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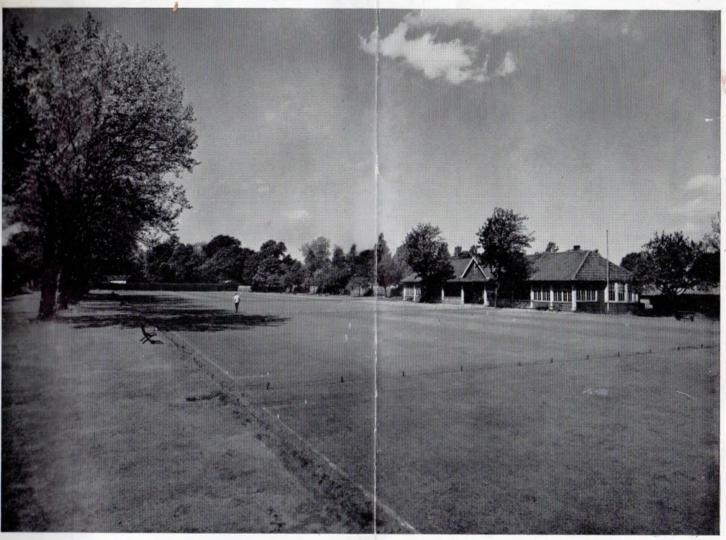
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In Our September Number-

CROQUET IN RETROSPECT

NOTES BY ROVER

NOTES FROM THE CLUBS

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

BRIDGE

TOURNAMENT FIXTURES

1956

- 6 Hurlingham. Games Sec., Hurlingham Club, London, S.W.6
 - 11 Championship of Ireland. Hon. Sec., Mrs. B. T. O'Reilly, Ballynamote, Carrickmines, Co. Dublin.
- 15-17 All England Handicap. Area Finals (Roehampton). Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
- 16-18 Challenge and Gilbey Cups (Roehamp-23-25 ton). Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W:C.1.
- 20-22 Fourth Test Match v. New Zealand at Roehampton.
- 27 Southwick. Hon. Sec., F. E. Corke, 60 Southwick Street, Southwick, Sussex.
- 3 Hunstanton. Hon. Sec., Mrs. B. C. Perowne, 65 Victoria Avenue, Hunstanton.
- 3 Parkstone. Hon. Sec., Mrs. L. H. Ashton, The Orchard, Parkstone, Dorset.
- 10 President's and Surrey Cups (Roehampton). Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
- 18-20 Fifth Test Match v. New Zealand at Budleigh Salterton.
- 24 Roehampton. Games Sec., Roehampton Club, Roehampton Lane, London, S.W.15.
- 1 Devonshire Park (Eastbourne). Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
 - 6 A Match. South of England v. New Zealand at Devonshire Park, Eastbourne.

NON-OFFICIAL FIXTURES

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

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Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury

Miss D. A. Lintern E. P. Duffield M. B. Reckitt

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Arthur H. Greev Noel Lodge Lt.-Comdr. G. W. H. Style, R.N. Mrs. G. W. H. Style

TOURNAMENT ENTRIES

The attention of intending competitors is drawn to the following conditions:-

Entries must be made on an entry form (or properly made out facsimile thereof).

When known the address AND TELE-PHONE number which will find the competitor during the tournament must be given. If not available at time of entry the Secretary, C.A., to be notified as soon as possible.

The entries must be accompanied by the appropriate fees.

Each competitor must send in a separate entry form.

Entries which do not comply with these requirements cannot be accepted.

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

•ENTRY FORMS FOR TOURNAMENTS

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

LORN C. APPS,

Secretary.

NOTES by ROVER

Well played!

Since 1950, when Miss Margaret Claughton won the Women's Championship, we have become so accustomed to see any visiting New Zealander who may be around appropriating one of our "titles", that it was with almost a feeling of surprise that we found finals day at Roehampton to be the concern only of British players. Congratulations to all five of those thus engaged, and first of all to John Solomon who, with a New Zealand title to his credit, added a second victory in our Open Championship to his impressive list of successes. The Open Doubles brought members of our Test team to the final, and a game full of excellent play, amid otherwise depressing surroundings, produced a new pair of champions. Neither G. F. Stone nor L. Kirk-Greene had won a national title before, and the very high standard of play shown by both throughout the week revealed that the honour was certainly not overdue. We have good reason to be proud of our "Big Six", who are giving of their very best in this uniquely interesting season. How sad that in a summer in which we want our visitors to see everything in Britain at its best, our weather should be behaving in so ungracious a manner.

Best Ten again

A proposal inspired by the presence of the New Zealand players has had a positive result, namely to return, if only for this season, to the selection of ten players for the President's Cup. The change from ten to eight was made after the war for a variety of reasons, the chief of which was the lengthening of the game by the introduction of a second lift. In previous days it was the custom on most days for the players to get through four games, but it is unlikely that this could be achieved now, and with 18 games to be completed the whole week will be required, so that a play-off if needed, will have to be arranged for a subsequent day. The competition this year should be of exceptional interest, with a higher standard of play perhaps "right down the card" than has been seen in this event since the war. This increase to ten players would have been difficult to arrange, however, without their being nine courts available, since it has to be remembered that the competition for the Surrey Cup, which proved such a success last year, is now held at the same time. We have reason then to be grateful to the Roehampton authorities for generously arranging for a ninth lawn to be available for this event. With such an exceptionally interesting competition for the main event, we wonder whether anyone will be found enterprising enough to organise a selling sweepstake on the lines of those which were found so entertaining a feature of this week in earlier days.

Hors de combat

Nothing could spoil the pleasure which the visit of our New Zealand friends is giving to all of us who meet them, or destroy the interest of the Test Matches in which they are taking part. Yet it is for every reason to be lamented that one of their finest players, Mr. Clement Watkins, should have been prevented on the very eve of the second match from taking part in it by the onset of a grave condition of health which may even, it is feared, keep him out of the game for the rest of the summer. Mr. Watkins had reached his peak as a player over here less rapidly perhaps than the majority of his companions, but from what we hear of his play in the Nottingham tournament, where he had defeated his captain, he most certainly had reached it, and his forced withdrawal from the team was a wretched stroke of luck for them. It will be almost as disappointing to the English players as to their opponents if New Zealand should be unable to field their most formidable team in the future Tests. But it is of course to Mr. Watkins himself, and to his wife and partner, that our sympathy must chiefly go out. As we write, we understand that while Mr. Watkins is still in hospital at Nottingham, his condition has greatly improved, and we shall all be hoping to see him amongst us again soon, if (unhappily) not on the court, at least consoling us with his welcome presence beside it.

When to try a hoop

As we were watching tournament games the other day, the following question was put to us, "Is it worth while going for a hoop which when practising you would make more often than not, but where in the stress of a needle game the chance of failure is appreciably higher?" This problem arises again and again, and more often than not the player decides to have a go without first stopping to think. But impetuosity should be checked, for in the first place the consequences of failing to make the hoop should be assessed, and secondly, the player should think of what further progress can be made if the hoop is run successfully. Taking the second question first, so often it needs only momentary thought to decide that the hoop is not worth going for because there is little chance of building up a break and scoring any more points in the same innings. In this case the answer surely should be not to go for the hoop, since the one point that may be scored is not enough to warrant the risk of breaking down. It might be argued that if the other ball near the hoop is your partner ball then there is no harm in having a try, but how often do we then see the ball wedged against the hoop leaving no shot for either ball. The first question is, however, perhaps the more important. What we so often see is a player going for a doubtful hoop, missing it, and handing a four-ball break to his opponent.

CROQUET IN RETROSPECT

4. TWO GREAT PLAYERS

by G. F. H. Elvey

I T may have caused surprise to some of my old friends that there is one very great exponent of Croquet about whom I have so far said nothing. That deficiency must now be remedied. The player in question was C. L. O'Callaghan. When "C.L." as he was affectionately called by his friends, ceased to play Croquet, our game suffered a tremendous loss. For C.L. had a great personality. (I use the word correctly not according to B.B.C. slang!) To start with, C.L. was every inch a riding man. This was something about which there could be no mistake. And then he had a charming touch of the stage Irishman! He spoke with a pleasing brogue, and was as pleasant an opponent as one could possibly meet. When he won a match, a not unusual occurrence, he was quick to tell his fallen adversary that it was just that he happened to have the luck. And on the occasions (not so many of them), when he suffered defeat, he took it with a smile. He was tall and thin but stooped rather low in playing, and held his mallet with an interlocked grip rather low down the shaft. His left foot was forward, his right slightly further back. He was a wonderful shot, and it was a pleasure to watch him making a break. His strokes were quick and easy, and there never seemed any likelihood of a break-

I have already mentioned the coming of the open shot. Now in the old days the penalty of being pegged-out was severe indeed, since the pegged-out man had only one turn to his opponent's two turns. Thus the open shot caused considerable trepidation. When a first-class player had gained the innings and had played two all-rounders and felt he had the right to go out, it was extremely disconcerting to watch his opponent taking the shot, with the knowledge that one lucky hit, followed perhaps by a short break and a ball peggedout, might turn the scale. Owing to the tremendous advantage to be gained by pegging out an opponent, it might easily happen that the player who had distinguished himself least in the game so far, won it in the end.

C.L. was the first to standardise a defence, i.e. the triple peel. He told me himself that out of this, he gained a "rich harvest", I quote his own words. At one tournament at Hurlingham, he did nine triple peels running. Admittedly a triple peel in the days of sequence, and with the help of that useful accessory the Turning Peg, was not the same thing as a triple peel today. Nevertheless to keep on doing triple peel after triple was a great achievement.

Two of C.L.'s pithy remarks have remained in my mind. One at Roehampton when in a double the opponent had committed a foul, and the question according to the old rule was whether the ball should be put back or not. He looked up and "brought down the house" by saying: "If it's got to be moved, it must stay where it is!" And another in a double at Brighton, when C.L.'s partnersaid to him, "I suppose I'd better come to you gently?" "No," said C.L., "I am going to hit you hard!" and promptly did.

It was a great tragedy for Croquet that the war (1914-1918) took such a toll of Captain O'Callaghan's health that he was never the same as a player afterwards, and finally after 1922 put his mallet away. His going out was an irreparable loss to Croquet. He was a great man with a great personality, who made a tremendous appeal to the imagination of the general public.

But I must not neglect what the old novelists used to describe as the "fair sex," and so I will now turn over to a woman player.

If you motor from Bracknell to Windsor, by the road that passes north of the Ascot Racecourse, and if you look across towards the Grand Stand, your eyes may catch a glimpse of what looks like a fenced-in field in the middle of the heath with the racecourse all round it. That field was, and possibly still is, a local Cricket Ground, as indeed it used to be, but in the old days it was also the venue of the Ascot Heath Croquet Club—a Club that has long since disappeared, the only remembrance of it left being the Ascot Cup used now for Golf Croquet, which was bought with subscriptions raised by Mr. Frank Croft for the Open Singles at the Ascot Tournament.

We had a considerable amount of fun on that ground; we had two special Club Days each week, and in addition to the Official Tournament, we had a number of day tournaments. Our best player was Mr. Frank Croft, but we did not see much of him, because he usually seemed playing in "away" Tournaments. But a player whom we did see a good deal of was a girl of great charm both in appearance and otherwise—Miss Effie Spartali, daughter of Mrs. Ellice Clarke by her first marriage. I well remember playing against Miss Spartali, long before she became a famous player. I can see the swing of her mallet, and the deadly precision of her shooting. She played then as she always continued to do, with a small-barrelled mallet head with a not too long shaft. She said she did not like a big mallet-head that seemed to "hit all over the ball". She played the front-side stroke with the toe of the mallet head raised, and she had the habit, like some of our New Zealand friends, of stooping and lowering her right hand just before making the stroke. She had then, and she always continued to have a wonderful free swing back and through. She dropped out of croquet for a time after her marriage, but in her widowhood came back to it again, and as Mrs.

Ionides, admired and beloved by many, became one of our greatest woman players.

I asked the opinion of a modern player who remembered and admired her, as to how she would compare with the best women players of the present day, and the answer I received was to the effect that there is no woman player of today who could "hold a candle" to Mrs. Ionides. I think this opinion was probably right, not that I have any desire to detract from the excellence of some of our women players today, but because there is not one of them, and few, if any of the best men either, who have that lovely swing of the mallet that Mrs. Ionides had, combining in a wonderful way freedom and accuracy. She was a marvellous shot, had great ability to knock a break up from very little, and was a useful triple peeler!

I notice that on the four occasions when Mrs. Ionides played in the President's Cup Competition, she won in 1931 nine games, in 1932 eleven games, in 1933 twelve games, in 1934 nine games. She also won the Ladies' Gold Medal in 1931, and the Ladies' Ten, as it then was, with fourteen games in 1923. As already said, when we lost "C'L." from the ranks of players, we lost a great personality

from Croquet, and the same is most certainly true about the sad loss of Effie Ionides, when she was still comparatively young.

Here, I would pause to remark that with the exception of Mrs. Beaton, without mention of whom it would have been impossible to give any sort of picture of "Edwardian" Croquet, I have omitted mention of players who still play, whether often or seldom. So I have not discussed the play of one of our greatest players, and the greatest woman player we have ever had—Miss D. D. Steel, nor the play of that "prince" of players Mr. P. Duff Mathews, reckoned by some as the greatest player ever.

Now there is a question which is likely to be asked, and it is this. How does the play of the past compare with the play of the present day. This is really rather a futile question, because the best play of any season or seasons is, and always was, very good. I feel sure that if by waving of a magic wand, we could confront Cyril Corbally, C. L. O'Callaghan, K. H. Izard and Maxwell-Browne at their best with H. Hicks, P. Cotter, John Solomon and Arthur Ross also at their best, there would not be one who could stand up to the other with a clear prospect of success.

NEW ZEALANDERS AT RYDAL



Left to right standing: Mr. W. H. Kirk, Mrs. Rowling, Mr. G. Rowling, Miss Wainwright, Mrs. Gain. Sitting: Mrs. Wainwright, Mrs. Kirk, Mrs. McKenzie-Smart.

THE SECOND TEST MATCH

THE second Test Match v. New Zealand was held at Nottingham on June 23rd, 25th and 26th. This was the first visit of most of the English Team to this delightful club. It would be difficult to find a finer setting for the game than this beautiful park, bounded by beds of rhododendrons which were at their best during the Tournament. The Match took place on the three bowling greens, and on the first day three doubles were played. The New Zealand team suffered a severe blow with the illness of Clem Watkins, and we wish him a speedy recovery.

Cotter and Solomon beat Ross and Mrs. McKenzie-Smart in two games, the match finishing before lunch. In the first game Ross and Cotter made good breaks. In the second game, Cotter went to four-back on the first turn, the lift was missed, and Solomon started a delayed triple, doing four-back going to one-back, and penultimate going to three-back. The rover peel did not work out and he left it for Cotter to finish next turn, which he did, and New Zealand did not take croquet at all. Hicks and Mrs. Rotherham v. Mrs. Watkins and Mrs. Kirk, produced two exciting finishes. In the first game Mrs. Watkins got in first and made a good break to four-back. After that the English players got round and Hicks inadvertently put his own ball out after missing the peg-out with the front ball. Mrs. Rotherham was shooting well and her second shot finished the game. The second game was notable for a fine finish by Hicks. Having made a two-ball break from four-back, he took off from the middle of the East boundary to get a rush on his partner ball in the fourth corner to the peg. Wiggins and Stone had a fierce battle with Rowling and Miss Wainwright. Generosity seemed to be the metive in the first game, for each side had many chances but were more concerned in giving them away to their opponents. They soon pulled themselves together, however, and Wiggins and Miss Wainwright played good breaks. Having lost the first game, the English players were galvanised into action and romped round to win the second game fairly quickly. But success proved to be short lived, for in the third game they were unable to maintain the good play of the previous game. Rowling was shooting well and was well supported by Miss Wainwright's good play, so England finished the first day 2-1 up.

The Singles started on Monday with Cotter playing Mrs. McKenzie-Smart, who was called on in place of Watkins. Cotter played well in the first game in which he attempted a triple, but failing to get the four-back peel he continued his break to the stick. The lift was missed and Cotter went round as he usually does, to finish the game. Mrs. McKenzie-Smart fought back, determined not to give her opponent a chance. She gained the innings first, and made three hoops, by which time, had she played her normal game, she would have established a break. But she had evidently been told not to pull the balls into the middle in case

she broke down. This advice, if such it was, backfired, since Cotter is equally capable of going round from a difficult position, as he is from an easy one. And so it happened, when Mrs. McKenzie-Smart went off on a long take off. Cotter, however, did not have things quite so much his own way as in the first game, and Mrs. McKenzie-Smart's clips were on four-back and rover before Cotter could finish the game. Stone beat Mrs. Kirk in two games which proved to be almost identical. In each game Mrs. Kirk got the innings first and made in one case one hoop, in the other, two. From then on it was all Stone. He monopolised the court and went steadily round with each ball, playing fine

Wiggins beat Rowling in three games, after losing the first. They both started shakily, but then Wiggins got going and went to four-back. Rowling picked up a difficult break, running the second hoop and hitting a ball in the second corner, and also went to four-back. Wiggins elected not to take the lift, and Rowling went to the peg with his second ball. Wiggins missed the lift shot into the second corner and Rowling continued from four-back and pegged out. Wiggins played like his old self in the second game and as the score shows, gave little chance to his opponent. The deciding game was perhaps the most interesting, although not as exciting as the score might suggest. Each player made spasmodic breaks, and it was a case of who got to the peg-first, which privilege fell to Wiggins. This victory meant that England were now 5-1 up, and had in fact won the Test, which was a little unfortunate from the point of view of the third day's games.

Hicks v. Ross was of especial interest in that we saw the all too rare spectacle of Hicks attempting a triple peel, which might well have been successful had he not missed a roquet at two-back, having peeled his partner ball through four-back, and with it nicely in front of penultimate. Ross then played a good break, making nine hoops, before Hicks regained the innings, and, going to the peg with his forward ball, went out from twoback after Ross's shot had failed. Ross evened the score in the next game, and in the deciding game we saw little of Hicks in action. He did take croquet, but Ross soon wrested the innings back again, and New Zealand achieved their second victory of the Match.

Mrs. Watkins won the first game of her match against Solomon, playing her usual competent and attractive game. Solomon did a triple peel in the second game to even things up, and in the third game gave few chances to his opponent.

Mrs. Rotherham produced some of her best play against Miss Wainwright. She had most of the play, and made some good breaks to win +15. The second game was one of those heartbreaking affairs, where victory just eludes one. Mrs. Rotherham's clips were both on the peg when

Miss Wainwright hit and played two most accurate breaks, one from the second hoop, the other from the sixth to win the game. The third game had unfortunately to be abandoned, owing to the lateness of the hour, at which point Miss Wainwright was for the fourth hoop and penultimate, and Mrs. Rotherham for two-back and rover.

A most excellent luncheon was given by the Mayor of Nottingham to the two Teams on the

third day, and the New Zealand team were taken on a coach tour around Nottingham on the Sunday and were also entertained to a very pleasant and informal evening with Mrs. Elliott, who has done so much for the continuance of the club. The catering arrangements were excellent, and the members of the Committee deserve the highest congratulations for the very hard work they put in. They succeeded in making both teams welcome and contributed greatly to the success of the match.

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SUMMARY OF ALL HANDICAP SINGLES GAMES PLAYED AND FINISHED AND REPORTED IN

CROQUET, 1955

	Bisques	Games		Percentage
		Won	Lost	of Games Won
1	- 51	5	1	83.33
2	$-3\frac{1}{2}$	8	2	80.00
3	- 4 ²	21	6	77.78
		9	4	69.23
5	$-4\frac{1}{2}$ $-1\frac{1}{2}$	62	35	63.92
4 5 6	12	41	25	62.12
7	41	43	28	60.56
8	- 3 ²	35	25	58.33
9	0	63	46	57.80
10	- 1	41	31	56.94
11	13	18	14	56.25
12	11	90	75	54.55
13	4	67	56	54.47
14	81	26	22	54.17
15		14	12	53.85
16	$-rac{2^{-7}}{7}$	86	76	53.09
17	3	37	34	52.11
18	1	40	37	51.95
19	51/2	56	53	51.38
20	-1	23	22	51.11
21	5	68	67	50.37
22	10	62	70	46.97
23	31	54	61	46.96
24	11	20	23	46.51
25	6 8	49	57	46.23
26	8	55	64	46.22
27	71	6	7	46.15
28	$2\frac{7}{2}$	40	48	45.45
29	2	48	48	45.28
30	61	22	28	44.00
31	- 2	9	14	39.13
32	12	43	69	38.39
33	9	58	33	30.37
34	14	9	25	26.47
	the within	1328	1328	75 A 25800
	TO LINE WITH STREET	-		terrol sto

Notes from the Clubs

Colchester

For the past few seasons the Colchester Club has been handicapped, in common with other local sportsgrounds, by a ban on the use of hoses for watering during dry periods with the inevitable result that the turf has deteriorated. Happily the ban is now lifted and, having purchased a new sprinkler, the courts show distinct signs of improvement. A prominent feature in the Lexden Road is the ornamental gate symbolising croquet equipment, hoop, mallet and balls, all in appropriate colours. This and a new notice board which has been erected by the gate may have assisted in bringing a number of inquiries concerning membership which is in a fairly healthy condition as are the Club's finances. With only three courts no open tournament is possible but the members enter enthusiastically into the Club competitions and a very happy spirit prevails. Inter-club matches will as usual be played with the neighbouring Ipswich and Chelmsford Clubs.

Rydal

Apart from an American Tournament among the members which runs through the season, the chief item of interest this year has been the informal visit by invitation of the New Zealand players. squeezed in for a few days on their way to Edinburgh. During the time they spent in Rydal, distributed at different members' houses and a local hotel, they gave us a Doubles Exhibition game-Mrs. Kirk and Miss Wainwright against Mrs. McKenzie-Smart and Mr. Rowling-the latter winning. It would be superfluous for us to comment on the excellence of their play; this has already been done by more competent judges. But, as a change from so much Croquet, we showed them as many as we could of the more noted beauty-spots in the district-Windermere, Ullswater and Derwentwater, as well as some historic castles and ancient manor houses. Their obvious enjoyment of all they saw, and kindly expressed gratitude for hospitality received made some of us voice the pleasure it was to do what we could to hold on to what still remained to us of our sadly truncated and rapidly diminishing Empire! Came at once the heartening rejoinder: "You needn't be afraid of ever losing New Zealand: we always think of old England as Home.'

Parkstone

Parkstone had a very successful June tournament. We had a good entry, and were delighted to welcome both old and new friends. Amongst the latter were two very doughty long bisquers from Leamington, who are not likely to keep their bisques very long, we feel. William Ormerod swept the board, taking first in every event he played in. He played beautiful croquet.

An innovation was the visit of Miss Barbara Buchanan, a commentator on the B.B.C. who had lunch and tea with us on Saturday, and appeared to be keen to find out as much as she could about

the game. She gave a short talk on the tournament and Croquet in the Western Sports News over the radio. Whilst all advertising is strictly banned on the B.B.C. and the Club could in no way be boosted, we felt it was all good publicity for Croquet, and that, possibly, in the long run, may bring us inquiries for membership other clubs may be interested.

Woking

Nothing of note has happened here this season. As is known to most readers of *Croquet*, our tournament had to be cancelled as the lawns were not up to standard. They have improved since the middle of June but much remains to be done if they are to show any vast improvement.

We were glad to put them at the disposal of Roehampton and Ryde for their round of the Longman Cup Competition and had the pleasure of welcoming old friends from both of these Clubs. Unfortunately it rained the whole day. Our team in that competition lost to Hurlingham but, as usual, thanks to the kindness of our hosts, had a throughly enjoyable day.

We now look forward to A and B matches against Roehampton, the first being played at Roehampton and the second at Woking. It is hoped to arrange for a match against Reigate.

Meanwhile Club Competitions are in progress but, owing to lack of entries, there will be no Doubles this year.

Budleigh Salterton

Partly basking in reflected glory from the performances of our own particular "Stars" on the International Level, and partly working like beavers at our various if more lowly Club competitions, we have found time passing very pleasantly on our Budleigh Salterton Lawns.

The persistent Fly-in-the-Ointment has been a complete lack of rain, and in spite of constant watering the lawns are fast and dry.

An interesting innovation for Budleigh was a Croquet Gymkhana, held at the end of June. It was primarily designed to attract Club members from the Bowling, Tennis and Bridge Sections, and in this it succeeded admirably.

Bowling with Golf and Tennis Balls presented no difficulty to our indefatigable Miss Mills, whereas our crack Bowlers failed even to score! But Nemesis was awaiting, and our Secretary went down a most emphatic six to the genial but formidable Chairman of the Bowls Committee, J. H. Bennett, allegedly wielding a croquet mallet for the first time in his life, on a Round of nine hole Croquet Golf course. Skill told, however, and Mrs. Rotherham won the Croquet Golf event very comfortably, with Mrs. Walters trailing behind as a hot second, the rest of the "Field" only qualifying as "also rans". The Croquet Golf Course was so popular a feature that it is being retained as a permanent attraction!

Arrangements for the Fifth Test Match are well in hand, and we have had encouraging inquiries from various parts of the West Country for seats.

As we write, we are on the eve of our July Tournament, with a strong entry, being all set we hope for a thoroughly enjoyable week.

Hurlingham

In defeating Woking in the Longman Club Cup towards the end of June, Hurlingham had the pleasure of reversing last year's result. Winston Cheavin's return to the team proved to be very timely as he had good wins in both the singles and doubles matches. In the latter he was partnered by Mrs. Thom who is in increasing demand as a partner in handicap doubles.

The presence of some of the New Zealand visitors at our August tournament will provide added enjoyment and should help to attract a large entry. The three hour time limit that is to be imposed on all games is an experiment which will be watched with interest.

D. E. Buckland and R. C. V. de Wesselow will represent Hurlingham in the final stages of

the All England handicap at Roehampton. In horse-racing parlance they are nicely placed on their present handicaps and carry the confidence of the stable.

Roehampton

The Roehampton Croquet members are busy playing off the inter-club events. These are well up to date, and have already reached the third and semi-final rounds. It is satisfactory to note that so far the names of successful competitors in the different events are very varied, which shows the majority of entrants are playing well up to their handicaps.

A match for the Longman inter-club competition was played at Bedford between teams from Edgbaston and Roehampton on Sunday, 8th July, and resulted in a win for Roehampton 3-2.

On Tuesday, 17th July, an "A" team of six members from Woking visited Roehampton to play a match. Four singles were played in the morning and two doubles in the afternoon, the result being Roehampton won 4-2.

THE TEST MATCHES

Teams and Scores

THE New Zealand team will be chosen from the following:

A. G. F. Ross, Captain Miss I. Wainwright
Mrs. W. H. Kirk Mrs. C. Watkins
Mrs. McKenzie-Smart G. Rowling

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

E. P. C. Cotter W. Ormerod Mrs. Rotherham J. W. Solomon G. F. Stone W. R. D. Wiggins

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

H. O. Hicks and L. Kirk Greene were unable to accept the invitation to play.

In the third test match, played at Hurlingham on July 19th, 20th and 21st, the score was as follows:—

DOUBLES

E. P. C. Cotter and J. Solomon bt A. Ross and Mrs. McKenzie-Smart +9+22.

H. O. Hicks and W. R. D. Wiggins bt G. Rowling and Miss Wainwright +17 +18.

G. F. Stone and L. Kirk Greene bt Mrs. Watkins and Mrs. Kirk +12 —6 +17.

SINGLES

J. Solomon bt G. Rowling +4 + 16. G. F. Stone bt Mrs. Watkins +26 + 24.

L. Kirk Greene bt Mrs. Kirk +18 +14.

E. P. C. Cotter bt A. F. Ross +22 -25 +26. H. O. Hicks bt Miss Wainwright +20 +20.

W. R. D. Wiggins bt Mrs. McKenzie-Smart +19 +20.

England won 9 games to 0.

An Apology

At the request of the committee of the Nottingham Croquet Club the Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury, Chairman of the C.A. Council and Brigadier A. E. Stokes-Roberts, Chairman of the Council Publicity Committee, apologise to the Committee of the Nottingham Croquet Club for their having given authority, without permission, to

the Southwick Club to copy the Test Match programme which was to be used at Nottingham.

The programme in question consisted, chiefly, of a cover which was not imitated in detail, an article by the Rev. G. F. H. Elvey, suitable for all the Test Matches, and particulars of the Test Teams which Brigadier Stokes-Roberts himself prepared and sent to Nottingham.

BRIDGE

by E. P. C. Cotter, British International

DSYCHIC bidding often disrupts opponents' I bidding, sometimes merely by "crowding" leaving the enemy too little time to exchange the one piece of information vital to complete the puzzle. Sometimes it sows the seeds of doubt and the opponents begin to wonder whether they have as much as they thought they had; sometimes, goaded by the thought that they are being given the works, they contract for game or slam that there is no hope of making. At other times the psychic bidder's efforts recoil upon his own head and he finds that he has only made it easy for the opponents. This is clearly illustrated in the following hand:-

The bidding was as follows:-

Room I	Room II		
W 1H 4D 6C	W 1H 4H 5H		
N X 5D 6S	N X 4S X		
E 3D No	E 3H No No		
S 3S 5H	S 3S No 5S		

In Room I despite the fact of a vulnerable opening, and a forcing jump take-out my partner and I confidently bid six spades. The psychic diamond bids of our opponents allowed me (North) to make a cue bid of five diamonds, and when my partner showed the heart void, six spades was bid and was a lay down. In the other room the simple barrage of three hearts gave the opponents less scope and the bidding petered out at five spades.

In the following hand from rubber bridge two lessons can be learned. First of all the declarer through carelessness (or shall we say greed?) neglected a safety play to ensure his contract. But he atoned for his earlier slip by a good play and so disproved the cliché that the cards never forgive. This was the hand:-

South played in 3NT, reached by the simple route of 1NT-2NT-3NT. The opening lead was the five of clubs and South won the Knave with the King. The six of diamonds was ducked to East's Queen and the three of clubs was returned. West won, and seeing little future in the club suit

switched to his singleton heart. South put up dummy's knave which East covered and South won with the King, and played another diamond. West false carded with the ten. It is clear that another diamond "duck" ensures nine tricks, with three clubs, three diamonds, two hearts and a spade. But South greedily went for an overtrick, and played the diamond King from dummy. When East failed, South started to think up a sufficiently good alibi for his bad play. However, he was fundamentally a good player and realised that West had started with nine cards in the minor suits. So, unruffled, he came back to his hand with the heart Ace and when West discarded a spade the sun shone again. Declarer cashed his two club winners, entered dummy with the diamond Ace and threw West in with a diamond. After making his club winner West had to lead a spade up to South's tenace. North quietly put back his .45 and South breathed again! Copyright

CORRESPONDENCE

The Ten Best Players

Dear Sir,

Mr. Elvey's so interesting articles, the latest of which I have been privileged to see before publication, raises the interesting questions of who might be considered to be the Ten Best Players in the history of Croquet, assuming all to be at their peak of performance. I am reminded of a list given in these pages about two years ago by Rover with which (by a singular coincidence) I happen to agree. Rover mentioned that he omitted consideration of players from overseas, including such great exponents as K. H. Izard, C. J. Miller and A. G. F. Ross, but with this qualification his list was Corbally, Beaton, O'Callaghan, Mathews, Joseph, Miss Steel, Hicks, G. L. Reckitt, Solomon, Cotterthe names being given in the order in which their bearers won the Open Championship.

This list gave rise to no comment at the time, but in view of Mr. Elvey's articles and the fact that this year we are again to have a "Best Ten", it might be of interest to know how far it commends itself to the judgment of your

Yours faithfully,

MAURICE B. RECKITT

Shorter Games

Dear Sir.

Cannot something be done to shorten the game of Croquet? I think the position is serious and likely to become more so. I do not think the game will survive unless some drastic changes are made.

Croquet flourished in a state of society which no longer exists, and never will again. It was the game of a leisured class, who had the time and many private lawns on which to play. It must now make a fresh appeal. Almost all croquet of the future must be played at clubs or on municipally-owned lawns. I am afraid the smaller club will disappear, leaving only a very few places where croquet is played.

Here we come to the crux of the problem; the game is too long, and the lawns are too large for such clubs to pay their way, or for Municipal Authorities to consider that Croquet has as fair a claim on their limited lawnspace as other games.

The matter deserves the careful consideration of the Council, and I hope that other Associates who think my arguments are correct will support me in this appeal.

Yours faithfully,

Greyfriars, Storrington

J. R. ABBEY

DINNER NOTICES

Hurlingham Dinner

The Hurlingham Croquet Dinner will be held at The Club on Thursday, August 9th. Tickets, price 12/6, can be obtained from the Games Secretary, Manager of the Tournament or any member of the Croquet Committee.

The Committee wishes to arrange the seating at the Dinner to suit ticket holders. In order that they may do this there will be a large table plan in the club or in the manager's tent. Those attending the Dinner are asked to enter their names on this plan.

Farewell Dinner

The Croquet Association's farewell dinner to the New Zealand team is to be held on 18th October at the Connaught Rooms. Fullest details will appear in our next issue.

Sir Compton Mackenzie will preside. It is hoped that a large number of associates will be present on this unique occasion. The cost of the ticket will be £1 including coffee and gratuities but excluding wines.

HANDICAPS CONFIRMED OR ALTERED BY THE HANDICAP CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE

July 18th, 1956

PARKSTONE

Mrs. C. A. Bishop 9 to 11. T. A. Chignell 51 to 5. W. P. Ormerod —1 to —1 E. Sidwell 12 to 9. L. D. Overell 12 to 11.

NON-ASSOCIATE Mrs. G. Fitter 14 (D 12) new handicap

COMPTON

Comdr. G. W. Style *7 new handicap. Comdr. G. W. Style *7 to 7. Mrs. G. W. Style *9 new handicap. Mrs. G. W. Style *9 to 9. Miss H. Parker 4 to 31 C. J. Speer 6 to 5. H. Walker 12 new handicap.

NON-ASSOCIATES

A. R. Topliss 8 new handicap. Mrs. A. W. Tarbet 9 new handicap.

BEDFORD

Miss G. Allen 9 to 8. Mrs. M. D. Cork 9 to 8. Miss E. M. Leonard 13 (D 12) to 11.

NOTTINGHAM

W. F. Lord 9 to 7. G. N. B. Huskinson 11 to 7. Miss J. Warwick 21 to 11.

NON-ASSOCIATES

Miss E. M. Garrett 10 new handicap F. B. Stephens 13 (D 12) new handicap Mrs. F. B. Stephens 14 (D 12) new handicap.

EXMOUTH

Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave 1 to 1. Mrs. E. M. Kay 10 (D 8) to 9 (D 7). Miss V. E. Mills 2 to 1½. Mrs. R. G. Michelmore 3 to 2½. S. S. Townsend 11 to 1.

ROEHAMPTON CLUB

A. Hollweg 2 to 1. H. T. Pinckney Simpson 0 to 2.

HANDICAP CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE C. Watkins (New Zealand) -21 to -3.

ALL ENGLAND HANDICAP

AREA FINALS

Roehampton, August 15th-17th, 1956

D. E. Buckland (Hurlingham)

Miss K. Ault (Clifton)

Dr. B. R. Sandiford (Edgbaston) W. W. Sweet-Escott (Sidmouth)

Miss E. Walker (Ryde)

Mrs. C. L. Robertson (Chelmsford) Major Hill-Bernhard (Parkstone)

Miss D. A. Lintern (Roehampton)
R. C. V. de Wesselow (Hurlingham)
Mrs. P. E. Heley (Hunstanton)
R. Whitham (Woking)

D. M. Anderson (Cheltenham)

Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave (Budleigh Salterton) G. E. W. Hitchcock (Southwick)

1 J. A. Hollweg (Roehampton)

LONGMAN (CLUB TEAM) CUP

ROEHAMPTON versus RYDE

Played at Woking on Saturday, June 16th, 1956 Roehampton players named first

SINGLES

Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts (2) bt Major J. H. Dibley (1)

J. A. Hollweg (2) bt Mrs. Walker $(3\frac{1}{2})$ by 7. Mrs. E. Haigh-Smith $(7\frac{1}{2})$ lost to Mrs. Farnsworth $(5\frac{1}{2})$

DOUBLES

Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts and Mrs. M. Carrington (12) bt Mrs. Dibley and Mrs. Walker (8) by 7. J. A. Hollweg and Mrs. E. Haigh-Smith (91) lost to Major J. H. Dibley and Mrs. Farnsworth (6) by 3.

RESULT.—Roehampton bt Ryde by 3 games to 2.

ROEHAMPTON versus EDGBASTON

Played at Bedford on July 8th, 1956. Roehampton players named first

SINGLES

J. A. Hollweg (2) bt Dr. B. R. Sandiford $(1\frac{1}{2})$ by 9. Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts (2) bt R. H. Newton (2) by 10. Mrs. E. Haigh-Smith $(7\frac{1}{2})$ lost to J. B. Meacham $(4\frac{1}{2})$ by 20. DOUBLES.

J. A. Hollweg and Mrs. E. Haigh-Smith (94) bt Dr. B. R.

J. A. Hollweg and Mrs. E. Halgn-Smith (9½) of Dr. B. R. Sandiford and J. B. Meacham (6) by 4.

Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts and Mrs. M. Carrington (12) lost to R. H. Newton and S. B. Lawes (6) by 9.

RESULT.—Roehampton bt Edgbaston by 3 games to 2.

NOTTINGHAM

JUNE 18th to 23rd

Due to the second Test Match between England and New Zealand commencing on the Saturday of the tournament week, only five days were available for play and it was decided this year to overcome the time factor by dropping the Doubles Handicap Event from the programme.

The close proximity of the Test Match resulted in a greatly increased entry over former years and Miss D. D. Steel, as Manager, was confronted with the enormous task of organising the playing of 136 games on seven lawns in five days playing time, subsequently reduced to 125 games by sundry withdrawals. A formidable total to organise for. That she managed to get through all but the finals of the Handicap Singles "Y" and the Handicap Singles for 5 bisques and over, both of which had local finalists, speaks volumes for her wonderful efficiency, and to her is due the gratitude of all for the great part she played in making this such a successful tournament

It was most gratifying to all members of the Club to have with us the Test Team and other visitors from New Zealand, and the presence of Major and Mrs. Tingey gave to the tournament a truly international flavour.

The Open "Draw" quickly established overseas superiority and it was a great blow when Mr. Watkins was taken ill so suddenly, which necessitated the with-drawal of him and his wife from any further participation, but it was good news to hear that his progress before the end of the Tournament was at any rate satisfactory.

In the Open "Process" matters steered a similar course with Major Stone alone holding the fort for England and he eventually went on to win not only the "Process" but also the Opens title.

In the Robin Hood Gold Cup, G. N. B. Huskinson playing in only his second season met formidable opposition with the confidence of plenty of bisques at his disposal, and swept his way into the final in which he gave Mr. Hicks no chance whatever.

Once again Mrs. J. Elliott and her committee of ladies excelled themselves in connection with the catering, which was carried out under the most trying conditions of meals served at all hours necessitated by the need for uninterrupted play, and all thanks are due to them for the

excellent way in which they performed their task.
Finally the Nottingham Club wishes to thank all their visitors, both playing and non-playing, through whose presence this tournament was such a huge success.

ROBIN HOOD GOLD CUP. HANDICAP SINGLES.

FIRST ROUND

(32 Entries).

Major R. Tingey $(-2\frac{1}{2})$ bt Mrs. W. H. Kirk (-2) by 23. G. N. B. Huskinson (11) bt R. H. Newton (2) by 11. Mrs. A. R. Gain (2) bt Rev. F. J. Denbow (5) by 4. Mrs. G. W. Solomon (3) bt G. Birch (3) by 2. W. F. Lord (9) bt C. Watkins $(-2\frac{1}{2})$ by 26. Major G. F. Stone (-4) bt A. H. Fabb (13) by 12. A. G. F. Ross (-4) bt Mrs. A. E. Robinson (9) by 11. Miss E. J. Warwick $(2\frac{1}{2})$ bt Miss L. H. Smith $(6\frac{1}{2})$ by 9. Mrs. MacKenzie-Smart (-2) bt Mrs. R. C. J. Beaton $(-\frac{1}{2})$

Mrs. E. Rotherham (—3) bt E. J. Cook (7) by 7. F. H. Fisher (—1 $\frac{1}{2}$) bt Mrs. A. G. F. Ross (2 $\frac{1}{2}$) by 9. Mrs. L. Abdy (9) bt Mrs. H. Greaves (13) by 14. Mrs. C. Watkins $(-2\frac{1}{2})$ bt Dr. H. J. Penny $(-1\frac{1}{2})$ by 23. W. H. Kirk $(-1\frac{1}{2})$ bt Mrs. R. Tingey $(3\frac{1}{2})$ by 1. G. W. Solomon $(3\frac{1}{2})$ bt Miss I. Wainwright $(-2\frac{1}{2})$ by 17. H. O. Hicks $(-5\frac{1}{2})$ bt H. O. Hodgson (0) by 7. SECOND ROUND.

G. N. B. Huskinson (11) bt Major R. Tingey (-2½) by 13. Mrs. A. R. Gain (2) bt Mrs. G. W. Solomon (3) by 2. Major G. F. Stone (-4) bt W. F. Lord (9) by 7. Miss E. J. Warwick $(2\frac{1}{2})$ bt A. G. F. Ross (-4) by 16. Mrs. E. Rotherham (-3) bt Mrs. MacKenzie-Smart (-2)

Mrs. L. Abdy (9) bt F. H. Fisher $(-1\frac{1}{2})$ by 21. Mrs. C. Watkins $(-2\frac{1}{2})$ bt W. H. Kirk $(-1\frac{1}{2})$ by 15. H. O. Hicks $(-5\frac{1}{2})$ bt G. W. Solomon $(3\frac{1}{2})$ by 7.

G. N. B. Huskinson (11) bt Mrs. A. R. Gain (2) by 24.

Miss E. J. Warwick (2½) bt Major G. F. Stone (—4) by 1.

Mrs. E. Rotherham (—3) bt Mrs. L. Abdy (9) by 8. H. O. Hicks $(-5\frac{1}{2})$ w.o. C. Watkins $(-2\frac{1}{2})$ opponent retired.

SEMI-FINAL. G. N. B. Huskinson (11) bt Miss E. J. Warwick (21) by 8. H. O. Hicks (-51) bt Mrs. E. Rotherham (-3) by 6.

FINAL. G. N. B. Huskinson (11) bt H. O. Hicks (-51) by 26.

OPEN SINGLES.

THE DRAW. (23 Entries). FIRST ROUND.

Mrs. MacKenzie-Smart bt G. W. Solomon by 19. W. H. Kirk bt G. N. Bright by 10. Mrs. R. Tingey bt Dr. H. J. Penny by 12. Miss I. Wainwright bt Miss E. J. Warwick by 3. Mrs. E. Rotherham bt Major G. F. Stone by 12. Mrs. C. Watkins bt G. Birch by 3. C. Watkins bt Mrs. W. H. Kirk by 14. SECOND ROUND.

G. Rowling bt R. H. Newton by 18.
Major R. Tingey bt Mrs. R. C. J. Beaton by 12.
W. H. Kirk bt Mrs. MacKenzie-Smart by 22. Mrs. R. Tingey bt Miss I. Wainwright by 7. Mrs. C. Watkins bt Mrs. E. Rotherham by 15. C. Watkins bt Mrs. G. W. Solomon by 24. A. G. F. Ross bt H. O. Hodgson by 15. H. O. Hicks bt F. H. Fisher by 12.

THIRD ROUND. THIRD ROUND.

Major R. Tingey bt G. Rowling by 1.

W. H. Kirk bt Mrs. R. Tingey by 12.

C. Watkins w.o. Mrs. C. Watkins opponent retired.

A. G. F. Ross bt H. O. Hicks by 23.

SEMI-FINAL. Major R. Tingey bt W. H. Kirk by 9. C. Watkins bt A. G. F. Ross by 19.

Major R. Tingey w.o. C. Watkins opponent retired.

PLAY-OFF.

Major G. F. Stone bt Major R. Tingey by 23.

PROCESS. (23 Entries).

FIRST ROUND. W. H. Kirk bt F. H. Fisher by 21. Major R. Tingey bt Mrs. G. W. Solomon by 16. A. G. F. Ross bt Mrs. MacKenzie-Smart by 24. Mrs. W. H. Kirk bt G. Rowling by 2. H. O. Hodgson bt Mrs. R. C. J. Beaton by 17. H. O. Hicks bt G. W. Solomon by 22.

SECOND ROUND.

W. H. Kirk bt G. Birch by 24.

Major R. Tingey bt Miss E. J. Warwick by 4.

A. G. F. Ross bt Mrs. E. Rotherham by 8. Mrs. W. H. Kirk bt Mrs. R. Tingey by 9. Mrs. C. Watkins bt G. N. Bright by 18.

Miss I. Wainwright bt H. O. Hodgson by 25.

Major G. F. Stone bt H. O. Hicks by 24.

C. Watkins bt Dr. H. J. Penny by 16. THIRD ROUND.

Major R. Tingey bt W. H. Kirk by 17. A. G. F. Ross bt Mrs. W. H. Kirk by 18. Miss I. Wainwright w.o. Mrs. C. Watkins opponent retired. Major G. F. Stone w.o. C. Watkins opponent retired.

Major R. Tingey bt A. G. F. Ross by 15.
Major G. F. Stone bt Miss I. Wainwright by 25.

Major G. F. Stone bt Major R. Tingey by 23.

HANDICAP SINGLES. (5 bisques and over). (14 Entries).

FIRST ROUND. Mrs. L. Abdy (9) bt E. J. Cook (7) by 13.

Miss L. H. Smith (6½) bt N. L. Bright (5½) by 11.

W. F. Lord (9) bt A. H. Fabb (13) by 16.

Miss W. Stevenson (9) bt F. B. Stephens (13) by 13.

Rev. F. J. Denbow (5) bt Mrs. A. S. Greaves (13) by 9.

G. N. B. Huskinson (11) bt Mrs. M. C. Peake (6) by 26.

Mrs. L. Abdy (9) bt Mrs. F. B. Stephens (14) by 11.
W. F. Lord (9) bt Miss L. H. Smith (6½) by 5.
Rev. F. J. Denbow (5) bt Miss W. Stevenson (9) by 8.
G. N. B. Huskinson (11) bt Miss E. M. Garratt (*10) by 22. SEMI-FINAL.

W. F. Lord (9) bt Mrs. L. Abdy (9) by 15. G. N. B. Huskinson (11) bt Rev. F. J. Denbow (5) by 17.

W. F. Lord (9) bt G. N. B. Huskinson (11) by 2.

HANDICAP SINGLES ("X.Y.").

EVENT "X" (34 Entries)

FIRST ROUND. F. H. Fisher ($-1\frac{1}{2}$) w.o. Miss I. Wainwright. R. H. Newton (2) bt Miss W. Stevenson (9) by 3. SECOND ROUND.

Mrs. MacKenzie-Smart (—2) bt G. Birch (3) by 13. Dr. H. J. Penny (—1 $\frac{1}{2}$) bt Mrs. A. S. Greaves (13) by 5. Major G. F. Stone (—4) bt Mrs. A. E. Robinson (9) by 9. Major R. Tingey (—2 $\frac{1}{2}$) bt Miss L. H. Smith (6 $\frac{1}{2}$) by 11. Mrs. R. Tingey (31) w.o. N. L. Bright (51) opponent

Mrs. L. Abdy (9) bt W. H. Kirk $(-1\frac{1}{2})$ by 3. E. J. Cook (7) w.o. Mrs. A. G. F. Ross $(2\frac{1}{2})$ opponent retired.

G. N. Bright (2) bt F. H. Fisher (-11) by 19. R. H. Newton (2) bt F. B. Stephens (13) by 19. Mrs. G. W. Solomon (3) bt Mrs. M. C. Peake (6) by 6. Miss E. J. Warwick (2½) bt W. F. Lord (9) by 2. Rev. F. J. Denbow (5) bt Mrs. A. R. Gain (2) by 13. Mrs. E. Rotherham (—3) bt Mrs. F. B. Stephens (14) by

A. H. Fabb (13) w.o. C. Watkins (-21) opponent retired. Mrs. W. H. Kirk (—2) bt H. O. Hodgson (0) by 13. G. W. Solomon (3½) bt Miss E. M. Garratt (*10) by 8.

THIRD ROUND.

Mrs. MacKenzie-Smart (—2) bt Dr. H. J. Penny (—1½) by 24.

Major G. F. Stone (-4) bt Major R. Tingey (-21) by 4. Mrs. R. Tingey (3½) bt Mrs. L. Abdy (9) by 4. G. N. Bright (2) bt E. J. Cook (7) by 14. R. H. Newton (2) bt Mrs. G. W. Solomon (3) by 2.

Miss E. J. Warwick (2½) bt Rev. F. J. Denbow (5) by 4.

Mrs. E. Rotherham (—3) bt A. H. Fabb (13) by 19.

Mrs. W. H. Kirk (—2) bt G. W. Solomon (3½) by 4. FOURTH ROUND.

Mrs. MacKenzie-Smart (-2) w.o. Major G. F. Stone (-4)

opponent retired.

Mrs. R. Tingey (3½) bt G. N. Bright (2) by 15.

Miss E. J. Warwick (2½) bt R. H. Newton (2) by 16.

Mrs. W. H. Kirk (-2) bt Mrs. E. Rotherham (-3) by 9. SEMI-FINAL

Mrs. R. Tingey (3½) bt Mrs. MacKenzie-Smart (-2) by 14. Miss E. J. Warwick (21) bt Mrs. W. H. Kirk (-2) by 23.

FINAL.

Miss E. J. Warwick $(2\frac{1}{2})$ bt Mrs. R. Tingey $(3\frac{1}{2})$ by 20.

EVENT "Y". (16 Entries)

FIRST ROUND. G. Birch (3) bt Mrs. A. S. Greaves (13) by 12. Miss L. H. Smith (61) bt Mrs. A. E. Robinson (9) by 17. M. H. Kirk (-1½) w.o. N. L. Bright (5½) opponent retired. E. J. Cook (7) bf F. H. Fisher (-1½) by 21. Mrs. M. C. Peake (6) bt F. B. Stephens (13) by 4. W. F. Lord (9) bt Mrs. A. R. Gain (2) by 7. Miss W. Stevenson (9) bt Mrs. F. B. Stephens (14) by 14. H. O. Hodgson (0) bt Miss E. M. Garratt (*10) by 14.

SECOND ROUND.

G. Birch (3) bt Miss L. H. Smith (6½) by 2.

E. J. Cook (7) bt W. H. Kirk (—1½) by 5.

W. F. Lord (9) bt Mrs. M. C. Peake (6) by 23. H. O. Hodgson (0) bt Miss W. Stevenson (9) by 11

G. Birch (3) bt E. J. Cook (7) by 13. W. F. Lord (9) bt H. O. Hodgson (0) by 23. G. Birch (3) bt W. F. Lord (9) by 3.

PARKSTONE (East Dorset) JUNE 18th to 23rd

The Parkstone Club produced its usual good weather, good courts, good luncheons and good company, and another very successful tournament was enjoyed by all.

The board was swept by W. P. Ormerod who played consistent first-class croquet right through the tournament and won every game by "double figures". This player has all the qualifications for the top class and surely soon will be playing in more distinguished company.

Ormerod having won both Draw and Process in the Open Singles, V. de la Nougerede and J. G. Warwick, the runners-up played off for second place and the former won this distinction.

Other players who had inspired moments were Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish and G. Williams. Mention must also be made of T. A. Chignell, who won two events and E. Sidwell

who won his class and reached the semi-final of "X".

There were many exciting games which gave the considerable gallery much enjoyment particularly when Miss V. E. Mills lost to V. de la Nougerede by only 2 and E. A. Roper lost to Major Hill-Bernhard by 1.

The Final of the Doubles was a quick and interesting game in which W. P. Ormerod cleverly brought off a

delayed double peel.

Thanks are due to Mr. Ashton for his usual unobtrusive and impeccable management.

OPEN SINGLES.

THE DORSET SALVER AND HALSE CUP. "Two Lives")

(2 bisques and under).

THE DRAW. (15 Entries) FIRST ROUND

G. Warwick bt Miss V. E. Mills by 17. Lt.-Col. F. E. W. Baldwin bt G. Williams by 7. Miss A. E. Mills bt Mrs. V. C. Gasson by 5. V. de la Nougerede bt W. B. C. Paynter by 3. Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave bt E. A. Roper by 22. W. P. Ormerod bt Mrs. I. H. Turketine by 14. Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish bt Comdr. D. W. Roe by 19. SECOND ROUND.

J. G. Warwick bt Lt.-Col. F. E. W. Baldwin by 20. V. de la Nougerede bt Miss A. E. Mills by 13. W. P. Ormerod bt Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave by 10. Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish bt Mrs. L. H. Ashton by 10. SEMI-FINAL

V. de la Nougerede bt J. G. Warwick by 3. W. P. Ormerod bt Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish by 25.

W. P. Ormerod bt V. de la Nougerede by 25.

PROCESS. (15 Entries). FIRST ROUND

Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish bt V. de la Nougerede by 1 W. P. Ormerod bt Lt.-Col. F. E. W. Baldwin by 23. Mrs. L. H. Ashton bt Miss A. E. Mills by 13.
Miss V. E. Mills bt E. A. Roper by 13.
W. B. C. Paynter bt Mrs. I. H. Turketine by 6.
Mrs. V. C. Gasson bt Comdr. D. W. Roe by 13. J. G. Warwick bt Lt.-Col, G. E. Cave by 24.

SECOND ROUND. W. P. Ormerod bt Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish by 13. Mrs. L. H. Ashton bt Miss V. E. Mills by 23. G. Williams bt W. B. C. Paynter by 2. J. G. Warwick bt Mrs. V. C. Gasson by 5.

SEMI-FINAL. W. P. Ormerod bt Mrs. L. H. Ashton by 25. J. G. Warwick bt G. Williams by 12. FINAL

W. P. Ormerod bt J. G. Warwick by 23.

HANDICAP SINGLES. THE EVANS TROPHY. (2½ to 7 bisques) (12 Entries). FIRST ROUND

Dr. G. L. Ormerod (3) bt Miss L. Elphinstone-Stone (31) by

Capt. K. B. Millar $(4\frac{1}{2})$ bt Mrs. D. Attfield (6) by 14. Mrs. J. A. McMordie (3) bt R. G. H. Belcher $(2\frac{1}{2})$ by 8. Mrs. D. M. Roe $(6\frac{1}{2})$ bt Mrs. E. A. Roper (6) by $\overline{10}$.

SECOND ROUND.

T. A. Chignell (5½) bt Major C. T. Carfrae (5) by 17.

Dr. G. L. Ormerod (3) bt Capt. K. B. Millar (4½) by 9. Mrs. McMordie (3) bt Mrs. D. M. Roe (61) by 4 Mrs. R. A. Hill (6) bt Miss M. C. Macaulay (31) by 12.

SEMI-FINAL.

T. A. Chignell $(5\frac{1}{2})$ bt Dr. G. L. Ormerod (3) by 18.

Mrs. J. A. McMordie (3) bt Mrs. R. A. Hill (6) by 11. T. A. Chignell (5½) bt Mrs. J. A. McMordie (3) by 21.

HANDICAP SINGLES. THE COPE CUP. (7½ bisques and over).
(9 Entries). FIRST ROUND.

E. Sidwell (12) bt Mrs. R. Whitham (9) by 17.

SECOND ROUND. L. D. Overell (12) bt Miss G. L. W. Weston (9) by 7. E. Sidwell (12) bt Major F. Hill-Bernhard (8) by 20. Mrs. R. G. H. Belcher (9) bt Mrs. G. M. Robertson (12) by

R. Whitham (8) bt Mrs. C. A. Bishop (9) by 21.

R. Whitham (8) w.o. Mrs. R. G. H. Belcher (9) opponent scratched.

E. Sidwell (12) w.o. L. D. Overell (12) opponent scratched.

E. Sidwell (12) bt R. Whitham (8) by 6.

HANDICAP SINGLES ("X.Y."). . (Unrestricted).

THE BISHOP CUP AND EVANS ROSE BOWL. (35 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

Miss M. C. Macaulay (3½) bt R. G. H. Belcher (2½) by 1. Mrs. R. G. H. Belcher (9) w.o. Mrs. C. A. Bishop (9) opponent retired.

Mrs. I. H. Turketine $(-\frac{1}{2})$ bt Mrs. R. A. Hill (6) by 13. · SECOND ROUND.

Dr. G. L. Ormerod (3) bt Miss A. E. Mills (14) by 9. W. P. Ormerod $(-\frac{1}{2})$ bt Mrs. D. Attfield (6) by 26. Capt. K. B. Millar $(4\frac{1}{2})$ bt Mrs. V. C. Gasson $(1\frac{1}{2})$ by 17. Mrs. J. A. McMordie (3) bt Miss L. Elphinstone-Stone

 $(3\frac{1}{2})$ by 12. Cmdr. G. V. G. Beamish $(\frac{1}{2})$ bt T. A. Chignell $(5\frac{1}{2})$ by 4. Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave (1) bt R. Whitham (8) by 7. J. G. Warwick (—14) bt Miss G. L. W. Weston (9) by 22. Miss M. C. Macaulay (31) w.o. Mrs. Belcher (9) opponent scratched.

Mrs. I. H. Turketine $(-\frac{1}{2})$ bt Mrs. R. Whitham (9) by 15. E. Sidwell (12) bt Mrs. E. A. Roper (6) by 23. Major F. Hill-Bernhard (8) bt W. B. C. Paynter $(-\frac{1}{2})$ by

E. A. Roper (2) bt G. Williams $(-\frac{1}{2})$ by 22. V. A. de la Nougerede (0) bt Comdr. D. W. Roe (2) by 7. Miss V. E. Mills (2) bt Mrs. G. M. Robertson (12) by 17. Mrs. L. H. Ashton (—2) bt Mrs. D. M. Roe $(6\frac{1}{2})$ by 13. Lt.-Col. F. E. W. Baldwin $(2\frac{1}{2})$ bt L. D. Overell (12) by 13. THIRD ROUND.

W. P. Ormerod $(-\frac{1}{2})$ bt Dr. G. L. Ormerod (3) by 16. Capt. K. B. Millar $(4\frac{1}{2})$ bt Mrs. J. A. McMordie (3) by 20. Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish $(\frac{1}{2})$ bt Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave (1) by

J. G. Warwick (—1½) bt Miss M. C. Macaulay (3½) by 16. E. Sidwell (12) bt Mrs. I. H. Turketine (—½) by 11. Major F. Hill-Bernhard (8) bt E. A. Roper (2) by 1. V. A. de la Nougerede (0) bt Miss V. E. Mills (2) by 2. Lt.-Col. F. E. W. Baldwin (21) bt Mrs. L. H. Ashton (-2)

FOURTH ROUND W. P. Ormerod $(-\frac{1}{2})$ bt Capt. K. B. Millar $(4\frac{1}{2})$ by 13. Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish $(\frac{1}{2})$ bt J. G. Warwick $(-1\frac{1}{2})$ by 9. E. Sidwell (12) bt Major F. Hill-Bernhard (8) by 12. V. A. de la Nougerede (0) bt Lt.-Col. F. E. W. Baldwin $(2\frac{1}{2})$ by 6.

SEMI-FINAL.
W. P. Ormerod $(-\frac{1}{2})$ bt Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish $(\frac{1}{2})$ by 17.
V. A. de la Nougerede (0) bt E. Sidwell (12) by 3.

W. P. Ormerod $\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)$ bt V. A. de la Nougerede (0) by 19.

EVENT "Y" (18 Entries).

FIRST ROUND Mrs. C. A. Bishop (9) w.o. R. G. H. Belcher (21) opponent

Mrs. R. Whitham (9) w.o. Mrs. R. A. Hill (6) opponent scratched.

SECOND ROUND.

Miss A. E. Mills (1½) bt Mrs. D. Attfield (6) by 2.

Mrs. V. C. Gasson (1½) bt Miss L. Elphinstone-Stone (3½) by 13.

by 13.

T. A. Chignell (5½) bt R. Whitham (8) by 18.

Miss G. L. W. Weston (9) bt Mrs. C. A. Bishop (9) by 14.

Mrs. E. A. Roper (6) bt Mrs. R. Whitham (9) by 2.

G. Williams (—½) bt W. B. C. Paynter (—½) by 16.

Comdr. D. W. Roe (2) bt Mrs. G. M. Robertson (12) by 3. Mrs. D. M. Roe (61) bt L. D. Overell (12) by 4.

THIRD ROUND. Mrs. V. C. Gasson $(1\frac{1}{2})$ bt Miss A. E. Mills $(1\frac{1}{2})$ by 12. T. A. Chignell $(5\frac{1}{2})$ bt Miss G. L. W. Weston (9) by 10. Mrs. E. A. Roper (6) bt G. Williams $(-\frac{1}{2})$ by 8. Mrs. D. M. Roe $(6\frac{1}{2})$ bt Comdr. Roe (2) by 9 SEMI-FINAL.

T. A. Chignell $(5\frac{1}{2})$ bt Mrs. V. C. Gasson $(1\frac{1}{2})$ by 24 Mrs. E. A. Roper (6) bt Mrs. D. M. Roe $(6\frac{1}{2})$ by 9.

T. A. Chignell $(5\frac{1}{2})$ bt Mrs. E. A. Roper (6) by 7.

HANDICAP DOUBLES. (Unrestricted). (13 Pairs).

FIRST ROUND. J. G. Warwick and Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave (-1) bt R. Whitham and Mrs. R. Whitham (17) by 6.

W. B. C. Paynter and L. D. Overell (111) bt E. A. Roper and Capt. K. B. Millar $(6\frac{1}{2})$ by 9. W. P. Ormerod and Dr. G. L. Ormerod $(2\frac{1}{2})$ bt V. A. de la

Nougerede and Miss A. E. Mills (11) by 21. Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish and T. A. Chignell (6) bt Miss Elphinstone-Stone and Mrs. E. A. Roper (94) by 13.

Miss M. C. Macaulay and E. Sidwell (15½) bt Mrs. L. H. Ashton and Mrs. C. A. Bishop (7) by 12.

J. G. Warwick and Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave (—1/2) bt Mrs. R. A. McMordie and Mrs. G. Fitter (15) by 12. W. P. Ormerod and Dr. G. L. Ormerod (21) bt W. B. C.

Paynter and L. D. Overell (111) by 13.

Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish and T. A. Chignell (6) bt Miss M. C. Macaulay and E. Sidwell (15½) by 13.

Mrs. V. C. Gasson and Miss V. E. Mills (3½) bt G. Williams and Major F. Hill-Bernhard (71) by 12.

W. P. Ormerod and Dr. G. L. Ormerod (2½) bt J. G. Warwick and Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave (-½) by 14.

Mrs. V. C. Gasson and Miss V. E. Mills (3½) bt Comdr. G. V.

G. Beamish and T. A. Chignell (6) by 5.

W. P. Ormerod and Dr. G. L. Ormerod (2½) bt Mrs. V. C. Gasson and Miss V. E. Mills (3½) by 16.

COMPTON, EASTBOURNE

JUNE 25th to 30th

The writer would like to point out that this account is his first effort, and hopes to be forgiven for any short-

A most enjoyable week was spent, with real regret that the tournament is now over, but the joy of meeting old friends and making new friendships still remains. The weather was perfect, with no rain, in spite of official forecasts. The courts were fast and true, enabling good croquet to be played, and the writer, in all modesty, rather surpassed himself.

In the Open Challenge Cup, the "Maestro", L. Kirk-Greene, played with his usual precision and skill, and was the winner of both Process and Draw. The Runnerup, R. V. N. Wiggins, beat J. K. Brown by +22. In the Handicap Singles, Miss H. D. Parker played a brilliant game in beating the writer by +23. In the Handicap "X", C. J. Speer beat the writer by +14—the former is worthy of a lower handicap. In the Handicap 'Y". Mrs. Chittenden beat Miss Palmer by +14. The Handicap Doubles was won by Mrs. Chittenden and R. V. N. Wiggins, who beat the writer and H. A. Hall +9, after an in-and-out game. The lady, by her good long shooting, was the best player on the field.

As an interlude to playing croquet, we were happy, and fortunate enough, to offer our good wishes to Rev. G. F. H. Elvey, the G.O.M. of Croquet, whose birthday occurred during the week.

The writer here would like to put in a plea for the better use of bisques by the receiver of bisques. They do not always seem to realise that they are valuable assets to their game, and waste them unnecessarily.

I have left the good wine until the end. One cannot play croquet without good food and good management, ' and these we got in abundance at Compton. The band of ladies who worked untiringly throughout the week to provide us with delicious lunches, lovely teas, quite surpassed themselves, and our very warmest thanks are due to them for all they did for us.

Major J. H. Dibley, our genial Manager, was rather a harrassed man at the beginning of the week, wondering how he would get through a heavy entry (32 as against 30 in 1955), but his tact and skilful planning brought the tournament to a successful conclusion at 6.30 p.m. on Saturday, thereby earning well deserved thanks of us all.

So, in the words of Shakespeare, we say to Mrs. Irwin, President of the Club, and to all the Members of the Club— 'Thanks and thanks and ever thanks' for your kindness towards us, and for a most enjoyable tournament played in the best spirit throughout the week.

OPEN SINGLES.

THE DRAW. (10 Entries).

FIRST ROUND. Rev. H. B. W. Denison bt Rev. G. F. H. Elvey by 23.

Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey bt Mrs. H. F. Chittenden by 13. SECOND ROUND. R. V. N. Wiggins w.o. Major J. H. Dibley opponent scratched.

L. Kirk-Greene bt Rev. H. B. W. Denison by 16. Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey bt E. V. Carpmael by 15.

J. K. Brown w.o. G. V. Evans opponent scratched SEMI-FINAL.

L. Kirk-Greene w.o. R. V. N. Wiggins opponent scratched. J. K. Brown bt Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey by 18.

L. Kirk-Greene bt J. K. Brown by 18.

PROCESS. (10 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

J. K. Brown w.o. Major J. H. Dibley opponent scratched. R. V. N. Wiggins bt G. V. Evans by 10. SECOND ROUND.

L. Kirk-Greene bt Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey by 13. Rev. G. F. H. Elvey bt J. K. Brown by 9. Rev. H. B. W. Denison bt E. V. Carpmael by 19. R. V. N. Wiggins bt Mrs. H. F. Chittenden by 1.

SEMI-FINAL. L. Kirk-Greene bt Rev. G. F. H. Elvey by 15. R. V. N. Wiggins w.o. Rev. H. B. W. Denison opponent scratched.

L. Kirk-Greene bt R. V. N. Wiggins by 21. PLAY-OFF FOR SECOND PLACE R. V. N. Wiggins bt J. K. Brown by 22.

> HANDICAP SINGLES. (25 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

J. K. Brown (—1) bt Mrs. C. M. Irwin (2) by 12.
J. K. Brown (—1) bt Mrs. G. Style (9) by 8.

Mrs. J. H. Dibley (4½) w.o. Miss D. L. Latham (12) opponent scratched H. A. Hall (71) bt A. R. Toplis (8*) by 10.

R. V. N. Wiggins (0) w.o. C. J. Speer (7*) opponent retired. Rev. H. B. W. Denison (-1) bt Dr. H. R. McAleenan (7)

by 18 Mrs. C. F. Chittenden (2) bt H. Walker (12) by 13. E. V. Carpmael $(-\frac{1}{2})$ bt Miss E. M. Palmer (12) by 8. G. V. Evans $(-\frac{1}{2})$ bt Mrs. D. Owen (6) by 11. SECOND ROUND

M. B. Vlasto (9) bt Comdr. G. Style (7*) by 15. Miss H. D. Parker (4) w.o. H. C. F. Perry (8*) opponent scratched. J. K. Brown (—1) bt Mrs. J. H. Dibley (4½) by 7. H. A. Hall (7½) w.o. R. V. N. Wiggins opponent retired. Rev. H. B. W. Denison (—1) bt Mrs. C. F. Chittenden (2)

G. V. Evans $(-\frac{1}{2})$ bt E. V. Carpmael $(-\frac{1}{2})$ by 13. Miss M. White (9) bt Miss L. Elphinstone-Stone $(3\frac{1}{2})$ by 4 on

R. G. H. Belcher (21) bt R. W. Page (9) by 2 on time.

THIRD ROUND.

Miss H. D. Parker (4) bt M. B. Vlasto (9) by 13.

J. K. Brown (—1) bt H. A. Hall (7½) by 12.

G. V. Evans (—½) bt Rev. H. B. W. Denison (—1) by 7.

R. G. H. Belcher (2½) bt Miss M. White (9) by 3. SEMI-FINAL.

Miss H. D. Parker (4) bt J. K. Brown (-1) by 7. G. V. Evans $(-\frac{1}{2})$ bt R. G. H. Belcher $(2\frac{1}{2})$ by 9.

Miss H, D. Parker (4) bt G. V. Evans $\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)$ by 23.

HANDICAP SINGLES ("X.Y.").

EVENT "X" (29 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey (-2) bt R. G. H. Belcher $(2\frac{1}{2})$ by 7. J. K. Brown (-1) bt Comdr. G. Style (7^*) by 6. G. V. Carpmael $(-\frac{1}{2})$ bt Mrs. A. Naylor (12) by 21. A. R. Toplis (8^*) w.o. Rev. G. F. H. Elvey (-1) opponent

scratched.
R. W. Page (9) bt Miss E. M. Palmer (12) by 18.
Mrs. C. M. Irwin (2) bt H. A. Hall (7½) by 6.
C. J. Spear (7*) bt H. E. Walker (12) by 20.
H. C. S. Perry (8*) bt Mrs. H. F. Chittenden (2) by 7.
G. V. Evans (—½) bt Mrs. J. H. Dibley (4½) by 10.
M. B. Vlasto (9) w.o. Miss M. White (9) opponent retired.
Miss L. Elphinstone-Stone (3½) w.o. Miss D. L. Latham

(9) opponent scratched. Dr. H. R. McAleenan (7) bt Mrs. G. Style (9) by 11. SECOND ROUND.

Miss H. D. Parker (4) bt Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey (-2) by 17. C. V. Carpmael (-1) w.o. J. K. Brown (-1) opponent

A. R. Toplis (9) bt R. W. Page (9) by 2. C. J. Spear (7*) bt C. M. Irwin (2) by 17. G. V. Evans (—½) w.o. H. C. S. Perry (8*) opponent scratched.

Rev. H. B. W. Denison (—1) bt M. B. Vlasto (9) by 24. Dr. H. R. McAleenan (7) bt Miss L. Elphinstone-Stone

R. V. N. Wiggins (0) bt Mrs. D. Owen (6) by 12.

C. V. Carpmael ($-\frac{1}{2}$) bt Miss H. D. Parker (4) by 4. C. J. Spear (6) w.o. A. R. Toplis (8*) opponent retired. G. Victor Evans $(-\frac{1}{2})$ bt Rev. H. B. W. Denison (-1) by

R. V. N. Wiggins (0) bt Dr. H. R. McAleenan (7) by 12.

C. J. Spear (6) bt C. V. Carpmael $(-\frac{1}{2})$ by 20. G. V. Evans $(-\frac{1}{2})$ bt R. V. N. Wiggins (0) by 15. FINAL.

C. J. Spear (6) bt G. V. Evans $(-\frac{1}{2})$ by 14.

EVENT "Y": (14 Entries).

FIRST ROUND. Cmdr. G. Style (7*) bt Mrs. A. Naylor (12) by 3. Miss E. M. Palmer (12) w.o. Rev. G. F. H. Elvey (-1)

opponent scratched.

Mrs. H. Belcher (9) bt Miss M. White (9) by 14.
Mrs. G. Style (9) bt Miss L. Elphinstone-Stone (3½) by 11. SECOND ROUND.

R. G. H. Belcher (21) w.o. Comdr. G. Style (7) opponent Miss E. M. Palmer (12) w.o. H. A. Hall (71) opponent

scratched Mrs. H. F. Chittenden (2) bt Mrs. R. G. H. Belcher (9) by

Mrs. G. Style (9) bt Mrs. D. Owen (6) by 9.

Miss E. M. Palmer (12) bt R. G. H. Belcher (2½) by 4. Mrs. H. F. Chittenden (2) bt Mrs. G. Style (9) by 14.

FINAL. Mrs. H. F. Chittenden (2) bt Miss E. M. Palmer (12) by 14.

HANDICAP DOUBLES.

(Combined Handicaps to be not less than scratch).

(11 Pairs).

FIRST ROUND.

Mrs. H. F. Chittenden and R. V. N. Wiggins (2) bt Comdr. G. Style and Mrs. G. Style (16) by 2 on time.

Mrs. C. M. Irwin and Major J. H. Dibley (2½) bt R. G. H.

Belcher and Mrs. R. G. H. Belcher (11½) by 6.

Mrs. A. Naylor and J. K. Brown (11) bt Dr. H. R. Mc-Aleenan and Mrs. D. Owen (13) by 10.

SECOND ROUND. M. Vlasto and Miss L. Elphinstone-Stone (12½) bt Mrs. J. H. Dibley and Miss H. D. Parker (8½) by 12.

Mrs. H. F. Chittenden and R. V. N. Wiggins (2) bt Mrs. C. M. Irwin and Major J. H. Dibley (2½) by 12.

Mrs. A. Naylor and J. K. Brown (11) bt Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey

and Mrs. A. W. Tarbet (7) by 6.

G. V. Evans and H. A. Hall (7) bt R. Page and C. J. Spear (16) by 7 (on time).

Fifteen

SEMI-FINAL. Mrs. H. F. Chittenden and R. V. N. Wiggins (2) bt M. Vlasto and Miss L. Elphinstone-Stone (12½) by 15. G. V. Evans and H. A. Hall (7) bt Mrs. A. Naylor and J. K. Brown (11) by 11.

Mrs. H. F. Chittenden and R. V. N. Wiggins (2) bt G. V. Evans and H. A. Hall (7) by 9.

BEDFORD

JULY 2nd to 7th

Although there were not so many entries as usual at the Bedford tournament, all those players who did come had a most delightful week. There was such a friendly atmosphere throughout. Under Miss Steel's excellent and capable managership everything went without a hitch. Grateful thanks and appreciation are due to her and her sister for making it such a success. The weather was warm but stormy. The "high-light" of the tournament was the grand old lady Miss Elphinstone-Stone and her partner Canon Pym winning the Doubles.

It was thought one of the players must be contemplating climbing Mt. Everest as she had all the necessary equipment. Also was seen on the courts to the exclusion of her opponents, a Zebra with legs of a Gazelle.

> OPEN SINGLES. TOM DICKSON CHALLENGE CUP.

> > THE DRAW. (5 Entries) FIRST ROUND

J. G. Warwick bt Canon A. J. W. Pym by 13. Miss M. Macaulay bt G. H. Mason by 4. SEMI-FINAL.

J. G. Warwick bt Miss J. Warwick by 22. Miss E. Steel bt Miss M. Macaulay by 17.

J. G. Warwick bt Miss E. Steel by 3.

PROCESS

FIRST ROUND. Miss J. Warwick bt G. H. Mason by 18. Canon A. J. W. Pym bt Miss E. Steel by 17. SEMI-FINAL

J. G. Warwick bt Miss J. Warwick by 18. Canon A. J. W. Pym bt Miss Macaulay by 24.

FINAL. J. G. Warwick bt Canon A. J. W. Pym by 13.

HANDICAP SINGLES. (4 Bisques and over). THE STEEL CUP. (7 Entries)

FIRST ROUND. Miss G. Allen (9) bt W. J. Dixson (9) by 11. Miss D. N. Towle (6) bt Mrs. D. M. Roe (64) by 16. Miss E. M. Leonard (13) bt Mrs. W. F. Haynes (61) by 19. SEMI-FINAL.

Miss G. Allen (9) bt Miss D. N. Towle (6) by 6. Mrs. M. D. Cork (9) bt Miss E. M. Leonard (13) by 4.

Miss G. Allen (9) bt Mrs. M. D. Cork (9) by 13.

HANDICAP SINGLES ("X.Y.Z.").

EVENT "X" (15 Entries).

FIRST ROUND. FIRST ROUND.

Miss E. Steel (1) bt W. J. Dixson (9) by 15.

Mrs. M. D. Cork (9) bt Miss L. Elphinstone-Stone (3½) by 9.

J. G. Warwick (—1½) bt Mrs. D. M. Roe (6½) by 5.

Miss M. Macaulay (3½) bt Miss H. R. Allen (8) by 6.

Miss E. M. Leonard (13) bt Miss D. N. Towle (6) by 12.

G. H. Mason (½) bt Mrs. W. F. Haynes (6½) by 20.

J. C. Tunnard (5) bt Miss G. Allen (9) by 5.

SECOND ROUND.

Mrs. A. J. Stephens (1½) bt Miss E. Steel (1) by 17.

J. G. Warwick (—1½) bt Mrs. M. D. Cork (9) by 20.

Miss E. M. Leonard (13) bt Miss M. Macaulay (3½) by 13. G. H. Mason (1) bt J. C. Tunnard (5) by 11.

J. G. Warwick $(-1\frac{1}{2})$ bt Mrs. A. J. Stephens $(1\frac{1}{2})$ by 8. Miss E. M. Leonard (13) bt G. H. Mason $(\frac{1}{2})$ by 19. FINAL

Miss E. M. Leonard (13) bt J. G. Warwick (-14) by 24.

EVENT "Y". (7 Entries). FIRST ROUND.

J. W. Dixson (9) bt Miss L. Elphinstone-Stone (34) by 12. Mrs. D. M. Roe (6½) bt Miss H. R. Allen (8) by 11.

Miss D. N. Towle (6) bt Mrs. W. F. Haynes (6½) by 15. SEMI-FINAL.

J. W. Dixson (9) bt Mrs. D. M. Roe (6½) by 11. Miss G. Allen (9) bt Miss D. N. Towle (6) by 6.

Miss G. Allen (9) w.o. J. W. Dixson (9) opponent retired.

EVENT "Z". (7 Entries) FIRST ROUND

Mrs. A. J. Stephens $(1\frac{1}{2})$ bt Miss H. R. Allen (8) by 15. J. C. Tunnard (5) bt Mrs. W. F. Haynes $(6\frac{1}{2})$ by 11. Mrs. D. M. Cork (9) bt Miss M. Macaulay (31) by 11.

SEMI-FINAL. Mrs. A. J. Stephens (1½) bt J. C. Tunnard (5) by 13.
Mrs. M. D. Cork (9) bt Miss L. Elphinstone-Stone (3½) by 9. FINAL.

Mrs. A. J. Stephens (14) bt Mrs. M. D. Cork (9) by 12.

HANDICAP DOUBLES. (Combined Handicap not less than one bisque).

THE BARRON CUPS.

FIRST ROUND. Mrs. A. J. Stephens and Mrs. M. D. Cork (101) bt Mrs. D. M. Roe and Miss E. M. Leonard (18½) by 9.

Miss M. Macaulay and Miss D. N. Towle (9½) bt J. W. Dix-

son and Miss G. Allen (18) by 2.

Canon A. J. Pym and Miss L. Elphinstone-Stone (4) bt Mrs. A. J. Stephens and Mrs. M. D. Cork (10½) by 2. Miss M. Macaulay and Miss D. N. Towle (9½) bt Miss E. Steel and Mrs. W. F. Haynes (71) by 13. FINAL

Canon A. J. Pym and Miss L. Elphinstone-Stone (4) bt Miss M. Macaulay and Miss D. N. Towle (9½) by 12.

THE CROQUET CHAMPIONSHIPS

JULY 9th

It is a very long time since this, the premier Meeting on the Calendar, presented such a formidable appearance both in numbers and quality. This of course was largely due—especially in quality—to the very welcome entries of our visitors, the New Zealand Test Match players.

In most melancholy contrast to last year, when the sun shone every day, the 1956 Championship Meeting was cold and miserable—the Saturday, when the two finals were played, beggared description.

The New Zealand Open Champion, G. Rowling, played good croquet until he met E. P. C. Cotter in the antepenultimate round. Here he looked likely to win the first game-he lost it by the small margin of 7 points; Cotter, whom he had pegged out, managed to overcome this very definite disadvantage.

There was a most exceptional game in the third round when Mrs. E. Rotherham met H. O. Hicks; she beat him in this same event last year. Now she was faced with a most unusual and critical situation—for he, having missed the peg-out with one ball, went out with the other. Mrs. Rotherham at the time had both her clips on the first hoop. The exact number of times Hicks missed the peg we are not able to state precisely, but they enabled his opponent to win the game, +1.

Mrs. R. C. J. Beaton provided another exceptional example of winning a game when under considerable disadvantage. One ball had been pegged out, she was for the rover hoop with the other; she only just ran the hoop. and from this position on the non-playing side of the

hoop she hit the peg!
Of the New Zealand players, three were in the last eight. Rowling, we have mentioned, succumbed to Cotter; that fine player, Mrs. McKenzie-Smart, met Hicks in this round; but he was playing at his best and she lost the

A. G. F. Ross, Captain of the New Zealand team, and winner of the Open Championship here in 1954, now had to play Major G. F. Stone. He had played the Rev. G. F. H. Elvey previously and beat him in two straight games. The second game was remarkable for the fact that Ross triple-peeled Elvey to win the second game-and in the writer's long experience of this Championship Event it was an unprecedented performance.

Then, as above stated, Ross had to play Stone. Stone played two games of exceptional quality-two triple

peels crowned the two twenty-sixes.

At the other, the top end of the Draw, John Solomon, after winning against Capt. H. G. Stoker with two triple peels, received a walk-over from W. H. Kirk, the New Zealand team Manager. Solomon reached the last four, the semi-final round, after beating Mrs. E. Reeve by the remarkably different scores +26 +4.

We now find four players-Solomon, Cotter, Hicks and Stone, not by any means—any one of them—in this penultimate round for the first time. Cotter found Solomon in his best form-particularly in the first game. In the second game it looked very definitely as though Cotter was not going to be upset by the fact—for he won the second game in his usual attractive style. In the third game Solomon reverted to the quality of the first game and entered the final with another +26.

Hicks v. Stone was a game looked forward to because of Stone's two perfect games in the previous round. Stone, however, was not the same player now; and though the second game looked to be his, it passed him by and Hicks joined Solomon in the final.

The Championship Final

H. O. Hicks v. J. W. Solomon

A more miserable morning for this important Event it would be difficult to imagine.

Nevertheless, this seemed not to upset the player, John Solomon, for he very soon had a clip on 4-back, and one on the second hoop-resulting from his habit of peeling his partner ball through the first hoop when for 2-back.

Hicks missed the shot, and his opponent was very soon away with another fine break—played with great accuracy under trying conditions—needless to say embroidered with

a triple peel, to the peg.

The start of the second game was incredible. Hicks, playing second, laid a tice; Solomon ignored it, and Hicks missed it. Then Solomon, from near corner four, missed the roquet of perhaps two yards on his own ball. It was put on, where it went off, not far from the third corner. Hicks joined up near the second corner; Solomon hit his partner near the fourth corner and soon after was progressing with a break he had extracted from literally nothing. A late triple failed, when he stuck in 2-back, letting Hicks inbut he failed at the second hoop. Solomon shot in at once— a twenty yard shot—made the penultimate and rover; Hicks shot and missed, and Solomon became Open Champion for the second time, he had previously won it in

The Doubles Championship

There were—it was only to be expected—several very experienced couples in this Event; and perhaps those who indulge in forecasting the winners were more than usually worried as to who to put their money on. The four pairs who came through to the semi-final were a formidable lotincluding the holders, Cotter and Solomon. The two New Zealanders, Mrs. McKenzie-Smart and Mrs. Watkins were a strong pair—understanding each other's capabilities

without need of lengthy consultations.

However, the finalists were perhaps not altogether those the wise men who sit and watch had prophesied to appear there. As one who had to sit and watch, the writer had formed a high opinion of Stone and Kirk-Greene, not only because of the quality of their play but they seemed to combine better-reminding one of the saying, "two minds with but a single thought.

Therefore, when they had beaten the holders, and become finalists, we were not surprised to find them winners of the Event by the substantial score, +17.

The Association Plate

This Event, won for the previous three consecutive occasions by M. B. Reckitt, went to Kirk-Greene. It was a very welcome sight to find Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey in the final with him; for there were of course several players of quality that she met and defeated before entering the final round.

Mrs. G. J. Turketine again undertook the Managership of this premier Event. Though handicapped by the dreadful weather, she brought the meeting to a conclusion in good time to the satisfaction of all those who were competing.

THE CROQUET CHAMPIONSHIP.

(40 Entries).

FIRST ROUND. G. Rowling bt Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts +17 +9. Miss D. A. Lintern bt Mrs. B. T. O'Reilly +9 +23. W. Longman bt F. H. Fisher +7 - 5 + 9. E. P. C. Cotter bt M. B. Reckitt +26 +9. L. Kirk-Greene w.o. M. Spencer Ell opponent scratched. Mrs. R. C. J. Beaton bt Mrs. E. D. Pegler +16 +4. R. F. Rothwell bt Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins +4 +13.
G. C. Reid-Walker bt E. V. Carpmael +2 -9 +11.
Mrs. G. McKenzie-Smart bt Dr. R. E. Steen +21 +14.
H. O. Hicks bt Major J. W. Cobb -7 +17 +23. The rest had byes. SECOND ROUND.

T. F. Dalton w.o. opponent withdrawn. J. W. Solomon bt Capt. H. G. Stoker +26+25. Mrs. E. Reeve bt Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey +16-4+16. Dr. H. J. Penny w.o. opponent withdrawn. E. P. Duffield bt Mrs. L. C. Apps +15+20G. Rowling bt Mrs. W. Longman +12 +15. Miss D. A. Lintern bt W. Longman -20 +3 +13. E. P. C. Cotter bt L. Kirk-Greene +26 +17. R. F. Rothwell bt Mrs. R. C. J. Beaton + 16 + 16. Mrs. G. McKenzie-Smart bt G. C. Reid-Walker + 24 + 18. H. O. Hicks bt G. M. FitzPatrick + 21 + 24. Mrs. E. Rotherham bt G. V. Evans +11 +24. Major G. F. Stone bt Mrs. G. Rowling +25 +26. Tingey bt Miss I. Wainwright +16 + 12. Mrs. C. Watkins bt Lady FitzGerald +21 +18. A. Ross bt Rev. G. F. H. Elvey +25 +12. THIRD ROUND.

W. Solomon w.o. T. F. Dalton opponent scratched. Mrs. E. Reeve bt Dr. H. J. Penny +15 +13. G. Rowling bt E. P. Duffield —18 +22 +21. E. P. C. Cotter bt Miss D. A. Lintern +2 +20Mrs. G. McKenzie-Smart bt R. F. Rothwell +17 +7. H. O. Hicks bt Mrs. E. Rotherham +12 -1 +15. Major G. F. Stone bt R. Tingey +11 -19 +8. A. Ross bt Mrs. C. Watkins +13 +4. FOURTH ROUND.

J. W. Solomon bt Mrs. E. Reeve +20 +4. E. P. C. Cotter bt G. Rowling +7 +26. H. O. Hicks bt Mrs. G. McKenzie-Smart +23 +21. Major G. F. Stone bt A. Ross +26 + 26. SEMI-FINAL.

W. Solomon bt E. P. C. Cotter +26 -19 +26 H. O. Hicks bt Major G. F. Stone +25 + 2.

J. W. Solomon bt H. O. Hicks +26 +24.

THE DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP.

(15 Pairs).

FIRST ROUND.

E. P. Duffield and Mrs. B. T. O'Reilly bt Dr. R. E. Steen and Mrs. R. C. J. Beaton by 17.
E. P. C. Cotter and J. W. Solomon bt G. Rowling and Mrs. G. Rowling by 12. Mrs. E. Rotherham and Miss D. A. Lintern bt Major J. W.

Cobb and Mrs. E. Reeve by 17.

Major G. F. Stone and L. Kirk-Greene bt Rev. G. F. H. Elvey and Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey by 21.
A. Ross and R. Tingey bt W. Longman and Mrs. W.

Longman by 16. H. O. Hicks and Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins bt M. B. Reckitt and R. F. Rothwell by 21.

G. V. Evans and G. M. FitzPatrick bt Dr. H. J. Penny and Mrs. E. D. Pegler by 19. The rest had byes.

SECOND ROUND. E. P. C. Cotter and J. W. Solomon bt E. P. Duffield and Mrs. B. T. O'Reilly by 23.

Major G. F. Stone and L. Kirk-Greene bt Mrs. E. Rotherham and Miss D. A. Lintern by 15.
H. O. Hicks and Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins bt A. Ross and R.

Tingey by 13. Mrs. C. Watkins and Mrs. G. McKenzie-Smart bt G. V. Evans and G. M. FitzPatrick by 23.

Major G. F. Stone and L. Kirk-Greene bt E. P. C. Cotter and J. W. Solomon by 6.
H. O. Hicks and Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins bt Mrs. C. Watkins

and Mrs. G. McKenzie-Smart by 14.

Major G. F. Stone and L. Kirk-Greene bt H. O. Hicks and Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins by 17.

Sixteen

THE ASSOCIATION PLATE.

(17 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

R. Tingey and M. Spencer Ell by 1. Mrs. L. C. Apps bt F. H. Fisher by 4. The rest had byes. SECOND ROUND.

Capt. H. G. Stoker bt Dr. R. G. Steen by 20. Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey bt G. V. Evans by 3. Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins bt Dr. H. J. Penny by 24. R. Tingey bt Mrs. L. C. Apps by 22. E. V. Carpmael bt G. M. FitzPatrick by 14. M. B. Reckitt bt Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts by 22.
L. Kirk-Greene bt Miss I. Wainwright by 22.
Mrs. E. D. Pegler bt Mrs. B. T. O'Reilly by 7. THIRD ROUND.

Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey bt Capt. H. G. Stoker by 14. Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins bt R. Tingey by 13. M. B. Reckitt bt E. V. Carpmael by 11. L. Kirk-Greene bt Mrs. E. D. Pegler by 21.

SEMI-FINAL. Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey bt Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins by 15. L. Kirk-Greene bt M. B. Reckitt by 18.

L. Kirk-Greene bt Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey by 6.

EXMOUTH

JULY 9th to 14th

Exmouth must rank among the pleasantest of the smaller tournaments and it is a pity that more competitors from London, and elsewhere, cannot be tempted to enter. Clashing as it often does with the Championships at Roehampton means the absence of tigers, and players hovering about the "A" class can accordingly enter with a sporting chance of winning. Of the ten entries for the main open event only two were minus players and neither reached the Final of the Draw or the Process, both being subjected to harsh treatment at the hands of Miss V. E. Mills. A striking feature was the number of single figure victories, Miss Joan Warwick in particular making a speciality of photo finishes. Perhaps the lawns contributed to the undue length of many games, since as the week advanced the hot sun and the absence of rain made the courts very fiery. An all-round break called for extreme delicacy of touch and a certain amount of luck with the roll of the balls.

Col. Cave, Miss V. E. Mills and Miss J. Warwick played consistently good croquet during the week, and among the high bisquers Mrs. E. M. Kay caught the eye as one who may soon be losing a bisque or two.

Miss A. E. Mills managed with her customary placid serenity, only the protracted handicap doubles matches causing her some brow-furrowing.

> OPEN SINGLES. THE DRAW.

(10 Entries).

FIRST ROUND. Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave bt Col. D. W. Beamish by 9. S. S. Townsend bt Miss V. E. Mills by 15. SECOND ROUND.

Miss M. S. Carlyon bt Miss J. Warwick by 1.
Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave bt W. W. Sweet Escott by 9.
S. S. Townsend w.o. Mrs. P. E. Heley opponent scratched.
Mrs. R. G. Michelmore bt Mrs. V. C. Gasson by 12.

SEMI-FINAL. Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave bt Miss M. S. Carlyon by 9. Mrs. R. G. Michelmore bt S. S. Townsend by 1.

FINAL. Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave bt Mrs. R. G. Michelmore by 21.

> PROCESS. (10 Entries).

FIRST ROUND. Miss M. S. Carlyon bt Mrs. R. G. Michelmore by 7. Miss J. Warwick bt Mrs. V. C. Gasson by 1.

SECOND ROUND.

Miss V. E. Mills bt W. W. Sweet Escott by 5. Col. D. W. Beamish bt Miss M. S. Carlyon by 5. Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave w.o. Mrs. P. E. Heley opponent

Miss J. Warwick bt S. S. Townsend by 3.

SEMI-FINAL. Miss V. E. Mills bt Col. D. W. Beamish by 6. Miss J. Warwick bt Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave by 14.

FINAL. Miss V. E. Mills bt Miss J. Warwick by 10. PLAY-OFF.

Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave bt Miss V. E. Mills by 9. LEVEL SINGLES (CLASS "B").

(4 bisques and over). (9 Entries). FIRST ROUND

Mrs. E. M. Kay bt Mrs. C. A. Bishop by 8. SECOND ROUND.

Mrs. E. M. Cervantes bt Miss S. C. Gough by 15. Mrs. E. M. Kay bt Miss W. L. Stevenson by 13. Capt. G. R. Bald bt Capt. V. C. Gilbey by 8. Mrs. L. Abdy bt Miss D. L. Latham by 5. SEMI-FINAL.

Mrs. E. M. Kay bt Mrs. F. M. Cervantes by 15. Mrs. L. Abdy bt Capt. G. R. Bald by 13.

Mrs. E. M. Kay bt Mrs. L. Abdy by 13.

HANDICAP SINGLES ("X.Y.").

EVENT "X" (20 Entries).

FIRST ROUND. Mrs. F. M. Cervantes (7) bt Miss W. L. Stevenson (9) by

Mrs. M. H. Vincent (11) w.o. Mrs. P. E. Heley opponent scratched.

Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave (1) bt W. W. Sweet Escott (-1) by 19. Miss E. M. S. C. Gough (10) bt Mrs. E. M. Kay (10) by 21.

SECOND ROUND.

Mrs. R. G. Michelmore (3) bt Miss V. E. Mills (2) by

Mrs. V. C. Gasson (1½) bt Miss M. S. Carlyon (1) by 15.

S. S. Townsend (1½) bt Capt. G. R. Bald (6) by 13. Mrs. M. H. Vincent (11) bt Mrs. F. M. Cervantes (7) by 11 Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave (1) bt Miss S. C. Gough (10) by Mrs. L. G. Walters $(4\frac{1}{2})$ bt Mrs. C. A. Bishop (9) by 17. Col. D. W. Beamish $(-1\frac{1}{2})$ bt Miss D. L. Latham (9) by 13. Miss J. Warwick $(1\frac{1}{2})$ bt Capt. V. C. Gilbey (7) by 12. THIRD ROUND.

Mrs. R. G. Michelmore (3) w.o. Mrs. V. C. Gasson (11) opponent retired. Townsend (11) bt Mrs. M. H. Vincent (11) by 11. Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave (1) bt Mrs. L. G. Walters $(4\frac{1}{2})$ by 17. Miss J. Warwick $(1\frac{1}{2})$ bt Col. D. W. Beamish $(-1\frac{1}{2})$ by 9. SEMI-FINAL.

S. S. Townsend (1½) bt Mrs. R. G. Michelmore (3) by 14. Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave (1) bt Miss J. Warwick (11) by 6. FINAL.

S. S. Townsend (1½) bt Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave (10) by 00.

EVENT "Y" (10 Entries)

FIRST ROUND. Miss W. L. Stevenson (9) w.o. Mrs. P. E. Heley opponent scratched

Mrs. E. M. Kay (10) bt W. W. Sweet Escott (-1) by 2. SECOND ROUND.

Miss M. S. Carlyon (1) w.o. Miss V. E. Mills (2) opponent scratched.

Capt. G. R. Bald (6) bt Miss W. L. Stevenson (9) by 1. Mrs. E. M. Kay (10) w.o. Mrs. C. A. Bishop (11) opponent

Miss D. L. Latham (9) bt Capt. Gilbey (7) by 7. SEMI-FINAL.

Miss M. S. Carlyon (1) bt Capt. G. R. Bald (6) by 11. Miss D. L. Latham (9) w.o. Mrs. E. M. Kay (10) opponent

FINAL.

Miss M. S. Carlyon (1) bt Miss D. L. Latham (9) by 7.

HANDICAP DOUBLES. (10 Pairs). FIRST ROUND

W. W. Sweet Escott and Mrs. L. Abdy $(7\frac{1}{2})$ bt Mrs. L. G. Walters and G. A. Black $(12\frac{1}{2})$ by 3 on time. Miss M. S. Carlyon and W. J. Dixson $(10\frac{1}{2})$ bt Capt. G. R. Bald and Mrs. F. M. Cervantes (13) by 4.

SECOND ROUND. Miss J. Warwick and Miss W. L. Stevenson (10½) bt Mrs. V. C. Gasson and Capt. M. Buller (9½) by 3.

Miss A. E. Mills and Miss S. C. Gough (11½) bt W. W. Sweet Escott and Mrs. L. Abdy (7) by 13. Miss V. E. Mills and Mrs. M. Vincent (11) bt Miss M. S.

Carlyon and W. J. Dixson (10½) by 8.

Mrs. R. G. Michelmore and Mrs. E. M. Kay (11½) bt Col.
G. E. Cave and Mrs. C. A. Bishop (12) by 9.

SEMI-FINAL Miss J. Warwick and Miss W. L. Stevenson (101) bt Miss

A. E. Mills and Miss S. C. Gough (11½) by 11.

Mrs. R. G. Michelmore and Mrs. E. M. Kay (11½) bt Miss V.

E. Mills and Mrs. M. Vincent (11) by 8. FINAL.

Miss J. Warwick and Miss W. L. Stevenson (101) bt Mrs. R. G. Michelmore and Mrs. E. M. Kay (111) by 1.

HURLINGHAM

THE ANNUAL CROQUET TOURNAMENT

including the

"LADIES' FIELD" CANDLESTICKS

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

Committee.—The Croquet Committee of the Club. Manager and Handicapper.—Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury. Referee.-W. Longman Secretary.-Lieut.-Col. R. F. J. Hayward, V.C., M.C.

EVENTS. 1.—THE HURLINGHAM CUP. Holder, J. W. Solomon. Level Singles. Best of three games throughout. Entrance Fee, 11s.

2.—THE TURNER CUP. Holder, Capt. H. G. Stoker. Level Singles. For players handicapped at scratch or over not entered for Event 1. Challenge Cup presented by Mrs. Ernest Turner. Single games throughout. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d.

3.—THE HURLINGHAM DOUBLES. Holders, E. P. C. Cotter and Miss D. A. Lintern. Level Play. Mixed Pairs. Challenge Cup presented by Mrs. Henry Franc. Singles games throughout. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. each player.

4.—THE YOUNGER CUP. Holder, G. W. Hitchcock. Level Singles. For players handicapped at 21 bisques and over not entered for Events 1 or 2 Challenge Cup presented by Lt.-Col. J. A. C. Younger. Singles games throughout. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. Law 44 suspended.

5.—THE LONGWORTH CUP. Holder, Mrs. M. L. Thom. Level Singles. For players handicapped at 6 bisques and over not entered for Events 1, 2 or 4. Challenge Cup presented by Mrs. R. C. Longworth. Singles games throughout. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. Law 44 suspended.

6.—HANDICAP SINGLES. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d.

7.-THE "LADIES' FIELD" CANDLESTICKS. (Ladies' Handicap Doubles). Holders, Miss D. A. Lintern and Mrs. M. L. Thom. Open to Lady Members of the C.A. only. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. each player. 8.—MEN'S HANDICAP DOUBLES. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d.

Tournament Plant by Messrs. John Jaques and Son Ltd., 33in. Hoops and Standard Setting.

PRIZES.

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

ENTRIES AND DRAW.

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

ALL GAMES WILL HAVE A TIME LIMIT OF 3 HOURS. GENERAL.

The Committee reserves the right of altering the conditions and refusing entries without assigning a reason. Flat-soled footwear must be worn.

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

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

At least six Lawns will be provided.

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

CROQUET PUTTING COMPETITION

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

CROOUET DINNER.

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

THE CHALLENGE CUPS, GILBEY CUP

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

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the Croquet Association

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

Assistant Manager.—To be appointed.

Referee.—To be appointed.

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

EVENTS

OPEN TO ASSOCIATES ONLY

THE CHALLENGE CUPS 1.—FIRST DIVISION. THE ROEHAMPTON CHAL-

LENGE CUP (Open). Entrance Fee, 11s. 6d. This Event will be played on the "Two Life" system. Holder-Dr. W. R. D. Wiggin

2.—SECOND DIVISION. THE COUNCIL CHALLENGE CUP. Open to Associates handicapped at ½ to 2½ bisques inclusive. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. Matches of single games except that matches best of three games will be played in the semi-final (if time permits) and final. Level play. Law 44 partially suspended. No lift after 4-back. Holder—W. D. Ormerod.

3.—THIRD DIVISION. THE LUARD CHALLENGE CUP. Open to Associates handicapped at 3 to 5 bisques inclusive. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. Matches of single games throughout. Level play. Holder-Miss J. Warwick.

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

5.—FIFTH DIVISION. THE STEVENSON CHAL-LENGE CUP. Open to Associates handicapped at 8 bisques or over. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. Matches of single games throughout. Level play. Holder—Miss M. M. Morgan.

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

6.—THE "GILBEY" CUP HANDICAP SINGLES. This event will be drawn in four blocks. "A", "B", "C" and "D" according to handicaps. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. Matches of single games throughout. To qualify for the "Gilbey" Cup the winner of "A" v "B" will play the winner of "C" v "D". Holders— The Event—Mrs. W. A. Traill (3½). Block "A"—Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins. Block "C"—Brig. J. S. Omond (7). Block "D"—Major-Gen. F. H. N. Davidson (81).

An extra event will be played if time permits.

CONDITIONS.

Hoops 3\(\frac{3}{4}\)in. wide. Jaques "Eclipse" Balls will be used. Eight courts will be provided. Flat-soled footwear must be worn.

ENTRIES.

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

Nineteen

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

DRAW.

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

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

BRIGHTON

(UNOFFICIAL)

An Unofficial Tournament will be held on

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3rd, and FIVE FOLLOW-ING DAYS

(Under C.A. Laws and Regulations).

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

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

EVENTS

- 1.—HANDICAP SINGLES. $5\frac{1}{2}$ and under. Entrance Fee. 8s.
- 2.—HANDICAP SINGLES, 6 and over. Entrance Fee, 8s,
- 3.—HANDICAP SINGLES. 9 and over. Entrance Fee, 9s.
- 4.—HANDICAP SINGLES (unrestricted).
- 5.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Combined Handicap to be not less than 4. Entrance Fee, 8s.

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

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

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

Luncheons and Teas will be obtainable in the Club

Extra event if time permits.

THE PRESIDENT'S CUP

Presented to the C.A. in 1934 by the late Trevor Williams,

Holder-J. W. Solomon

For the 10 best available players of the preceding 12 months in the C.A. invited by the Council of the C.A.

No Entrance Fee

Will be played for at the Roehampton Club, the Headquarters of the Croquet Association On Monday, September 10th, 1956, and following days

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the Croquet Association.

Manager.-Mrs. I. H. Turketine.

Referees.—J. W. Solomon and Miss D. A. Lintern. Assistant Referees will be appointed under Reg. 15 (a). Secretary.—The Secretary, C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

CONDITIONS

Hoops 3 11/16th inches wide and Jaques' "Eclipse" balls will be used.

The Council of the C.A. reserve the right to substitute hoops 33 inches wide at their discretion.

Each Competitor meets each of the other Competitors

twice in each Competition. If a Competitor fails from any cause to play through the whole of the games in the series, his or her score in that series will be entirely eliminated from the Competition. No substitute will be permitted in either series in any circumstances after the Competition has once begun.

Single games throughout provided that in the event of a tie in the score the possession of the Cup for the year will be decided by a match of three games.

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

In the event of a tie between more than three Competitors, the names of the winners will be drawn on the Bagnall-Wild system and single games will be played in each round.

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

Flat-soled footwear must be worn.

PRIZES

The Winner holds the Trophy for one year or until the next Competition whichever is the shorter period and will receive a medal.

PLAY

Play will begin at 10 a.m. daily, unless otherwise notified. Competitors must report themselves to the Manager on arrival and no leave can be given in any circumstances. In the President's Cup Competition if on any day three rounds are completed by 5.30 p.m. a fourth round may be

THE SURREY CUP

Presented to the C.A. in 1955 by the Officers of the former Surrey County Union.

To be played for at the Roehampton Club on Monday, September 10th, and following days.

For eight players who have never competed for the President's Cup invited by the Council to compete.

Conditions as for the President's Cup except that 33 inches hoops will be used.

ROEHAMPTON

A CROQUET TOURNAMENT WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, 24th SEPTEMBER, 1956, and five following days

(Under the Laws and Regulations of the Croquet Association)

Committee.-Mrs. I. H. Turkentine (Chairman), Miss D. A. Lintern, Mrs. H. J. Collins, Mr. J. B. Gilbert, Mrs. L. E. G. Nickisson.

Manager.-Miss D. A. Lintern.

Referee.—To be appointed.

Handicapper.—The Handicapping Committee of the Roehampton Club.

Secretary.-Mr. W. H. Abel (Games Secretary), Roehampton Club, Roehampton Lane, S.W.15.

EVENTS

- 1.—OPEN SINGLES. Draw and Process. The winner to hold the Ranelagh Gold Cup for one year. Entrance
- 2.—LEVEL SINGLES (CLASS B). Single Games. Law 44 partially suspended. Open Competition with a handicap of Scratch or more. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d.
- 3.—HANDICAP SINGLES (CLASS C). Open to Competitors with a handicap of 4 bisques or more. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d.

N.B.-No competitor may enter for more than one of

- 4.—"X" AND "Y" HANDICAP SINGLES. In this Event shortened games may be played in accordance with Reg. 12 at the discretion of the Manager. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. The winners of "X" and "Y to hold the Creyke Cups for a year.
- -HANDICAP DOUBLES. Combined handicaps not less than scratch. Entrance Fee, 5s. each.

N.B.—The above entrance fees include the Croquet

THE HOLMESDALE PRESS LTD. REDHILL

Non-Associates pay a tribute of 15s. to the C.A. when playing in an official tournament, or 7s. 6d., 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 subscription.

CONDITIONS

Entries for Events 1, 2, 3 and 4, must reach the Games Secretary, accompanied by the Entrance Fee, by the first post on Thursday, 20th September, 1956. Event 5, close at midday on Tuesday, 25th September, 1956. The draw for Event 1 to 4 will take place at the Club at 2 p.m. on Thursday, 20th September, 1956.

Play will commence at 10 a.m. Eight Courts will be provided and Eclipse Balls used. Standard 3\(\frac{3}{2}\)in. hoops. Competitors will be made Honorary Members of the Club for the duration of the Tournament.

All Competitors must wear such flat-heeled boots or shoes as cannot damage the ground.

There are facilities for playing Bridge at the Croquet

DEVONSHIRE PARK, EASTBOURNE

SOUTH OF ENGLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Forty-ninth Annual Open Tournament will start on Monday, 1st October, 1956, and continue during the following two weeks

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

Committee.—The Entertainment Committee of the County Borough of Eastbourne, the Tournament Committee of the Council of the C.A. and the local representatives of the C.A.: C. J. Speer, Capt. H. C. Davey and N. Oddie.

Referee.-Mrs. E. Reeve.

Handicapper.-M. B. Reckitt.

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

Managers.—Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury and Major J. H.

Secretary.—The Secretary, Croquet Association, 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1 (to whom all Entries should be sent).

- 1.—OPEN SINGLES. CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE SOUTH OF ENGLAND. Open to all competitors (see conditions below). Entrance Fee, 12s. Holder of the perpetual Challenge Trophy presented by the late Mrs. A. C. Ionides: L. Kirk-Greene.
- 2.—MEN'S OPEN SINGLES. THE MEN'S CHAM-PIONSHIP OF THE SOUTH OF ENGLAND. Open to all men competitors (see conditions below). Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. Holder of the perpetual Gold Challenge Cup presented by the late Capt. C. L. O'Callighan: The Rev. G. F. H. Elvey.
- 3.—WOMEN'S OPEN SINGLES. THE WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE SOUTH OF ENG-LAND. Open to all women competitors (see conditions below). Entrance Fee, 8s, 6d. Holder of the perpetual Challenge Trophy presented by Mrs. H. Franc: Mrs. E. Rotherham.
- 4.—"B" LEVEL SINGLES. Open to competitors handicapped at $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $4\frac{1}{2}$ bisques inclusive (see conditions below). Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. Holder of the perpetual Silver Challenge Salver presented by the Devonshire Park Company: Mrs. R. A. Irwin.
- 5.-"C" LEVEL SINGLES. Open to competitors handicapped at 5 to 81 bisques inclusive (see conditions below). Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. Holder of the Challenge Trophy presented by the late E. S. Luard, Esq.: Mrs. H. Roberts.
- 6.—"D" LEVEL SINGLES. Open to competitors handicapped at 9 bisques or over (see conditions below). Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. Holder of the perpetual Challenge Cup presented by the late Trevor Williams, Esq.—Mrs. E. M. Gill.
- 7.—UNRESTRICTED LEVEL DOUBLES (see conditions below). Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. each competitor. Law 44 partially suspended. No lift after 4-back.

- 8.—RESTRICTED HANDICAP DOUBLES. Open to pairs with a combined handicap of not less than 1 bisque (see conditions below). Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. each competitor.
- 9.—HANDICAP SINGLES. To be drawn in one block. THE SUSSEX PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP (see conditions below). Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d.
- -LIMITED HANDICAP SINGLES. THE SUSSEX UNION CHALLENGE CUP. Limited to competitors handicapped at 11 bisques or more. Competitors in this event may not enter for Events 1, 2 or 3 or 7. Shortened games if necessary. Entrance

CONDITIONS

In Event 1, matches best of three games will be played throughout. In all other Events matches of single games will be played.

2. Competitors may not enter for more than TWO of Events 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

3. Law 44 will be suspended in Events 4, 5 and 6.

Play in Events 1 and 4 will begin on Monday October 1st; in Events 5 and 9 on Tuesday, October 2nd; in Event 7 on Wednesday, October 3rd; in Event 6 on Thursday, October 4th; in Events 2 and 3 not before Friday, October 5th; in Event 8 on Monday, October 8th. 5. Events 1 and 7 will be completed by Monday,

October 8th. Players in Events 2, 3 or 6 may enter for Event 9 on the understanding that they will not be called upon to play in that Event before Friday, October 5th.

INFORMATION

Entries. Entries accompanied by Entrance Fees for all Events except 7 and 8 must reach the Secretary, The Croquet Association, 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1 by Tuesday, September 25th (DO NOT SEND ENTRIES TO DEVONSHIRE PARK). Cheques and Postal Orders should be made payable to the Croquet Association.

Non-associates must also pay a tribute of 15s. to the C.A. as this is an official tournament, or 7s. 6d. if they enter in only one event; but on their becoming Associates any tribute paid by them during the current year will be refunded or credited against their subscription.

Addresses. Competitors are particularly requested to send with their entries the addresses and telephone numbers which will find them during the Tournament.

Draw. The Draw for all Events except Events 7 and 8 will take place at the C.A. office, 4 Southampton Row, London, at 11.30 a.m. on Wednesday, September 25th The Draw for Event 7 will take place at Devonshire Park at noon on Tuesday, October 2nd, and for Event 8 at Devonshire Park at noon on Saturday, October 6th.

Courts and Equipment. Ten courts will be provided at Devonshire Park and competitors must also be prepared to play on the courts at the Compton Club if required to do Jaques' "Eclipse" balls and hoops 33in. wide will be

Play. Play will begin at 10 a.m. daily, or earlier if necessary, and will continue until daylight fails. Competitors in Events 1 and 4 will be notified, and must be prepared to play if they are required at 10 a.m. or some later time on Monday, October 1st.

All competitors must report themselves to the Manager on arrival at the ground each day.

It is particularly asked that in the interests of the Tournament, competitors who are timed for the first games each morning will be punctual and that they will be on the court and will begin to play at the time stated.

Before leaving the ground for the day, competitors should not fail to consult the order of play announced on the board for the following day. A competitor who is not present or is otherwise unable to play when called upon to do so will be liable to be scratched under Regulation 24

Leave of Absence. No leave should be applied for nor could it be granted save in exceptional circumstances.

Heels. Flat-soled footwear must be worn.

Prizes. In addition to the Challenge Trophies mentioned, two prizes will be given in each Event with eight entries. and the number of other prizes will be in accordance with the number of entries.

The Challenge Trophies may be held by the winner for one year or until the next tournament whichever is the

Admission. Associates will be admitted free on production of their Membership cards. Otherwise admission is 1s.