in. wide. "Brento" Balls will be used. At least seven courts will be provided.

The winners hold the respective Challenge Trophies for one year or until the next competition, whichever is the shorter period.

The Committee reserve the right to refuse any entry without assigning a reason and to decide any question that may arise.

Every Competitor shall wear such flat-soled boots or shoes as cannot damage the Court.

ENTRIES.

The Entries, accompanied by the Entrance Fees, for Events 1 and 2 must be sent to the Secretary, C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1, so as to reach her not later than the first post on **Wednesday, May 5th**, and for Event 3 by noon on **Tuesday, May 11th.**

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

PLAY.

Play will begin at 10 a.m. daily unless otherwise notified.

Competitors must report themselves to the Manager on arrival, and ascertain, if not previously notified, at what hour they must be ready to play.

Any Competitor who wishes to leave the ground before the conclusion of play must obtain the permission of the Manager.

Any Competitor who is not present, or is otherwise unable to play when called upon to do so, will be liable to be scratched.

DRAW.

The Draw for Events Nos. 1 and 2 will take place at 4 Southampton Row on **Wednesday, May 5th**, at 11 a.m.

RYDE

LAWN TENNIS AND CROQUET CLUB

Thirty-sixth Annual
OPEN CROQUET TOURNAMENT
(Under the Laws and Regulations of the Croquet Association)

will be held on
Monday, 7th June, 1954, and five following days
at the Club Ground, Play Lane, Ryde

Committee.—Mrs. J. C. Blake, Mrs. O. E. Bostock, Mrs. R. H. Barrell, H. A. Compton, Esq., Major B. Vernon Harcourt, Miss Preston, Miss Walker, Mrs. Ward. Manager and Handicapper.—Major J. H. Dibley, M.C.

Referee.—V. A. de la Nougerede, Esq.
Assistant Referees and Umpires may be appointed under Reg. 14 (e) and (f).

Hon. Secretary.—H. A. Compton, 67 Monkton Street, Ryde, I.O.W.

EVENTS.

- 1.—**ISLE OF WIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP OPEN SINGLES. THE CHALLENGE TROPHY.** To be won three years in succession or five times in all. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. Present Holder: Major J. H. Dibley, M.C. This Event will be played under the "Two Life System." Draw and Process. Variation "B" will apply.
- 2.—**LEVEL SINGLES (Class B). THE CHAPMAN CUP.** To be held by the winner for one year or until next Tournament. Open to players with 3 to 6 bisques. Law 44 suspended. Final best of three games. Entrance Fee, 7s. Present Holder: Miss L. Newman.
- 3.—**HANDICAP SINGLES (Class C). THE BENEST CUP.** To be won three years in succession or four times in all. Open to players with 6½ to 9 bisques. Entrance Fee, 7s. Present Holder: Mrs. N. A. C. McMillan.
- 4.—**HANDICAP SINGLES (Class D). THE HUTTON CUP.** Open to players with 10 bisques and over. Entrance Fee, 7s. Present Holder: Mrs. G. Ratsey.
No player may enter for more than one of the above Events.
- 5.—**HANDICAP SINGLES ("X.Y."). THE DIBLEY CUP.** Entrance Fee, 8s. Present Holder: Miss Walker.
- 6.—**HANDICAP DOUBLES.** Unrestricted. Open to all. Entrance Fee, 8s. each player. A time limit of 3½ hours will apply to this Event.

All Events except No. 1 and Final of No. 2, single games throughout.

The C.A. Levy is included in all Entrance Fees. Should time permit there will be an Extra Event.

PRIZES.

Two for each Event if sufficient entries.

ENTRIES.

For Events 1 to 5, together with Fees and C.A. Tribute of 10s. where payable, must reach the Hon. Secretary by 12 midday on Thursday, 3rd June. Entries for Doubles (Event 6) close on the ground at 5 p.m. on Monday, 7th June.

DRAW.

The Draw for Events 1 to 5 will take place at the Club Pavilion at 3 p.m. on Friday, 4th June. For the Doubles at 6 p.m. on Monday, 7th June.

PLAY.

Will commence at 10.30 a.m. on Monday, 7th June, and at 10 a.m. or earlier on following days. Players not present when called on to play will be liable to be scratched.

GENERAL.

Six Lawns provided. Standard Setting. Luncheon and Tea provided in Pavilion. A Motor Bus from the Pier sets down close to the Ground.

Every Competitor shall wear such flat-soled boots or shoes as cannot damage the Ground.

Hotels.—Spencer's Inn, Yelf's Hotel.
Guest House (specially recommended)—Mrs. Taylor, 78 Pellhurst Road, Ryde, I.O.W.

Seventeen

THE INTER-COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

THE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP CUP

Presented to the C.A. by the Hon. Arthur Capell,

will be played for at THE HURLINGHAM CLUB

(By kind permission of the Committee of the Hurlingham Club)

On MONDAY, MAY 24th, 1954

AND FOLLOWING DAYS

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the Croquet Association.

Manager, Referee and Handicapper.—Mrs. L. E. G. Nickisson.

Assistant Referees on the Official List will be appointed on the ground under Reg. 15 (a).

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

Holder—Surrey

CONDITIONS.

1. The team for each County consists of three pairs, and the qualifications to represent a County are:—

a. Birth in the County, or

b. Present residence in the County of two years' standing, or

c. A previous residence in the County for an uninterrupted period of five years, other than as a pupil in a school or college.

d. No one is qualified to represent a County who has represented a different County in the year immediately preceding the competition unless he has previously represented that County, or except in the case of a County which has not competed during the past five years, or unless the County he has represented in the previous year is not competing.

e. An ordinary member of a registered croquet club, of not less than two years standing, not being invited to play for a County for which he is eligible, or being eligible for a County which does not enter a team may play for the County in which his club is situated.

f. Channel Islands, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales to be treated as Counties.

2. A player living in a house other than as an owner or occupier shall only be eligible on satisfying the Council that he or she is *bona-fide* a resident in the County.

3. Care must be taken by those who have undertaken the collection of teams to see that all their members are properly qualified, otherwise their teams will be liable to disqualification. All qualifications must be accurately defined when the names of the teams are submitted.

Eighteen

4. Each County shall appoint a duly qualified Captain. Unless the Captain is included in the list of the eight nominated players (see Condition 5) he will be unable to play for the County, though he will arrange the teams, but must not give advice to any of the team during the progress of a game.

5. The collector of a team shall send to the Secretary, C.A., before May 8th, a list of the names of not more than eight players, from which the playing team of three pairs for any match must be selected, and also the name of the Captain. In a match the players may be combined to form pairs in any manner that the Captain thinks fit, but the pairs must be arranged in the order of the joint amount of bisques, the lowest amount corresponding to the A pair, the highest to the C pair. The constitution of the team must be given to the Manager before any match. If in any match only two pairs from a team should be available for play, these pairs must be matched against the "A" and "B" pairs of the opposing team.

No player can be on the list of nominated players for more than one County.

If a player is obliged to withdraw before a game is concluded, such game shall go by default to the opposing pair.

6. A match between any two Counties shall consist of three games, each of the three pairs of a County playing a single game against the corresponding pair of the opposing County.

7. If the number of Counties entering is too large to permit each County to play all the others, they will be so drawn as to allow any County to play as many other Counties as time permits.

8. The winning County shall be that which wins the greatest percentage of matches played. In the event of a tie between two or more Counties the County which has won the greatest number of games shall be the winner. Provided that in the event of all Counties not being drawn to play the same number of matches the Manager shall have power, in the later stages of the competition, to withdraw matches unplayed which have no material influence on the result and substitute others if thereby an equal number of matches are ensured to the leading Counties. If there still be a tie, the Challenge Cup shall be held jointly.

9. The winning County holds the Challenge Cup for one year or until the next Competition, whichever is the shorter period.

10. Every Competitor shall wear such flat-soled boots or shoes as cannot damage the Courts.

11. Play will begin at 11 a.m. on Monday and at 10 a.m. on other days unless otherwise notified. Entries to be made to the Secretary, C.A., by May 8th.

12. A limit of 3½ hours will be imposed on all games. Two rounds a day will be played. Play will not normally extend beyond 6.30 p.m.

13. Event to be played under Variation "B."

No Entrance Fees.

Prize.—The County Championship Cup.

Hoops 3¼ in wide, and Jaques' "Eclipse" Balls will be used.

THE MEN'S & WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS MEETING

The Men's Championship and Gold Casket,

The Women's Championship and Gold Casket,

The Mixed Doubles Championship, and

The "Du Pre" Cup

will be played for at

ROEHAMPTON, on MONDAY, MAY 31st, 1954

AND FIVE FOLLOWING DAYS

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the Croquet Association.

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

Referee.—Mrs. E. Reeve.

Assistant Referees on the Official List will be appointed on the ground under Reg. 15 (a).

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

EVENTS.

Open to Associates only.

1.—THE MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP. Entrance Fee, 11s. 6d. Matches best of three games. Prizes: The winner becomes the holder for the year of the Gold Challenge Casket presented by the late Viscount Doneraile, and a Challenge Trophy presented by the late Sir Francis Colchester-Wemyss, K.B.E., and the late Col. C. E. Wilson, and will receive a medal. The number of other prizes will be in accordance with the entries received. Holder—Gold Casket, J. W. Solomon.

2.—THE WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP. Entrance Fee, 11s. 6d. Matches best of three games. Prizes: The winner becomes the holder for the year of the Gold Challenge Casket presented by the late Viscount Doneraile, a Challenge Silver Bowl presented by "The Ladies' Field," the Gold Challenge Badge and Gold Locket, and will receive a medal. The number of other prizes will be in accordance with the entries received. Holder—Gold Casket, Mrs. E. Rotherham.

3.—THE MIXED DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP. Entrance Fee, 11s. 6d. each person. Matches of single games. Prizes: A Pair of Silver Challenge Cups, presented by the All-England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, and the number of other prizes will be according to the number of entries received. Holders—Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins and Mrs. E. Rotherham.

4.—THE "DU PRE" CUP. Open to competitors in Events 1 and 2 who have not qualified for the Third Round. Matches of single games throughout. This event will be played under Variation "B." Entrance Fee, 6s. Level Play. Prizes: A Challenge Cup presented by the late Lt.-Col. W. B. Du Pre, and the number of other prizes will be according to the number of entries received. Holder.—M. B. Reckitt.

5.—HANDICAP SINGLES. Entrance Fee, 6s. Open to competitors in Events 1 and 2, at the discretion of the Manager. Matches of single games throughout.

CONDITIONS.

Hoops 3¼ in. wide. Jaques' "Eclipse" balls will be used.

Eight courts will be provided.

No leave can be granted till after the draw.

The winners hold the respective Challenge Trophies for one year or until the next competition, whichever is the shorter period.

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

Every Competitor shall wear such flat-soled boots or shoes as cannot damage the Courts.

ENTRIES.

The Entries, accompanied by the Entrance Fees, for Events 1 and 2 must be sent to the Secretary, C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1, so as to reach her not later than the first post on **Wednesday, May 26th**, and for Event 3 by noon on **Tuesday, June 1st**. Entries for Events 4 and 5 can be received only on the ground.

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

DRAW.

The Draw for Events 1 and 2 will take place at 4 Southampton Row, at 2.30 p.m. on **Wednesday, May 26th**, and for Events 3, 4 and 5 as will be announced on the ground.

PLAY.

Play will begin at 10 a.m. daily unless otherwise notified.

Competitors must report themselves to the Manager on arrival, and ascertain if not previously notified, at what hour they must be ready to play.

Any Competitor who wishes to leave the ground before the conclusion of play must obtain the permission of the Manager.

Any Competitor who is not present, or is otherwise unable to play when called upon to do so, will be liable to be scratched.

The semi-finals and finals will be so arranged that play in them will extend over the afternoons of Friday and Saturday.

SMALL ADVERTISEMENT

Required second-hand standard set in good condition. Write stating price. Box 5, Croquet, 4 Southampton Row, W.C.1.

Nineteen

NOTTINGHAM

CROQUET CLUB

Highfields University Boulevard ANNUAL TOURNAMENT

Will be played during the week commencing Monday
JUNE 14th, 1954

(Under the Laws and Regulations of the Croquet Association.)

Manager, Handicapper and Referee.—Miss D. D. Steel.
Chairman of Committee.—Mrs. J. R. Elliott, M.B.E.,
23 Oundle Drive, Wollaton Park, Nottingham (Tel. 79177).

Hon. Tournament Secretary.—Neville Bright, 5
Premier Road, Sherwood Rise, Nottingham (Tel.: 64806).

An Assistant Referee will be appointed on the ground under Reg. 15 (a).

The Tournament will include the following

EVENTS

- 1.—"ROBIN HOOD" GOLD CUP HANDICAP CHALLENGE TROPHY. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. Presented by the All England Croquet Association for Associates only.
- 2.—OPEN SINGLES (Draw and Process). Variation B of Law 44. Entrance Fee, 10s. 6d. CHALLENGE BOWL presented by the Nottingham Croquet Club. Single Games. The final of this event will be the best of three games, time permitting. Regulation 13 (a and b) will be applied if considered necessary or advisable.
- 3.—HANDICAP SINGLES. 5 bisques and over. Single Games, Law 44 suspended. Entrance Fee, 9s. CHALLENGE BOWL presented by the late L. L. Bright.
- 4.—HANDICAP SINGLES ("X.Y."). Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. Winner of "X"—CHALLENGE TROPHY presented by Mrs. J. W. Naake. Winner of "Y"—CHALLENGE TROPHY presented by the late Mrs. Reynolds-Hole.
- 5.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Single Games. Entrance Fee, 7s. 6d. each player. Unrestricted except that no two players with joint handicap of less than 1 may play together. TWIN CHALLENGE TROPHIES presented by the late Mrs. Hitchin.

(All Entry Fees include C.A. Levy Charges, i.e. as to Events 1, 2, 3, 5—2s., as to Event 4—3s.)
First and Second Prizes will be given in each Event.

CONDITIONS.

Entries for Events, 1, 2, 3 and 4 should reach the Hon. Tournament Secretary, not later than Friday, June 11th, accompanied by a cheque. Entry Forms for the Doubles Event may be deferred until Tuesday, June 15th. Play will begin at 10 a.m. daily or earlier.

Leave of absence may be arranged on application to the Manager. No leave will be permitted after 2 p.m. on the opening day.

Players must present themselves punctually and must not leave the ground without permission previously obtained from the Manager.

Lunches and Teas will be served each day in the Pavilion at moderate charge.

Seven Lawns will be available and choice of Lawn will be determined by draw. Standard setting of the lawns, 3½ in. hoops. A Bridge Pavilion will be provided.

The Winners hold the respective Challenge Trophies for one year or until the next competition.

To prevent damage to the lawns every competitor shall wear flat-soled boots or shoes.

Ample Car Park accommodation is available. Buses pass the gates leading to the Club every few minutes, the route numbers being 4, 4a, and 5a, these may be boarded in the City Centre.

List of Hotels (Licensed and Unlicensed) will be supplied on application to the Hon. Tournament Secretary.

WOKING

The 34th ANNUAL CROQUET TOURNAMENT will be held on

THE CLUB GROUND, PINE ROAD, HOOK HEATH,
WOKING

On **MONDAY, JUNE 14th, 1954, AND FOLLOWING DAYS**

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

Committee.—Mrs. B. C. Apps, Major J. W. Cobb, Brig. T. S. Omond, A. McClure Williams, T. F. Dalton and Mrs. M. F. MacArthur.

Manager, Referee and Handicapper.—Mrs. E. E. Turner.

Assistant Referees will be appointed under Reg. 15 (a).

Hon. Secretary.—Major J. W. Cobb, Farm Hotel, Woking.

EVENTS.

- 1.—OPEN SINGLES. "Two Lives." Final best of three games. Variation B. The winner will be entitled to hold for one year or until the next Tournament, whichever is the shorter period, the Club Challenge Cup. A competitor winning this Cup on three occasions will be presented with a replica Cup. Entrance Fee, 10s.
- 2.—HANDICAP SINGLES. Open to players over two bisques. Winner entitled to hold for one year or until the next Tournament, whichever is the shorter period, the Challenge Cup presented by Mrs. H. T. Farris. Entrance Fee, 8s.
- 3.—HANDICAP SINGLES ("X.Y."). Entrance Fee, 8s. Unrestricted. The winner of "X" will be entitled to hold for one year or until the next Tournament, whichever is the shorter period, the Challenge Bowl presented by the late Mrs. J. M. Miles.
N.B.—No competitor may enter for more than two of the above events.
- 4.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Unrestricted. Entrance Fee, 8s. each competitor. All Entrance Fees include C.A. levy.

CONDITIONS.

Non-Associates pay a tribute of 10s. to the C.A. when playing in an Official Tournament, or 5s. if they compete in one event only (except in a Tournament promoted by their own Club), when they pay such C.A. Tribute, if any, as the local Committee may determine, but on becoming an Associate any tribute paid during the current year is refunded or credited against the subscription.

First and Second Prizes will be given for each Event, and semi-final prizes if sufficient entries.

3¼ in. Hoops and Jaques' Eclipse Balls will be used. Six Courts will be provided on the ground.

Every Competitor shall wear such flat-soled boots or shoes as cannot damage the Court.

TEA can be obtained on the Ground.
The Club Ground is 1½ miles from Woking Station.
Taxis can be obtained. Bus Service.

Accommodation.—Hotels: Albion, Wheatsheaf, Farm, Cotteridge and Heathside.

ENTRIES.

Entries for all Events except No. 4 must reach the Hon. Secretary by first post on Friday, June 11th. Entries for No. 4 close on Tuesday, June 15th, at the Club, at 2 p.m.

THE DRAW.

The Draw for Events 1, 2 and 3 will take place in the Pavilion on the Club Ground at 11 a.m. on Friday, June 11th.

The Draw for No. 4 at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, June 15th.

PLAY.

Play will begin at 10.30 a.m. unless otherwise notified. Players required on Monday will be notified. Competitors in Events 1 and 2 must be prepared to play on Monday. Any competitor who leaves the Ground without the permission of the Manager, or who is otherwise unable to play when called upon to do so will be liable to be scratched.

PARKSTONE (East Dorset)

CROQUET TOURNAMENT

Monday, June 21st, 1954, and five following days

(Under the Laws and Regulations of the Croquet Association.)

Committee.—Croquet Committee of the Parkstone Club.

Manager and Handicapper.—L. H. Ashton.

Referee.—Lt.-Col. F. E. W. Baldwin.

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

EVENTS.

- 1.—OPEN SINGLES. "Two Lives." For players of 2 bisques and under. Entrance Fee, 10s. DORSET SALVER AND HALSE CUP.
- 2.—HANDICAP SINGLES. For players of 2½ to 7 bisques inclusive. Entrance Fee, 8s. Prize, EVANS TROPHY.
- 3.—HANDICAP SINGLES. For players of 7½ and over. Variation H. Entrance Fee, 8s. Prize, COPE CUP.
- 4.—HANDICAP SINGLES. ("X.Y."). Unrestricted. Entrance Fee, 8s. Prizes, BISHOP CUP and EVANS ROSE BOWL.
- 5.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Unrestricted. Entrance Fee, 8s. each player.

CONDITIONS.

Entries for Events 1, 2, 3 and 4, must reach the Hon. Secretary on or before midday Thursday, June 17th. Entries for Event 5 close on midday on Tuesday, June 22nd. The Draw will take place at the Club on Thursday, June 17th, at 3 p.m.

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

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

Every competitor shall wear such flat-soled boots or shoes as cannot damage the courts.

Lunch and Tea will be provided 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.

BUXTON

THE NORTH OF ENGLAND TOURNAMENT

will be held in

The Pavilion Gardens, Buxton

on

Monday, June 21st, 1954

AND FIVE FOLLOWING DAYS

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

Manager, Referee and Handicapper.—Miss D. D. Steel.

Hon. Treasurer.—J. Hunter, Old Hall Hotel, Buxton.

Hon. Secretary.—Mrs. D. E. Chorlton, 6 The Square, Buxton.

Committee.—W. T. Bell, A. L. Megson, J. Hunter, Mrs. Oram, Mrs. Dean, Mrs. Chorlton.

EVENTS

- 1.—OPEN SINGLES. "Two Lives." Final—Best of three games. Variation B. The Winner will be entitled to hold for one year The North of England Challenge Cup. Entrance Fee, 10s. 6d.
 - 2.—LEVEL SINGLES. "Class B." Open to players of 3½ bisques and over. Law 44 suspended. Entrance Fee, 7s. 6d.
 - 3.—HANDICAP SINGLES. "Class C." Open to players of 8 bisques and over. Entrance Fee, 6s. 6d.
 - 4.—HANDICAP SINGLES. Unrestricted. "X.Y.Z. System." Entrance Fee, 10s.
 - 5.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Unrestricted. Entrance Fee, 7s. 6d. each player.
- All Entrance Fees include C.A. Levy.

CONDITIONS

First and Second Prizes will be awarded for each Event in addition to Silver Trophies.

Non-Associates pay a tribute of 10s. to the C.A. when playing in an Official Tournament, or 5s. if competing in one Event only.

The Management claim the right to cancel any Event advertised should there not be sufficient entries. Six Lawns will be provided and Jaques' Balls and equipment will be used.

Morning Coffee and Afternoon Tea can be obtained on the ground.

ACCOMMODATION

A list of Hotels and Boarding Houses will be sent on application to the Hon. Secretary.

PLAY

Play will commence at 10 a.m., unless otherwise stated.

ENTRIES

Entries, made on the official form, and accompanied by the Entrance Fees, should reach the Hon. Secretary by Saturday, June 19th (excepting for Event 5, Entries for which close on Tuesday, June 22nd).

THE DRAW

The Draw for Events 1, 2, 3 and 4, will take place on Saturday, June 19th, at 8 p.m. The Draw for Event 5, on Tuesday, June 22nd, at 5 p.m.

COMPTON, EASTBOURNE

AN OPEN CROQUET TOURNAMENT

(Under the Laws and Regulations of the Croquet Association.)

will be held on the grounds of
**THE COMPTON CROQUET CLUB, COMPTON
PLACE ROAD, EASTBOURNE**

from
**MONDAY, JUNE 28th, to SATURDAY, JULY 3rd,
1954**

Manager and Handicapper.—Major J. H. Dibley, M.C.

Referee.—Sir Crawford Douglas-Jones, C.M.G.

Committee.—The Committee of the Compton Croquet Club, Major J. H. Dibley, M.C.

EVENTS

- 1.—OPEN SINGLES. (Draw and Process Variation B.) Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d.
- 2.—LEVEL SINGLES. —3 bisques and over. (Single Games. Law 44 suspended.) Entrance Fee, 7s. 6d.
- 3.—HANDICAP SINGLES. Entrance Fee, 7s. 6d.
- 4.—HANDICAP SINGLES. 6 bisques and over. Entrance Fee, 7s. 6d.
- 5.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Combined Handicaps to be not less than Scratch. Entrance Fee, 7s. 6d. each player.

MEALS

Lunch and Tea, at reasonable prices, will be provided at the pavilion.

Fees include C.A. Levy charge of 2s.

First Prizes in all Events. Second Prizes if entries are sufficient.

All entries to be sent to the Hon. Secretary (Lt.-Col. R. A. Irwin, The Lawn, Willingdon, Nr. Eastbourne, Sussex), who should also be informed of the proposed Eastbourne addresses and telephone numbers of competitors. Entries for Events 1, 2, 3 will close after first post Thursday, June 24th, and for Event 4 at midday Tuesday, June 29th, 1954. The Committee reserve the right to refuse an entry without assigning a reason.

The Draw will take place at the Compton Croquet Club at 2.30 p.m., Thursday, 24th June.

Play will commence each day at 10 a.m. (or earlier if so arranged by the Manager).

Players wanted at 10 or 11 a.m. on Monday will be notified. All others will please report to the Manager on arrival each day.

Five Lawns will be available. Every competitor will wear such flat-soled shoes as cannot damage the lawns.

3½in. Hoops and Jaques' "Eclipse" Balls will be used.

Twenty-two

BEDFORD

Open Croquet Tournament

will be held at the CLUB GROUND

On Monday, June 28th, and five following days

(Under the Laws and Regulations of the Croquet Association.)

Manager, Referee and Handicapper.—Miss D. D. Steel.

Committee.—The Croquet Committee of the Club.

EVENTS.

- 1.—OPEN SINGLES (TOM DICKSON CHALLENGE CUP). Entrance Fee, 7s. 6d. Variation "B".
- 2.—HANDICAP SINGLES (STEEL CUP). For players of 4 bisques and over. Entrance Fee, 7s. 6d. Divided in two sections if enough entries.
- 3.—HANDICAP SINGLES. ("X.Y.Z.") Winner of "X" to hold Challenge Salver presented by G. W. Mason through the courtesy of the C.A. Open to all. Entrance Fee, 10s.
- 4.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Combined Handicap not less than one bisque. (BARRON CUPS.) Entrance Fee, 7s. each player.

Two prizes will be given in each event.

Entrance Fees include C.A. Levy.

Five Courts will be provided.

Bridge and Tea will be available at the Club.

Play to begin at 10 a.m. each day.

Leave till 2 p.m. Monday may be granted if asked for to competitors coming from a distance.

Accommodation.—Hotels: Swan, Embankment, Bridge, De Parys Hotel and Lion.

Entries for Events 1, 2 and 3 must reach the Hon. Secretary, Miss D. D. Steel, Bedford Croquet Club, Kimbolton-road, Bedford, by first post on June 26th, 1954, Draw at 5 p.m. same day.

CONDITIONS.

Hoops 3½in. wide. Jaques' "Eclipse" Championship Balls will be used.

The winners hold the respective Challenge Trophies for one year or until the next competition, whichever is the shorter period.

The Committee reserve the right to refuse any entry without assigning a reason and to decide any question that may arise.

Every Competitor shall wear such flat-soled boots or shoes as cannot damage the Court.

THE

CROQUET CHAMPIONSHIP

and THE

DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP

will be played for at

HURLINGHAM

(By kind permission of the Committee of the Hurlingham Club)

On MONDAY, JULY 5th, 1954

AND FIVE FOLLOWING DAYS

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the Croquet Association.

Manager and Handicapper.—B. H. Wiggins.

Referee.—Col. C. C. Adams.

Assistant Referees on the Official List will be appointed on the ground under Reg. 15 (a).

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

EVENTS.

- 1.—THE CROQUET CHAMPIONSHIP. Open to any Competitor (subject to Regulation 22). Entrance Fee, 11s. 6d. Matches best of three games. Prizes: The Coronation Gold Challenge Cup presented by the Croquet Association and a medal, and a Silver Challenge Cup, presented by Messrs. F. H. Ayres Ltd., for the "runner-up," and the number of other prizes will be according to the number of entries received. Holder—J. W. Solomon.
- 2.—THE DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP. Open to any competitor (subject to Regulation 22). Entrance Fee, 11s. 6d. each person. Matches of single games. Prizes: A Pair of Silver Challenge Cups, presented by M. B. and the late G. L. Reckitt, and the number of other prizes will be according to the number of entries received. Holders—H. O. Hicks and Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins.
- 3.—THE ASSOCIATION PLATE. Open to competitors who have entered for Event 1 have not qualified for the third round. Matches of single games throughout. **This event will be played under Variation "B."** Entrance Fee, 6s. each entry as

they qualify. Level play. Prizes: A Challenge Trophy, presented by W. Longman, and the number of other prizes will be according to the number of entries received. Holder—M. B. Reckitt.

CONDITIONS.

Hoops 3½in. wide. Jaques' "Eclipse" Balls will be used. Six courts will be provided at Hurlingham and courts at Roehampton may be used on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

No leave can be granted till after the draw.

The winners hold the respective Challenge Trophies for one year or until the next competition, whichever is the shorter period.

The Committee reserve the right to refuse any entry without assigning a reason and to decide any question that may arise.

Every Competitor shall wear such flat-soled boots or shoes as cannot damage the Court.

ENTRIES.

The Entries, accompanied by the Entrance Fees for Event 1, must be sent to the Secretary, C.A., 4, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1., so as to reach her not later than the first post on **Wednesday, 30th June**, and for Event 2 by noon on **Tuesday, July 6th**.

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

DRAW.

The Draw for Event No. 1 will take place at 4, Southampton Row, W.C.1., at 11.30 a.m. on Wednesday, June 30th, for Event 2 at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, July 6th, and for Event 3 as will be announced on the ground.

PLAY.

Play will begin at 10 a.m. daily.

Competitors must report themselves to the Manager on arrival, and ascertain, if not previously notified, at what hour they must be ready to play.

Any Competitor who wishes to leave the ground before the conclusion of play must obtain the permission of the Manager.

Any Competitor who is not present or is otherwise unable to play when called upon to do so will be liable to be scratched.

The semi-finals and finals of the Championships will be so arranged that play in them will extend over the afternoons of Friday and Saturday.

Twenty-three

BUDLEIGH SALTERTON

A CROQUET TOURNAMENT

will be held on

THE CLUB GROUNDS

ON **MONDAY, 12th JULY, 1954**

and following days

(Under the Laws and Regulations of the Croquet Association)

Tournament Committee.—Mrs. E. Rotherham (Chairman), Major G. F. Stone, Miss A. Mills, Col. D. W. Beamish, L. G. Walters, Esq., and G. Black, Esq.

Manager and Handicapper.—Mrs. Edmund Reeve.

Referee of the Tournament.—A. G. F. Ross, Esq.
(Assistant referees and umpires may be appointed under Regulation 14.)

Secretary.—Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave, Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, Budleigh Salterton (Tel. 548).

EVENTS.

- 1.—**OPEN SINGLES.** Draw and Process. The Winner to hold the Colman Challenge Cup for one year or until the next competition, whichever is the shorter period. Entrance Fee, 11s. 6d. *Except in the case of a bye, Competitors in this event will not be granted leave after 2 p.m. on Monday, 12th July.*
- 2.—**LEVEL SINGLES (Class B).** Single games, Law 44 suspended. The Winner to hold the Longman Cup for one year or until the next competition, whichever is the shorter period. Open to players of 1 to 5 bisques. Entrance Fee, 9s.
- 3.—**HANDICAP SINGLES (Class C).** Single games. Open to players of 5½ bisques and over. Entrance Fee, 9s.
N.B.—No competitor may enter for more than one of the above events.
- 4.—**HANDICAP SINGLES.** Single games. The Winner to hold the Oliver Bowl for one year or until the next competition, whichever is the shorter period. Open to all. Entrance Fee, 9s.
- 5.—**HANDICAP DOUBLES.** Single games. The Winners to hold the Le Messurier Cups for one year or until the next competition, whichever is the shorter period. Unrestricted except that no two minus players may play together. Entrance Fee, 7s. each player.

NOTES

The above Entrance Fees include the C.A. Levy.

Non-Associates pay a Tribute of 10s. to the C.A. when playing in an Official Tournament, or 5s. if they compete in one Event only (except in a Tournament promoted by their own Club, when they pay such C.A. Tribute, if any, as the local Committee may determine); but on becoming an Associate any Tribute paid during the current year is refunded, or credited against the subscription.

PRIZES.

First and Second Prizes will be given in each Event, and two equal Third Prizes where Entries are sufficient.

ENTRIES.

Entries, on Association Forms PLEASE, must reach the Secretary by the following dates: For Events 1, 2, 3 and 4, by the first post on Thursday, 8th July; and for Event 5 by 3 p.m. on Tuesday, 13th July, but the Committee reserve the right to close the lists earlier should they find it necessary to do so.

THE DRAW.

The Draw for Events 1, 2, 3 and 4 will take place in the Club Pavilion on Thursday, 8th July, at 11 a.m., and for Event 5 on Tuesday afternoon, 13th July.

Luncheons and Teas will be provided on the ground at moderate prices. Bridge Rooms are available.

Standard Setting, 3¼ in. Hoops.

Play will commence each day at 10 a.m. or earlier if necessary.

Every Competitor shall wear such flat-soled boots or shoes as cannot damage the Court.

Eight lawns will be provided. Further courts by courtesy of Exmouth Croquet Club will be used if entries necessitate.

CHELTENHAM

The Thirty-Eighth Annual

OPEN TOURNAMENT

will be held on the CLUB LAWNS, Old Bath Road, on

MONDAY, JULY 19th, and FIVE FOLLOWING DAYS

(Under the Laws and Regulations of the Croquet Association.)

Committee of the Cheltenham Croquet Club.—Brig.-Gen. B. C. Fellows (Chairman).

Manager, Referee and Handicapper.—Miss D. D. Steel.

Assistant Referees will be appointed under Reg. 15 (a).

Tournament Secretary.—T. J. Gould, Cheltenham Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham.

EVENTS.

- 1.—**OPEN SINGLES. CHELTENHAM CHAMPIONSHIP CUP.** To be held for one year or till the next Competition, whichever is the shorter period. "Two Life System". Holder, H. O. Hicks. Entrance Fee, 11s. 6d.
- 2.—**LEVEL SINGLES. MONEY SALVER.** To be held for one year or till the next Competition, whichever is the shorter period. For players with two or more bisques. Holder, Mrs. W. A. Odling. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d.
- 3.—**HANDICAP SINGLES.** For players with five or more bisques. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d.
No player may enter for more than one of above events.
- 4.—**HANDICAP SINGLES.** For everyone. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d.
- 5.—**HANDICAP DOUBLES. BARWELL SALVERS.** Unrestricted. To be held for one year or till the next Competition, whichever is the shorter period. Holders, Brig.-Gen. B. C. Fellows and T. Wood-Hill. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. each player.

Two prizes at least will be given in each event.

There will be eight club lawns or possibly more.

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

Standard setting, 3¼ in. hoops and Jaques' Championship balls will be used.

Competitors shall wear such flat-soled shoes as cannot damage the courts.

The number of entries will be strictly limited.

Light Luncheons and Teas may be obtained on the ground.

Buses run to and from town half-hourly.

Leave till 2 p.m. allowed if requested.

Entries must reach Secretary by Midday July 15th.

Draw for Singles events in Pavilion at 2 p.m. same day.

Hotels.—Beeches, Ellenboro, Irving, Langton, Lansdown, Eltham Lawn, Lilleybrook, Montpellier, Moorend Park, Moray House, Plough, Queen's, Regent, Royal, etc.

DIRECTORY OF CLUBS

Bedford—Hon. Secretary, Miss D. D. Steel, King's Close, Biddenham, Bedford.

Birkdale (Southport)—Hon. Secretary, Rev. F. I. Denbow, East View, Liverpool Road, Rufford, Ormskirk.

Blackheath (Blackheath Park)—Hon. Secretary, Mrs. E. M. Gordon, 7 Pond Road, Blackheath, S.E.3.

Bowdon—Hon. Secretary, Mrs. M. Curnick, Corwar, Hazelwood Road, Hale, Cheshire.

Budleigh Salterton—Secretary, Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, Budleigh Salterton.

Buxton Croquet Club—Hon. Secretary, Mrs. M. Dean, 7 Bath Road, Buxton.

Carrickmines Croquet and Lawn Tennis Club—Hon. Secretary, Capt. J. H. Wilson, Littlegate, Carrickmines, Dublin.

Cassiobury (Watford)—Hon. Secretary, Miss B. Hurst, 97 Mildred Avenue, Watford.

Chelmsford and Mid-Essex Croquet Club—Hon. Secretary, Miss G. Metcalfe, Yoredale, Finchley Avenue, Chelmsford.

Cheltenham—Hon. Secretary, Major R. D. Marshall, Cheltenham Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham.

Clifton and County Croquet Club—Hon. Secretary, Miss L. Newman, 60 Hampton Park, Bristol 6.

Colchester—Hon. Secretary, E. P. Duffield, Acland Lodge, Acland Avenue, Colchester.

Compton (Eastbourne)—Hon. Secretary, Lt.-Col. R. A. Irwin, The Lawn, Willingdon, Sussex.

Crouch Hill Recreation Club (85a Crouch Hill, N. 4)—Hon. Secretary, Mrs. E. G. Simmonds, 7 Crouch Hill Road, Crouch End, N.8.

Dulwich Croquet Club—Hon. Secretary, Mrs. N. L. Baker, 23 Rollscourt Avenue, London, S.E.24.

East Dorset Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club (Parkstone)—Hon. Secretary, Mrs. L. H. Ashton, East Dorset L.T. & Croquet Club, Salterns Road, Parkstone, Dorset.

Edgbaston (Birmingham)—Hon. Secretary, Dr. B. R. Sandiford, 150 Great Charles Street, Birmingham.

Edinburgh Croquet Club (Lauriston Castle)—Hon. Secretary, J. R. Spence, 11 Stanley Road, Edinburgh 6.

Exmouth Croquet and Lawn Tennis Club—Hon. Secretary, Lt.-Col. C. S. Lazenby, The Club House, Cranford, Exmouth.

Ferranti Staff Recreation Club—Crewe Toll, Edinburgh—Hon. Secretary, A. W. Dawson.

Folkestone L.T. and Croquet Club—Hon. Secretary, Lady Climo, 158 Sandgate Road, Folkestone.

Guernsey Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club—Hon. Secretary, J. Griffiths, Les Fontaines, King's Road, Guernsey, C.I.

Heathfield (Lyford Road, London, S.W.18)—Hon. Secretary, W. Goodrich, 25 Crockerton Road, S.W.17.

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

Hurlingham—The Secretary, Fulham, S.W.6.

Ipswich (Arboretum)—Hon. Secretary, Miss Allen, 101 Constable Road, Ipswich.

Littlehampton Croquet Club—Hon. Secretary, H. T. Heming-Johnson, A.C.A., Rosemary, Fitzalan Road, Littlehampton.

Northern Lawn Tennis Club (Croquet Section) Didsbury, nr. Manchester—Hon. Secretary, W. Brownsword, 488 Wilmslow Road, Fallowfield, Manchester.

Norwich—Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Edmund Reeve, Sutton Lodge, Ipswich Road, Norwich.

Nottingham Croquet Club—Hon. Secretary, A. O. Taylor, Woodville House, Sherwood, Nottingham.

Oxford University Croquet and Lawn Tennis Club—Hon. Secretary, H. S. Clemons, 7 Marston Ferry Road, Oxford.

Reigate Priory Croquet Club—Hon. Secretary, L. W. Buckley, St. Monica, Alma Road, Reigate.

Roehampton—The Secretary, Roehampton Club, Roehampton Lane, S.W.15.

Rydal Croquet Club—Hon. Secretary, Hugh R. Hulbert, Rydal Mount, Ambleside.

Ryde Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club—Hon. Secretary, Harold A. Compton, Play Street Lane, Ryde, I.o.W.

Shepton Mallet—Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Cooper, 44 Victoria Grove, Shepton Mallet.

Sidmouth Croquet Club—Hon. Secretary, c/o. Cricket Pavilion, Sidmouth.

Southsea—Hon. Secretary, Miss E. M. Watson, 24 Bembridge Crescent, Southsea.

St. Ives L.T. Club and Croquet Club—Hon. Secretary, H. L. Branson, Ocean Breezes, St. Ives, Cornwall.

Sussex County (Brighton) Croquet and Lawn Tennis Club—Hon. Secretary, F. E. Corke, 28 Mansfield Road, Hove 3.

Upton—Hon. Secretary, E. Brighthouse, 27 Heath Road, Upton, Wirral.

Warwickshire Croquet Club (Leamington)—Hon. Secretary, W. R. Bolton, The Warwickshire Croquet Club, Guy's Cliffe Avenue, Leamington Spa.

Woking Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club—Hon. Secretary, Major J. H. Cobb, Farm Hotel, Woking.