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Hurlingham Club

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# TOURNAMENT FIXTURES

# 1958

- 2 Men's and Women's Championships (Roehampton). Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
- 2 Ryde. Hon. Sec., Miss L. Isaac, Flat 18, Osborne Court, Cowes, I.O.W.
- Nottingham. Hon. Tourn. Sec., G. N. Bright, 15 St. Jude's Avenue, Mapperley, Nottingham.
- 9 Woking. Hon. Sec., Major J. W. Cobb, Farm Hotel,
- 16 Parkstone. Hon. Sec., Mrs. V. C. Gasson, Newlyn, Blair Avenue, Parkstone, Dorset.
- 21 Championship of Ireland. Hon. Sec., Mrs. B. T. O'Reilly, Ballynamote, Carrickmines, Co. Dublin.
- 23 Compton (Eastbourne). Tourn. Sec., H. C. S. Perry, Hockington House, Willingdon, Sussex.
- 30 Leamington Spa. The Croquet Sec., Guys Cliffe Avenue, Learnington Spa.
- 7 Budleigh Salterton. Hon. Sec., L. G. Walters, 1 Bray-July wick, Budleigh Salterton.
- 14 Open Championships (Hurlingham). Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
- 21 Cheltenham. Tournament Secretary, Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham.
- 28 Ladies' Field Cup, Silver Jubilee Cup (Hurlingham). Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
- Aug. 4-12 Hurlingham. Games Sec., Hurlingham Club, London,
- " 12-14 All England Handicap. Area Finals (Roehampton). Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
- ,, 13-23 Challenge and Gilbey Cups, Ascot and Delves Broughton Cups (Roehampton). Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
- 25 Southwick. Hon. Sec., F. E. Corke, 60 Southwick Street, Southwick, Sussex.
- 1 Hunstanton. Hon. Sec., Mrs. J. A. Clarke, 49 Northgate, Hunstanton.
- 1 Parkstone. Hon. Sec., Mrs. V. C. Gasson, Newlyn, Blair Avenue, Parkstone, Dorset.
- 8 President's Cup (Hurlingham), Surrey Cup (Rochampton). Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London,
- 22 Roehampton. Games Sec., Roehampton Club, Roehampton Lane, London, S.W.13.
- 29 Devonshire Park (Eastbourne). Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London W.C.1.

# NON-OFFICIAL FIXTURES

- Aug. 9-16 Carrickmines. Hon. Sec., Mrs. B. T. O'Reilly, Ballynamote, Carrickmines, Co. Dublin, Eire.
- Southwick. Hon. Sec., F. E. Corke, 60 Southwick Street, Southwick, Sussex.
- 15 Cheltenham. Tournament Secretary, Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham.

# CROQUET ASSOCIATION NOTICES

The Subscription of £1 10s. 0d. due on January 1st, 1958, should be sent to the Secretary, C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

Laws of Croquet 1s. 6d. (Non-Associates 2s.).

Obtainable from the Secretary, C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

CROQUET ASSOCIATION HANDBOOK 1958-59.

Now available from the Secretary, C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

The attention of Club Secretaries is drawn to the desirability of trying to obtain special terms for tournament visitors at local hotels. It is suggested that only such hotels as are willing to make concessions should receive special mention in the tournament advertisements.

# 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.

Associates who wish to become Referees should send their names to the Chairman of the Laws Committee (c/o The Secretary, C.A.), who will arrange for their examination.

# ELECTION OF ASSOCIATES

Mrs. C. Hawes Sir Henry C. Prior Mrs. A. M. Morton Mrs. S. J. Marks

LORN C. APPS,

Secretary

# CREDE EXPERTO

RTHUR ROSS is one of the greatest names in the Ahistory of Croquet, not only in virtue of his record on the court (eleven times New Zealand Champion) but for the inspiration which both his brilliance as a player and his skill as an instructor have given to hundreds of beginners. A generation of players in New Zealand, and some in England also, have been reared on his Croquet and how to play it, of which this latest volume\* is, in effect, a fourth edition "written in the light of experience gained during two seasons of play in England." Mr. Ross has, I believe, achieved a record as a writer on the game by reaching a fourth edition; even C. D. Locock's classic volume did not attain more than three.

There are broadly two ways of writing a book on Croquet, which may be classified as the "discursivepersuasive" and the "concentrated-instructional." Mr. Ross's book is of the latter class and is for this reason best taken in small doses; "as Croquet is the most scientific of all outdoor games no reader can hope to treat it as a novel," he declares in his opening sentence. He spends no time arguing that Croquet is "a first-class game from many angles for old and young alike"; he is content to proclaim that it is, and proceeds at once to tell us how to make the most of it. We very soon find ourselves plunged into an extremely thorough discussion of how to choose a mallet, and after a rather oddly interpolated section on Fouls we learn how to use our mallets when we have got them in an exhaustive chapter on Styles of Play.

Ross next proceeds to teach us the strokes, and as there is no one who knows more about the subject there is something for all of us to learn here-not least "how to get a smooth, flat swing." Perhaps our author makes this primary desideratum appear almost deceptively simple, and although no doubt if we all did all that he tells us to do the result would be just what we desire, the less naturally gifted among us might be grateful for a few hints as to what is likely to have gone wrong when that result is not achieved. A few 'don'ts' here might have been helpful.

Space does not allow much quotation of the many admirable suggestions which emerge in this part of the book. Have all of us realised this; "if the rush is a straight one and the stroke is made properly the striker's ball will come to a stop as soon as it hits the other, so the strength required will be approximately the same as that given the striker's ball to send it the desired distance ?" On the question of boosting, the author sensibly observes that "ordinary hoops should be played for quietly by ordinary people." He very rightly insists that one should never rush when one can split during a break, and clearly explains why this is so (p. 67), but is equally insistent that the wise player always makes as much use of rushes as he can "to obtain easy split shots," for "it should be taken as a basic principle that . . . long distance split rolls are last resorts not routine strokes."

Ross relies a good deal on specific examples to explain his general principles, and these are always illuminating, but as these examples are not illustrated by diagrams they need a good deal of attention if they are to be followed. They could be so more easily if the reader provided himself with a map of the court and some coloured counters to set up the positions indicated.

Nothing is easier than to criticise omissions in a book necessarily limited in size, but one may regret that no reference is made to the principle of the "rush line" (not even mentioned in the Glossary) and that some aspects of the game are treated very lightly. Three pages is hardly enough in which to discuss the many problems which confront the Out Player. Doubles are only referred to in a page and a half appended to the discussion of Handicaps, but one reads with some gratification that "the playing of Handicap Doubles is an art in itself and that it is in England that one sees this demonstrated most clearly." The pegged-out game is only discussed in the rather unusual context of a triple peel on the opponent's ball. To compensate for these lacunae, however, we have a very thorough chapter on the openings; a valuable section on Cannons (easier to achieve on the fast surfaces so often found in New Zealand), with a most suggestive paragraph on "Threepenny Cannons"—an expedient almost unknown in England; a lot of good advice about Peeling, and an interesting little tailpiece on Ballistics.

For Arthur Ross Croquet is something more than a contest, it is an art, but whether we regard it primarily as the one or the other there is ample material for all of us here, and of a kind which few, if any, of us can afford

\*Croquet Handbook by A. G. F. Ross, Hereford Printing Co., Wellington, New Zealand.

# CROQUET IN 1864

"THE game may be played by any number of persons not exceeding eight. A large number is not desirable, as the game thereby becomes tedious, owing to the long interval that occurs between the several turns. If played by only two, the game is improved by each player taking two balls. Four, however, is by far the best number, and produces so excellent a game, that it is better, when there are as many as eight players, to divide them into two sets, both playing on the same ground.

'Each player takes a mallet, ball, and Croquet clip of the same colour or number, the clip being used to indicate the hoop at which, in his turn, he aims.

"At the commencement the players divide into sides, which, if not even, may be made so by one of the players taking two balls-the division into sides, choice of balls, mallets, &c., to be determined by the players among themselves. Should any dispute arise on this subject, it may be decided by the umpire placing the set of Croquet clips in a bag, and making the division and allotment of the implements according to the colours drawn out individually by the players.'

(Extract from Croquet, by John Jaques, 1864.)

# NOTES by ROVER

# Draw and Process

At the Peels Memorials tournament which is played on the Two Life System, often described as Draw and Process, we overheard a competitor asking his opponent on the way to their lawn why on earth the word Process was used. Why indeed? Nobody we have asked had any clues as to its origin, nor was anybody sufficiently inspired to suggest a reason. It may be that the second draw can be said to "proceed" from the first but this seems a very slender justification for the use of the word Process. Whatever the virtues or otherwise of the word we are wholeheartedly in favour of the principle of two lives for tournaments such as the Peels. The player coming from a distance who has been beaten in the first round of the Draw by noon on Monday can at least look forward to a second chance in the Process.

The C.A. Laws booklet gives instructions on the method to be adopted for carrying out the Draw and Process, giving sequences of numbers to be used according to the number of entries, up to a maximum of 64. Some years ago a request was received from New Zealand for the sequence to be used when the entries are between 65 and 128. It is a happy thought that entries in New Zealand could be so numerous as to require the use of this supplementary sequence.

# An idea from the Antipodes

In the New Zealand Doubles Championship at Wanganui this year a new and perhaps more satisfactory "two life system" was used. Directly a pair was defeated, whatever its place in the Draw may have been, the names were inscribed beneath those already appearing there, and as soon as any two pairs thus became available to play each other the Manager was able to put them on. This arrangement, said to have been borrowed from Bowling tournaments, seems to work extremely well, for it obviates the danger of "blocking" which Draw and Process sometimes creates, nor does it entail a further event as "X" and "Y" does. Everyone entering is guaranteed two chances in the same event, but there is one implication of this to be remembered. It is that when the winners-or winner (for of course the scheme is equally applicable to singles) of the original Draw reach the final they have only to win one game to gain the victory (as was in fact the case at Wanganui), whereas the challengers from below, having been beaten once in the event already, must win two. It is to be hoped that steps will be taken to obtain precise details of this form of draw from the N.Z.C.C., for the complications in regard to byes might create difficulties unless a precise formula is at hand. But the plan seems to have some real advantages over Draw and Process as we now have it, not least in disposing of the grievances of many managers

that under it they "never get rid of anybody" and are left with too many entrants on their hands for too long.

# C.A. Silver Medallists

In the Compton notes in our last number the hope was expressed that the entry for their open event in June would reach 16 and the finalists would accordingly receive C.A. silver medals in addition to the usual prizes. Some associates appear to be puzzled as to what constitutes a silver medallist and more than once I have been asked who is entitled to receive one. I usually refer the inquirer to the C.A. Laws booklet wherein it is stated on page 36 in regulation 25 that the C.A. shall present a silver medal to any associate who, in a first-class level event, reaches the final stage when not less than 16, or the semi-final stage when not less than 32, bona fide competitors are drawn and actually play. No associate may, however, receive more than one silver medal.

This has directed my attention to the list of C.A. Silver Medallists on pages 47 and 48 of the new C.A. Handbook where I was gratified to find that three of the earliest to receive medals are fortunately still with us. A very worthy name, that of Miss Elphinstone-Stone, was a winner in 1896 and we find Mrs. Beaton in 1898 and E. V. Carpmael in 1900. To those of us who wonder what old age has in store for us, Miss Elphinstone-Stone is a constant reminder that even in one's nineties one can still be an active and, indeed, formidable competitor. The last entry, and in fact the only one for 1957, is Colonel Cave who qualified by virtue of his reaching the final of the South of England Championships at Eastbourne last October.

# Best of Three in Doubles

I have been taken to task by an associate for saying in my April Notes that the last occasion on which a best of three games was played in Doubles in this country was in 1949. What about the Test Matches in 1956 he very rightly asks? I was referring, of course, to tournament croquet. Test Matches are, or should be, a different matter, but nobody I imagine regrets the demise of best of three doubles in tournaments, especially where as often happened the partners would indulge in a series of mid-lawn conferences in deciding what was obvious to the onlooker. If all four contestants are minus players, the more prolonged seem to be the conferences. Looking back through C.A. Gazettes I found that although the final of the 1950 Mixed Doubles Championship was, as in 1949, advertised as a best of three games it was agreed to play only one game. This was just as well since the game was reported to have been in progress for half an hour before any clip was moved-and then to score one point only. And yet Doubles always seem to attract more spectators than singles!

# BRIDGE

by E. P. C. Cotter, British International

# GRAND COUP

T has been said that if you have done a hole in one at Golf and brought off a Grand Coup at Bridge you belong to the most exclusive club in the world. Both feats are rare. I have never done a one but I have been within one inch (literally). Still I have certainly had more than my share of Grand Coups. The Coup is a trumpreducing play and when the process involves trumping winners it is called a Grand Coup.

The following model turned up on February 1st, when I was South at a final contract of Six Hearts.

West led the King of Spades and after a little thought followed with the Ace. Now it may seem an odd thing but this play suggested three things to me:

- 1. That West had not the King of Hearts.
- 2. That West had a singleton Heart.
- 3. That West held the King of Clubs.

I trumped with dummy's four then led the Queen of Hearts and finessed. Then the Ten was overtaken with the Knave and now I knew a coup was needed. I was in the position of having one trump too many. I led Ace and then Ten of Diamonds overtaking in dummy with the Knave. Then the King of Diamonds was led and trumped with the Six of Hearts. I now had two trumps Ace and Nine and East had two the King and Seven. The stage was set.

Now I took the Club finesse. Please note that though this finesse is not required for an extra trick it is essential to preserve an entry in case East trumps early. I then led Diamonds discarding Clubs from my own hand. As a matter of fact East did not trump and at Trick 12 the position was:-

I then led Dummy's Ace of Clubs and East had had it. Whichever card he played I covered. I particularly enjoyed this Grand Coup because it had all the features including the unnecessary finesse and the added refinement of leading an Ace at Trick 12. Bless East for not ruffing before-the slam would still have been made but some of the piquancy would have gone.

# Safety Play

More recently I played the following hand as South in Six No Trumps.

West led the Four of Diamonds and dummy's Knave won. The problem is lack of entries to dummy. Now the probable division of Hearts is 4-2. What are the assets? Two Spades, three Diamonds, two Clubs. We only need five Hearts. The play is obvious. I led the Ace of Hearts felling my lone Queen and when the King lead revealed the 5-1 split I felt a jolt, but I had seen the Eight of Hearts drop and the Seven gobbled up West's Six after he had made the Knave. Not difficult but would you have done it?

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# Looking Back

THE following extracts from Croquet Association Gazettes of pre-war years refer to personalities most of whom who are happily still active in the game. How many can you discover ? (Answers on page 8.)

- "Mr. R. achieved the unusual feat of coming down to 2 in his first season, and is obviously a recruit of the highest promise." (1933.)
- (ii) "- one who is probably the most effective player the game has yet produced." (1933.)
- (iii) "A style of play, much more comfortably quiescent than formerly which Mr. - has adopted during this and the preceding season, has made him increasingly dangerous." (1934.)
- "Here is a lady who appears to have learnt much more than the art of intelligent bisque taking."
- "Having almost abandoned the habit of missing short roquets and acquired the habit of hitting long ones, Mrs. - is now a match for anyone.
- "One never quite knows what Mrs. N. is going to do." (1938.)
- (vii) "Major J. W. ---, a bold dashing player, full of enthusiasm." (1938.)

# Notes from the Clubs

# Cheltenham

The 1958 season opened on 21st April. It was a lovely Spring day and eight courts were occupied. In view of the atrocious weather we had been having, this was very fortunate for the Secretary. Strong cold winds and no April showers have been the despair of the groundsman.

The raising of all handicaps has created new problems, and it has been interesting to note in the programmes received from other clubs, how they have endeavoured to meet them. The committee of this club have decided to play safe and raise all "B" and "C" Class events in the July tournament by 2 bisques, and hope this will find favour with visitors.

# Ryde, Isle of Wight

Our Tennis and Croquet Club season opened in brilliant sunshine on Saturday, May 3rd. The President, members and their friends, number 75 in all, sat down to an excellent tea provided for them in the Club Pavilion.

The lawns, Croquet and Tennis, were nearly all occupied and appeared to be playing very well.

We have several new tennis and croquet members and now we must hope for a good season with plenty of sunshine and the rain only appearing during the nocturnal hours.

# Hurlingham

Our annual golf croquet match against Roehampton was played on 10th May, the results of which appear elsewhere in this issue. Roehampton had taken a lead of 4 games to 2 when the players adjourned for tea, which meant that Hurlingham had to win all three doubles in order to win the match. As they won only one Roehampton clinched the issue by 6 games to 3. Winston Cheavin has cause to remember the point scored by Col. Adams at 2-back. Having had his Blue despatched nearly to the third corner, Col. Adams walked the length of the lawn and promptly put his ball through 2-back from 35 yards.

We have a very satisfactory entry for the All England handicap,

including "new boy" Maurice Reckitt. There will certainly be no lack of experienced tactics on either side in his first round match

since he is drawn against William Longman,

A course of instruction is being held on four Wednesdays starting on June 11th, from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., under the auspices of the Central Council of Physical Recreation. A modest fee of 10s. for the whole course is being charged and Brigadier Stokes-Roberts will be in charge.

# Blackheath

The Blackheath Croquet Club opened the season on Wednesday, May 7th, in cloudy but fine weather, the afternoon began on a sad note while the members paid tribute to their esteemed and beloved fellow-member, Miss Maud Richardson, who died after a short illness on Sunday, March 30th, in her 95th year. She played a vigorous and keen game all last season and was looking forward to another one this year.

Miss Richardson was a member of the Rectory Field Croquet Club for many years and later in 1935 joined the Club in Blackheath Park. Her invigorating and friendly personality will long be remembered by her Club friends and many others.

# Colchester

The high-light in June will be the exhibition matches on Saturday, June 14th, when Dr. Wiggins and John Solomon are coming to demonstrate Croquet. Tickets which include a light tea are 2s. and a good crowd is hoped for. Miss Lintern and Brigadier Stokes-Roberts will be among those providing commentaries. The occasion has been arranged by the Central Council of Physical Recreation in co-operation with the C.A.

# Reigate

This thriving club was honoured to welcome Mrs. Apps at its annual general meeting. After presenting the trophies to the 1957 tournament winners Mrs. Apps gave a talk on some of the laws and tactics of Croquet. One of the high-lights of the 1957 season was a match against Woking.

# Compton (Eastbourne)

The opening of the season was marked by the President's Tea Party, and she made sure we got off to a good start, not only by providing excellent fare, but also by choosing the first day of a minor heat wave. About 30 members attended this very enjoyable

We have four new members and hopes of more. It is now definite that for our tournament we shall have the use of three lawns at Devonshire Park in addition to our own and it is also definite that there will be a bar. At the time of writing entries can still be accepted for all events.

# Roehampton

The croquet lawns were opened for play on Good Friday, 4th April, since which date the courts have been well occupied with members practising for the Club competitions. We are pleased to see several new members learning the game.

A golf croquet tournament for croquet members was held or Saturday, 3rd May. The winner of the Singles was Mrs. S. M. Adler who also won the Doubles partnered by Mrs. Turketine. Prizes were given by M. Spencer-Ell, Mrs. Carrington and Mrs.

The annual golf croquet match between Hurlingham and Roehampton Clubs took place on Saturday, 10th May, at Roehampton. Roehampton were represented by Miss D. A. Lintern (Captain), Col. C. C. Adams, Mrs. Adler, Mrs. Collins, J. B. Gilbert and Mrs. Pavia. Roehampton won the match by 6 games to 3, full details appearing elsewhere in this issue.

# Southsea

This Club held the exhibition match on May 7th, but whether it will prove fruitful or not remains to be seen. There were not so many spectators as expected and the weather must be blamed for this. The Southsea Club is deeply grateful to Major Cobb and Col. Stobart for coming such a long way in order to give the exhibition, and to Major Dibley and Mr. Chignell who mingled with the spectators, answering questions and explaining the game, etc. The local Evening News gave croquet a splendid write up, and also published some photographs which were not so good !

# CROQUET COUNCIL 1958-59

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Col. J. G. Clarke, G. V. Evans, Brig. J. S. Omond, S. S. Townsend

# Questions and Answers

It would be a good idea this month to concentrate on fouls. It is sometimes difficult to decide if a stroke is a foul or not. In making this decision a referee should refer to Laws 26 and 36 and if the fault cannot be rectified from these two references then inadvertence must be implied and there is no penalty; the fault is corrected and the player continues his turn if he is in play after this correction.

Question: If a referee is asked to watch a stroke what is the first thing he should do before the stroke is made?

Answer: Plot the position of all balls which may be moved by the stroke so that they may all be replaced accurately if necessary.

Question: In play with the wrong ball there are two different penalties. When the first stroke in error is a roquet stroke what is the penalty?

Answer: Law 26 (p). A foul to "strike a wrong ball," and Law 27 is applied, "the player's turn shall cease and balls moved by the stroke shall be replaced where they lay immediately before the stroke was made, except in the case of Law 26 (m), etc., etc."

Question: When the first stroke in error is a croquet stroke what is the penalty?

Answer: See Law 36 (ii). To word this very simply "replace all balls moved after the croquet stroke and place the striker's ball in any position in contact with the roqueted ball which he may select and the turn ceases. If at this stage either of these balls are left inside the yard-line, that ball must be moved on to the yard-line, still in contact. No ball must be left inside the yard-line at the end of a turn."

Question: Have you studied Law 27 very carefully noting the different penalty under Law 26 (b) ?

Answer: Under this penalty the adversary now has the choice of having all balls replaced or whether they are to remain as they came to rest (Law 27).

Question: At what stage may a player claim a foul?

Answer: Only before the first stroke of the subsequent turn.

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

May 19th, 1958

# PEEL MEMORIALS

G. N. B. Huskinson 7½ to 5½. Mrs. F. Stanley-Smith 12 to 12 (D 10).

# BUDLEIGH SALTERTON (NON-OFFICIAL) TOURNAMENT

T. A. Chignell 5½ to 5.

Major E. P. Edyvean 11 to 10½.

Miss S. Gough 12 to 13.

A.V.M. F. H. N. Maynard 12 to 11.

Dr. R. V. N. Smartt \*10 to 10.

E. Sidwell 9 to 8.

Mrs. M. R. Vincent 8 to 7½.

NON-ASSOCIATES

A. J. Cooper 5 to  $4\frac{1}{2}$ .

G. R. Mills 11 (D 10) to 10.

# HURLINGHAM CLUB RECOMMENDATIONS

R. J. Pickett 13 to 12. Mrs. R. J. Pickett 13 to 12. J. M. Rivington 12 to 10.

# Council Meeting Minutes

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held on Thursday, February 6th, 1958.

Present: Mrs. L. H. Ashton, I. C. Baillieu, Mrs. H. F. Chittenden, Col. J. G. Clarke, Major J. H. Dibley, E. P. Duffield, G. V. Evans, Mrs. P. E. Heley, Miss D. A. Lintern, Dr. G. L. Ormerod, Mrs. E. Reeve, Mrs. E. Rotherham, E. A. Roper, J. W. Solomon, Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts, Lt.-Comdr. G. W. Style, S. S. Townsend, Mrs. I. H. Turketine, Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins, D. E. Buckland, Rev. G. F. H. Elvey, W. Longman, Mrs. M. L. Thom (Acting Secretary).

In the absence of the Chairman owing to illness the Chair was taken by Miss D. A. Lintern. It was decided to send an expression of best wishes for his recovery to Mr. Brackenbury.

Miss Lintern also referred to the absence through indisposition of Mrs. Apps, and to the great assistance being given in the office by Mrs. Thom,

The minutes of the last meeting were read, confirmed and igned.

Questions. Dr. Wiggins asked whether any plans existed for a New Zealand tour. The Chairman said a letter had been received from Mr. Reckitt urging the arrangement of such a tour as soon as possible. A small sum of money was earmarked for such a purpose.

Candidates Nos. 6215 and 6216 were elected.

Report of the Laws Committee. This was presented by Mrs. Reeve and adopted apart from the following item: "Scratching and Retiring." It was decided that this matter be left to the good sense of players.

Accounts and Balance Sheet. These were presented by the Hon. Treasurer, who dealt with questions raised by members of Council. The Accounts were approved.

Fifth Hoop Variation. The Chairman reported on replies to the questionnaire. It was resolved by 16 votes to 7 that the variation remain permissible during 1958.

Motion by Mr. E. A. Roper: "That an Official Handicapper be appointed." This was negatived.

Motion by Mr. J. W. Solomon. Mr. Solomon was given leave to amend his original motion as follows: "That the President's Cup Competition consist of 8 or less players invited by the Council. Not more than 14 players (in the event of refusals) shall be invited to compete, but the Council should not ask more than 8 if they feel that in so doing the standard of play would be impaired." This was seconded by Mr. Baillieu, and carried.

Report of the Special Committee on Advertising. The Committee made no recommendations for any expenditure on advertisements in the National Press other than such as might from time to time be considered advisable. A motion by Mr. Roper seconded by Mr. Evans that a sum of £20 be spent was lost.

Mr. Duffield moved that a Report by the Chairman should be presented to the Annual General Meeting. This was agreed.

It was decided that the Annual General Meeting be held at the Hurlingham Club on May 27th, 1958, at 6 p.m.

Special Meeting of the Council under Rule XIV called pursuant on verbal notice given at the meeting held on February 6th, 1958.

The one alteration to the Laws—Law 34 (a) was confirmed by the requisite majority.

# EDITORIAL PANEL OF "CROQUET"

Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury Miss D. A. Lintern M. B. Reckitt E. A. Roper S. S. Townsend

# CORRESPONDENCE

# Handicap Revision

Dear Sir.

It is a salutary convention of the C.A. that Council members, who have plenty of opportunities for expressing their views on the development of the game, should refrain from contributions to the correspondence columns of *Croquet*. Nevertheless there are occasions when clarification, or at any rate further explanation, of Council decisions may be desirable, yet to produce an agreed statement from the whole Council may not be immediately practicable. In such instances an individual spokesman has to be found, and as convener of the sub-committee whose report on Handicap Revision was adopted I would wish to reply briefly to the letter from "C Class Player" appearing in the April number.

I would like to remind your correspondent that the Council which adopted the report did not consist of any overwhelming majority even of those who were minus players in 1957, and in any case contained a number of those who were deemed themselves to lose their "status" as such by accepting the report. The Council can therefore be acquitted of having any interest in maintaining the "extra exclusiveness" of those who would remain minus players. Nor if to find oneself with a nominally higher figure for one's handicap is so mortifying as "C Class Player" assumes it to be is it obvious why a 1 bisquer should feel this to be so more than a -3 who becomes a -1. The sole object of the Council was to retain some significant meaning for the word "minus" as indicating an exceptional degree of skill. Under the new arrangement there are now twenty British players with a minus handicap; this is so far from being an "exclusive" category that any associate who displays sufficient skill may enter it, as some undoubtedly will in the near future. But surely twenty is enough to be going on with.

I think it is extremely likely, though it is impossible to calculate this precisely, that had no revision of the handicap standard been made, either in 1946 or in 1928, we should now be in a situation in which there would be more players below scratch than over it. If "C Class Player" does not think such a state of things an absurd one I doubt if many associates will agree with him. Why work hard to become what the majority already are?

Finally, let me assure him, speaking with experience of both these revisions, that adjustment to the new scale values comes about very rapidly and even those who may originally have been dismayed by it soon forget any sense of grievance they may have had. There is nothing "deplorably cynical" in saying this, which merely testifies to the commonsense of the great majority of croquet players.

Yours faithfully,

MAURICE B. RECKITT

Dear Sir

While sympathising with some of the arguments of "C" Class Player, I feel he speaks more from the heart than the head. Naturally players do not take kindly to their handicaps being raised and those who are on or near the scratch mark may in particular have felt a little disgruntled by having 2 bisques added to their handicap. Surely the point is whether the old handicaps were a correct reflection of ability, and I am referring not to individuals but to the generality of croquet players. I can speak as one who not so long ago crossed the line from plus to minus and by reverting I am therefore in the group which could perhaps have most cause to register dissatisfaction. On the contrary I am prepared to accept the fact that if a scratch player is one who should consistently show a high degree of competence and who is normally expected to go through a game with rare mistakes then I and a number of other players with handicaps around scratch fall down pretty badly. I feel, therefore, there is merit in the change.

What I found particularly important in the recent decision was the view that while rapidly improving players should always be drastically reduced, in other cases reductions should not necessarily be made on evidence of only a single success. I would suggest that the reservation in the last few words should be observed stringently for low bisquers but less so as one goes up the bisque scale.

Yours faithfully,

"A" CLASS PLAYER (sic)

# The Extra Ounce

Sir,

Year by year when the croquet season begins, and croquet players bring out their mallets and resort to their club lawns, or go to take part in early tournaments, the cry is heard, the wording varies but the meaning is the same: "I can't get the balls up!" When the player makes this sad complaint he or she means that in taking croquet he or she cannot get the mallet-ball to go where it is needed, in other words because of the heaviness of the lawns all roll strokes are difficult, and some even impossible.

Now in view of climatic conditions in this country, our lawns, however well they are looked after and prepared for play, are sure often to be "heavy". Over this we have little control, but there is one thing over which we have control—the weight of the balls.

Previous to 1904, the balls were an ounce lighter than now. They weighed 15 oz. instead of the present 16 oz. I still remember how heavy the 16 oz. balls felt when I first used them.

The change from the 15 oz. ball to the 16 oz. ball was made because the makers asserted that if the extra ounce were allowed they could use better quality boxwood. Now among tournament players today there are probably only three—Mrs. Beaton, Miss Elphinstone-Stone and myself—who have ever competed in a tournament with boxwood balls. But we still continue to bang about balls weighing 1 lb., in order that the makers may be able to use "better quality boxwood." Could there possibly be a more "Gilbertian" situation? I suggest then, that now we have composition balls and presumably complete control over their weight, we should return to the old 15 oz. ball. I am sure if this was done, many people would find the game less tiring, and so more pleasurable.

As a preliminary, perhaps if approached by the C.A. Messrs' Jaques & Son might produce a set of 15 oz. balls for trial.

Yours sincerely,

G. F. H. ELVEY

# BACK NUMBERS OF "CROQUET"

The Secretary would be most grateful to any associates having unwanted copies of the following issues, if they would kindly send them to 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.:—

April, 1954; July, 1954; April, 1955; May, 1955; June, 1955; August, 1955; September, 1955; June, 1956.

# **OBITUARY**

# NEVILLE L. BRIGHT

It is with the greatest regret that we have to announce the death of Mr. N. L. Bright.

Always a keen sportsman and a former tennis player of outstanding ability Mr. Bright did not take up the game of Croquet seriously until after the last war.

A good average player of the game, which he enjoyed to the full, he was also a born organiser, from which, not only his club but the game in general, derived great benefit.

He served for a time on the C.A. Council and was the Tournament Secretary of the Nottingham Club for a number of years, during which period the Club's Annual Official Tournament reached a new level of success. The tournament programme with its cost more than offset by the advertisements included was a great innovation which has been successfully carried on. The smooth efficiency with which the New Zealand test match at Nottingham in 1956, was executed was in large measure his responsibility.

He will be sadly missed by his club and the whole croquet world in general, but he will above all be remembered for his sportsmanship and sense of fair play both on and off the lawns.

# THE INTER-COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP CUP

Played at the Hurlingham Club, May 27th-30th, 1958

The following were the players nominated to play:-

EASTERN COUNTIES .- Mrs. R. C. J. Beaton (Captain), I. C. Baillieu-E. P. Duffield, Mrs. P. E. Heley, C. V. R. Hodges, A. D. Karmel Mrs. E. Reeve.

HANTS AND DORSET.—Mrs. E. Rotherham (Captain), Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish, Major J. H. Dibley, Mrs. J. H. Dibley, Mrs. V. C. Gasson, Canon Creed Meredith, V. A. de la Nougerede, Mrs. M.

MIDDLESEX.—Miss D. A. Lintern (Captain), I. W. Cheavin, E. P. C. Cotter, J. A. Hollweg, Miss A. E. Mills, J. W. Solomon, Capt. H. G. Stoker, S. S. Townsend.

Oxon, Berks and Bucks.—Col. J. G. Clarke (Captain), Dr. Boucher, Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury, Mrs. H. F. Chittenden, Canon A. J. W. Pym, R. F. Rothwell, P. Thompson.

Surrey.—M. B. Reckitt (Captain), Col. C. C. Adams, Major J. W. Cobb, G. V. Evans, J. B. Gilbert, Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts, Mrs. I. H. Turketine, Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins.

Sussex.-Mr. W. Longman (Captain), Major J. R. Abbey, D. E. Buckland, Miss M. Daldy, J. Jesson Dibley, L. Kirk-Greene, Mrs. W. Longman, E. A. Roper.

The results and report of the event will appear in Croquet

# THE CLUB TEAM CUP

1958

RYDE

COLCHESTER

ROEHAMPTON

COMPTON

WOKING

HURLINGHAM

First round to be completed by June 14th Second round to be completed by July 12th.

Final to be played by August 2nd.

# ANSWERS TO "LOOKING BACK"

- (i) Mr. R. Tingey.
- (ii) Miss D. D. Steel.
- (iii) Mr. M. B. Reckitt.
- (iv) Mrs. M. B. Reckitt.
- (v) Mrs. Apps.
- (vi) Mrs. Nevill Oddie.
- (vii) Major J. W. Cobb.

Eight

# GOLF CROQUET MATCH

Roehampton versus Hurlingham. Saturday, 10th May, 1958. Roehampton players first

# SINGLES

Miss D. A. Lintern lost to T. E. Miles 2 up. Col. C. C. Adams bt I. W. Cheavin 3 and 1. J. B. Gilbert bt S. S. Townsend 3 and 1. Mrs. Collins bt I. C. Baillieu 2 up. Mrs. Pavia lost to Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts 2 up. Mrs. Adler bt Mrs. Davidson 4 and 2.

Col. C. C. Adams and Mrs. Collins bt T. E. Miles and Mrs. Davidson 3 and 1.

Miss D. A. Lintern and Mrs. Pavia bt I. W. Cheavin and Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts 3 and 1.

J. B. Gilbert and Mrs. Adler lost to S. S. Townsend and I. C. Baillieu 3 and 1.

RESULT.-Roehampton bt Hurlingham by 6 games to 3.

# HUNSTANTON

**Unofficial Tournament** 

April 11th-14th

This year, as is customary, the first tournament of the season took place at Hunstanton during the week-end after Easter. The lawns were in first-class condition, the result of treatment and much hard work by the groundsmen. This greatly impressed the com-petitors. The Club pavilion looked wonderfully spick and span having been entirely repainted during the winter. Illness and "moving unfortunately kept away at least four intending competitors, reducing the number to ten. On the "American" system it was found possible, by starting at the fifth hoop, to play the competition in one block. In the four available days this meant plenty of croquet for everyone, providing welcome practice for the coming season.

Competitors came from all parts of the country, and it was a particular pleasure to see Mrs. Allen and her daughter from Cheltenham. The younger generation was well represented, three of the men players being under thirty years of age. Altogether the tournament was a great success, the members making the visitors so welcome and the ladies of the Club providing the ever enjoyable morning coffee and afternoon tea. "I would not have missed it for anything," the comment of one player, probably spoke for the

The tournament was won by B. Lloyd-Pratt, Mrs. B. C. Perowne

# PEEL MEMORIALS

# MAY 12th to 17th

This very long established event, in memory of the man W. H. Peel who invented the triple peel, was surely never played under more distressing weather conditions. Added to this was the inconvenience to competitors caused by the London bus strike. However, those that did play appeared to enjoy themselves, though there were several who scratched, both men and women.

The entries were five more among the men, but one less in the women's event, than last year.

# Men's Singles

Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins, the present Open Champion, after beating Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts, in the first round of the Draw, lost in the next round to Major J. R. Abbey.

The play of G. N. B. Huskinson, with a handicap of 7½,

began to be talked about. He beat Capt. H. G. Stoker, receiving  $5\frac{1}{2}$  bisques, by +6, and then G. V. Evans +12; in the next round Abbey scratched to him, and he became a finalist in this half of the

Colonel C. C. Adams looked likely to be the other Draw finalist but Col. F. Stobart, 3½, beat him and therefore had to play Huskinson. But Huskinson beat Stobart +9.

Turning now to the Process of the men's event, one or two games were very closely contested, as the scores suggest, but

Stoker became one finalist and Huskinson the other. After a somewhat close and protracted struggle, Huskinson won this other half of the Event +14. It is not often that one player wins both halves and he is to be congratulated on this, a pleasant culmination of his first visit to Roehampton.

# Women's Singles

Turning now to the women's event, we find several competitors who scratched, presumably on account of transport troubles or the ghastly weather conditions. Mrs. R. C. J. Beaton was one of them, and Mrs. I. H. Turketine another-both were previous winners of the event, Mrs. Beaton three times, in 1946 and 1948, and in 1903 when Miss L. Gower,

Mrs. Heley, last year's winner started well, but in the semi-final of the Draw, Mrs. Pavia—winner twice running, in 1950 and

1951—beat her to become a finalist.

In the other half of this event, Mrs. Adler soon became prominent, beating Mrs. Bristow +20, Mrs. Reckitt +11, and Mrs. Thom +8. This put her in the final of the Draw, against Mrs. Pavia. Mrs. Pavia was the winner after a close game though she

was giving her opponent two bisques.

The Process produced several very close games; Mrs. Pavia giving Mrs. Bristow 2½ bisques only won by +6—and in the next round, against Mrs. Heley, a long game went to Mrs. Pavia +9. Mrs. M. H. Carrington, who had arrived in the final round after two opponents had scratched to her, beat Mrs. Pavia on Saturday morning but lost by one point in the play-off in the afternoon. During the final stages all four clips were on the peg and Mrs. Pavia was set to go out. Mrs. Carrington then shot in, pegged out one of her own balls and, perhaps unwisely, one of her opponents. Mrs. Pavia then shot at the peg with her remaining ball and hit.

# The Handicap Doubles

This event brought together some interesting couples—including Townsend and Mrs. Thom, last year's winners. There was only one match in the first round; it was a close affair, but Col. Stobart and F. Stanley-Smith beat their opponents, Mrs. Heley and Mrs.

Carrington, after a protracted struggle, +5.

The semi-finalists were Major Dibley and G. V. Evans v. Reckitt and Stokes-Roberts in the top half; Dr. T. E. Ryves and A. V. Camroux v. Miss Lintern and Mrs. Stanley-Smith in the other half. From these two matches, which were played in semi-arctic conditions, the finalists were produced-Reckitt and Stokes-Roberts against Miss Lintern and Mrs. Stanley-Smith.

The final was a long game—but full of interest; for some time the bisques—there were four of them, to be used by the ladies were not brought into play. Then they seemed almost to be too quickly used—until only one was left. At this stage all the clips were on the sides of the hoops, and the game became rather thrilling. However, after a certain amount of doubt as to who would win it, it went to the ladies +7.

V. A. de la Nougerede was again in the position of Manager, and used his well-known skill and ability to the satisfaction of the competitors, who showed this by thanking him. Thanks are also due to those who helped in chauffeur duties, Miss Lintern, Capt. Stoker, Mr. and Mrs. Adler, to name just a few.

# MEN'S HANDICAP SINGLES.

A SILVER CHALLENGE BOWL.

("Two Life" System).

THE DRAW.

(17 Entries). FIRST ROUND

G. V. Evans (1½) bt A. V. Camroux (12) by 1 on time. SECOND ROUND.

Major J. R. Abbey (2) bt F. Stanley-Smith (10) by 4. Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins (-3) bt Brigadier A. E. Stokes-Roberts (3) by 10.

G. N. B. Huskinson (7½) bt Capt. H. G. Stoker (2) by 6.

G. V. Evans (1½) w.o. G. Williams (1½).

Col. C. C. Adams (—½) bt Major J. H. Dibley (2½) by 3.

Dr. T. E. Ryves (7) bt G. E. W. Hitchcock (3½) by 20. Lt.-Col. F. Stobart  $(3\frac{1}{2})$  bt S. S. Townsend  $(1\frac{1}{2})$  by 8. M. B. Reckitt (-1½) bt M. Spencer Ell (1) by 5.

THIRD ROUND.

Major J. R. Abbey (2) bt Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins (—3) by 26. G. N. B. Huskinson  $(7\frac{1}{2})$  bt G. V. Evans  $(1\frac{1}{2})$  by 12. Col. C. C. Adams  $(-\frac{1}{2})$  bt Dr. T. E. Ryves (7) by 13. Lt.-Col. F. Stobart  $(3\frac{1}{2})$  bt M. B. Reckitt  $(-1\frac{1}{2})$  by 22.

SEMI-FINAL. G. N. B. Huskinson  $(7\frac{1}{2})$  w.o. Major J. R. Abbey (2). Lt.-Col. F. Stobart  $(3\frac{1}{2})$  bt Col. C. C. Adams  $(-\frac{1}{2})$  by 7.

G. N. B. Huskinson  $(7\frac{1}{2})$  bt Lt.-Col. F. Stobart  $(3\frac{1}{2})$  by 9.

PLAY-OFF FOR SECOND PLACE. Capt. H. G. Stoker (2) bt Lt.-Col. F. Stobart (3½) by 7.

# PROCESS.

(17 Entries).

SECOND ROUND.

FIRST ROUND F. Stanley-Smith (10) bt M. B. Reckitt (-11/2) by 19. The rest had byes.

Lt.-Col. F. Stobart  $(3\frac{1}{2})$  w.o. G. Williams  $(1\frac{1}{2})$ . Col. C. C. Adams  $(-\frac{1}{2})$  bt Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins (-3) by 21. Capt. H. G. Stoker (2) bt Dr. T. E. Ryver (7) by 3. A. V. Camroux (12) bt F. Stanley-Smith (10) by 3.

M. Spencer Ell (1) bt G. V. Evans (1½) by 10.

G. E. W. Hitchcock (3½) bt Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts (3) by 17.

G. N. B. Huskinson (7½) bt S. S. Townsend (1½) by 11.

Major J. H. Dibley (2½) bt Major J. R. Abbey (2) by 20. THIRD ROUND.

Col. C. C. Adams (-1) bt Lt.-Col. F. Stobart (31) by 13. Capt. H. G. Stoker (2) bt A. V. Camroux (12) by 3. M. Spencer Ell (1) bt G. E. W. Hitchcock (3½) by 6. G. N. B. Huskinson (7½) bt Major J. H. Dibley (2) by 18. SEMI-FINAL.

Capt. H. G. Stoker (2) bt Col. C. C. Adams  $(-\frac{1}{2})$  by 25. G. N. B. Huskinson (7½) bt M. Spencer Ell (1) by 26.

G. N. B. Huskinson (7½) bt Capt. H. G. Stoker (2) by 14.

# LADIES' HANDICAP SINGLES.

A SILVER CHALLENGE BOWL. ("Two Life" System).

DRAW

(15 Entries).

FIRST ROUND. Lady Ursula Abbey (4½) w.o. Mrs. R. C. J. Beaton (1½). Mrs. J. Pavia (61) bt Mrs. F. H. N. Davidson (10) by 8. Miss D. A. Lintern (-1) bt Mrs. M. H. Carrington (9) by 11. Mrs. P. E. Heley (4½) bt Mrs. F. Stanley-Smith (12) by 6. Mrs. M. B. Reckitt (5) w.o. Mrs. W. Longman (½) opponent

retired. Mrs. S. M. Adler (81) bt Mrs. E. Bristow (9) by 20 Mrs. H. J. Collins (6) w.o. Mrs. I. H. Turketine (11).

SECOND ROUND. Mrs. J. Pavia (6½) bt Lady Ursula Abbey (4½) by 9.
Mrs. P. E. Heley (4½) bt Miss D. A. Lintern (—1) by 10.
Mrs. S. M. Adler (8½) bt Mrs. M. B. Reckitt (5) by 11.
Mrs. M. L. Thom (6½) bt Mrs. H. J. Collins (6) by 8.

Mrs. J. Pavia (61) bt Mrs. P. E. Heley (41) by 16. Mrs. S. M. Adler (8½) bt Mrs. M. L. Thom (6½) by 8.

Mrs. J. Pavia (6½) bt Mrs. S. M. Adler (8½) by 10. Mrs. J. Pavia (61) bt Mrs. M. H. Carrington (9) by 1.

> PROCESS. (15 Entries).

FIRST ROUND. Mrs. P. E. Heley  $(4\frac{1}{2})$  w.o. Mrs. I. H. Turketine  $(1\frac{1}{2})$ . Mrs. J. Pavia  $(6\frac{1}{2})$  bt Mrs. E. Bristow (9) by 6. Mrs. M. L. Thom  $(6\frac{1}{2})$  bt Miss D. A. Lintern (-1) by 2. Mrs. M. B. Reckitt (5) w.o. Mrs. R. C. J. Beaton (14).

Mrs. F. Stanley-Smith (12) bt Mrs. S. M. Adler (8½) by 10. Mrs. M. H. Carrington (9) w.o. Mrs. H. J. Collins (6). Lady Ursula Abbey (4½) bt Mrs. W. Longman (½) by 20.

Mrs. J. Pavia (61) bt Mrs. P. E. Heley (41) by 9 Mrs. M. L. Thom (61/2) bt Mrs. M. B. Reckitt (5) by 18. Mrs. F. H. N. Davidson (10) bt Mrs. F. Stanley-Smith (12) by 4. Mrs. M. H. Carrington (9) w.o. Lady Ursula Abbey (41).

Mrs. J. Pavia (6½) w.o. Mrs. M. L. Thom (6½). Mrs. M. Carrington (9) bt Mrs. F. H. N. Davidson (10) by 9.

Mrs. M. H. Carrington (9) bt Mrs. J. Pavia (61) by 10.

# HANDICAP DOUBLES.

# LADY MURRAY SILVER CHALLENGE CUP. (Combined Handicap scratch or over).

(9 Pairs).

FIRST ROUND.

Lt.-Col. F. Stobart and F. Stanley-Smith (13½) bt Mrs. G. E. Heley and Mrs. M. H. Carrington (13½) by 5.

SECOND ROUND.

Major J. H. Dibley and G. V. Evans (4) bt S. S. Townsend and Mrs. M. L. Thom (8) by 7.

M. B. Reckitt and Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts (1½) bt Lt.-Col. F.

Stobart and F. Stanley-Smith (134) by 17.

Dr. T. E. Ryves and A. V. Camroux (19) bt Capt. H. G. Stoker and Mrs. F. H. N. Davidson (12) by 7.

Miss D. A. Lintern and Mrs. F. Stanley-Smith (11) bt G. E. W. Hitchcock and G. N. B. Huskinson (11) by 15.

SEMI-FINAL.

M. B. Reckitt and Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts (11) bt Major J. H.

Dibley and G. V. Evans (4) by 5. Miss D. A. Lintern and Mrs. F. Stanley-Smith (11) bt Dr. T. E. Ryves and A. V. Camroux (19) by 16.

Miss D. A. Lintern and Mrs. F. Stanley-Smith (11) bt M. B. Reckitt and Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts (11) by 7.

# EXTRA EVENT.

HANDICAP SINGLES.

Shortened Game. (8 Entries).

FIRST ROUND. A. V. Camroux (12) w.o. G. E. W. Hitchcock (3½) opponent retired. S. S. Townsend (1½) bt Mrs. F. Stanley-Smith (12) by 6. M. B. Reckitt (—1½) bt Mrs. M. H. Carrington (9) by 6. Major J. H. Dibley (2½) w.o. Mrs. M. B. Reckitt (5).

SEMI-FINAL. S. S. Townsend ( $1\frac{1}{2}$ ) bt A. V. Camroux (12) by 9. Major J. H. Dibley ( $2\frac{1}{2}$ ) bt M. B. Reckitt ( $-1\frac{1}{2}$ ) by 6.

S. S. Townsend (1½) bt Major J. H. Dibley ( $2\frac{1}{2}$ ) by 14.

# BUDLEIGH SALTERTON

# Unofficial

This unofficial tournament was not blessed with good weather -very cold strong winds made it necessary to wear warm and rainproof clothing most of the time. The lawns were in excellent condition and reflect credit on the groundsman-considering the cold drying winds of the early spring—he had not cut them too close and they were, if anything, a little slower than usual.

There were 28 entries for the Singles; these were divided into four groups, so that, barring scratchings, every competitor was assured of six singles. (There were as it turned out two scratchings.) It is rather surprising that more visitors do not avail themselves of this opportunity of good practice, early in the season.

J. G. Warwick won Group A and played consistently well, especially in the deciding match against Mrs. Rotherham. T. A. Chignell who won Group B had a measure of luck, as two of his opponents should have beaten him easily after good breaks, but faltered. He was hopelessly beaten by Warwick in the semi-final. E. Sidwell and G. Mills won their respective groups fairly comfortably (this was a repetition of last year for G. Mills) and Sidwell beat him in the semi-final. In the final E. Sidwell beat J. G. Warwick

There was a good entry for the Doubles and four Club members fought out the final. Miss E. J. Warwick and Mrs. M. H. Vincent beat J. Weston Martyr and A. J. Cooper by 2.

Everything ran smoothly in the capable hands of Miss A. Mills and a strong committee and hard working Secretary.

I do most heartily recommend this tournament, where the lawns are good and all the members go out of their way to make visitors feel at home.

# HANDICAP SINGLES. (26 Entries).

GROUP "A"

NAMES	No. of Contract of	Handicap	Major G. F. Stone	Mrs. E. Rotherham	Col. D. W. Beamish	J. G. Warwick	J. K. Brown	LtCol. G. E. Cave	W. W. Sweet-Escott
Major G. F. Stone		-3	_	26	26	1	26	26	26
Mrs. E. Rotherham		$-1\frac{1}{2}$	20	_	26	4	26	26	26
Col. D. W. Beamish		_1/2	15	23	_	0	17	15	26
J. G. Warwick		1/2	26	26	26	_	26	2	26
J. K. Brown		1	22	11	20	4	_	21	26
LtCol. G. E. Cave		1	13	21	26	26	26	_	26
W. W. Sweet-Escott		1	23	19	15	5	15	13	

Block Winner: J. G. Warwick.

GROUP "B"									
NAMES		Handicap	Miss J. E. Warwick	Miss M. S. Carlyon	Mrs. V. C. Gasson	Mrs. R. G. Michelmore	A. J. Cooper	T. A. Chignell	
Miss J. E. Warwick		21/2		26	26	14	26	18	
Miss M. S. Carlyon	* *	3	2		21	26	0	12	
Mrs. V. C. Gasson		3	24	26	-	26	8	17	
Mrs. R. G. Michelmore		41/2	26	15	17	-	6	14	
A. J. Cooper		5	24	26	26	26	-	23	
T. A. Chignell		51	26	26	26	26	26	12.12	

GROUP "C"

Block Winner: T. A. Chignell.

		Oice	-				1 /4		
NAMES		Handicap	Mrs. Vincent	Mrs. C. E. Gatehouse	E. Sidwell	Miss J. Cooper	Dr. R. B. N. Smartt	F. Livesey	Major E. P. Edyvean
Mrs. M. H. Vincent		8	_	26	16	26	26	26	20
Mrs. C. E. Gatehouse	***	81/2	21	-	11	18	26	22	14
E. Sidwell		9	26	26	4	26	26	26	22
Miss J. Cooper		10	25	26	21	-	26	20	16
Dr. R. B. N. Smartt		10	9	17	12	10		26	26
F. Livesey	.,	10	19	26	23	26	19	_	26
Major E. P. Edyvean		11	26	26	26	26	19	18	

Block Winner: E. Sidwell.

GROUP "D"

NAMES	Handicap	G. R. Mills	Miss S. C. Gough	W. J. Dixson	A.V.M. F. H. Maynard	Mrs. Newnham-Davies	Mrs. E. P. Edyvean	
G. R. Mills	11	-	26	26	26	26	26	
Miss S. C. Gough	12	20	_	20	14	22	26	
W. J. Dixson	12	9	26	_	16	26	26	
A.V.M. F. H. Maynard	12	21	26	26	-	26	26	
Mrs. Newnham-Davies		14	26	24	12	_	X	
Mrs. E. P. Edyvean		17	21	14	9	X	_	

Block Winner: G. R. Mills.

X indicates unplayed game

SEMI-FINAL.

J. G. Warwick (4) bt T. A. Chignell (54) by 19. E. Sidwell (9) bt G. R. Mills (11) by 14.

FINAL.

E. Sidwell (9) bt J. G. Warwick (1) by 20.

# HANDICAP DOUBLES

(Combined handicap not less than 8)

(14 Pairs).

# FIRST ROUND.

Miss A. E. Mills and G. R. Mills (132) w.o. Major G. F. Stone and Mrs. R. Jones Bateman (11) opponent scratched. Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave and Mrs. C. E. Gatehouse (8½) bt Miss M. S.

Carlyon and W. J. Dixson (15) by 13.

Miss E. J. Warwick and Mrs. M. H. Vincent (10½) bt Mrs. E.

Rotherham and Miss J. Cooper (8½) by 11.

Col. D. W. Beamish and Dr. B. R. N. Smartt (9½) bt A.V.M. F. H.

M. Maynard and Mrs. R. G. Michelmore (16½) by 1 on time.

J. K. Brown and E. Sidwell (10) bt Mrs. L. G. Walters and Capt.

M. Buller (13) by 7 on time.

J. Weston Martyr and A. J. Cooper (11) bt Mrs. V. C. Gasson and T. A. Chignell (8½) by 11. The rest had byes.

# SECOND ROUND

Miss A. E. Mills and G. R. Mills (131) bt J. G. Warwick and L. G.

Walters (9½) by 9.

Miss E. J. Warwick and Mrs. M. H. Vincent (10½) bt Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave and Mrs. C. E. Gatehouse (8½) by 9.

Col. D. W. Beamish and Dr. B. R. N. Smartt (9½) bt J. K. Brown and E. Sidwell (10) by 9 on time.

J. Weston Martyr and A. J. Cooper (11) bt Major E. P. Edyvean and Mrs. Newnham Davis (23) by 18.

# SEMI-FINAL.

Miss E. J. Warwick and Mrs. M. H. Vincent (10½) bt Miss A. E. Mills and G. R. Mills (13½) by 16.
J. Weston Martyr and A. J. Cooper (11) bt Col. D. W. Beamish and Dr. R. B. N. Smartt (9½) by 17.

Miss E. J. Warwick and Mrs. M. H. Vincent (101) bt J. Weston Martyr and A. J. Cooper (11) by 2.

# LEAMINGTON SPA

# AN OPEN TOURNAMENT

will be held on the

CLUB GROUND on MONDAY, JUNE 30th, 1958, and the five following days

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

Hon. Secretary.—E. Sidwell, Croquet Secretary, Warwickshire Croquet Club, Guy's Cliffe Avenue, Leamington Spa.

1.—OPEN SINGLES. "Two Life" System. The Midland Challenge Cup. Entrance Fee, 10s. (If less than six entries, this will be played as an American.)

2.—HANDICAP SINGLES. 31 bisques and over. Challenge Cup. Entrance Fee, 8s.

Players may only enter for one of the above.

3.—HANDICAP SINGLES (X.Y.). Open to all. Challenge Cup. Entrance Fee. 10s

4.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Unrestricted. Challenge Silver Salvers. Entrance Fee, 8s. per player.

Two prizes will be given for each event.

All Challenge Trophies to be held by the winner for one year.

Entries, with Entrance Fees, must reach the Hon. Secretary, by the first post on Thursday, June 26th. Entries for Event 4 may be made on the ground, up to 2.30 p.m., on Tuesday, July 1st.

Draws for Events 1, 2 and 3 will take place in the Club House at 2.30 p.m. on Thursday, June 26th.

Five courts provided. Equipment by Jaques.

Competitors required at 10 a.m. on Monday, will be notified. All other competitors should be on the ground by 11.30 a.m.

Play will begin at 10 a.m. unless otherwise ordered. Flat-soled footwear must be worn.

Bridge. Licensed bar. Lunches and Teas at the Club.

# **BUDLEIGH SALTERTON**

# A CROQUET TOURNAMENT

will be held on

THE CLUB GROUNDS on MONDAY, 7th JULY, 1958, and following days

(Under the Rules and Regulations of the Croquet Association)

Tournament Committee.—Mrs. E. Rotherham (Chairman), Col. D. W. Beamish, Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave, Miss J. Cooper, Miss A. E. Mills and J. Weston Martyr, Esq.

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

Referee of the Tournament.-J. G. Warwick, Esq.

(Assistant referees and umpires may be appointed under Reg. 14.) Tournament Secretary.—L. G. Walters, Esq., Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, Budleigh Salterton (Tel. 548).

1.—OPEN SINGLES. Draw and Process. The Winner to hold the Colman Challenge Cup until the next Competition or for one year, whichever is the shorter period. (Note.—Except in the case of a Bye, Competitors in this Event will not be granted leave after 2 p.m. on Monday, 7th July.) Full game to be played. Entrance Fee, 11s. 6d.

2.—LEVEL SINGLES (Class B). Single games, Law 44 suspended. The winner to hold the Longman Cup for one year or until the next competition, whichever is the shorter period. Open to players of 3 to 7 bisques. Full game to be played. Entrance Fee, 9s.

HANDICAP SINGLES (Class C). Single Games. Open to Players of 7½ bisques and over. All games start at 5th hoop. Entrance Fee, 9s.

N.B.—No Competitor may enter for more than one of the

- 4.—HANDICAP SINGLES. Single Games. The Winner to hold the Oliver Bowl for one year or until the next Competition, whichever is the shorter period. Open to all. Full game to be played. Entrance Fee, 9s.
- 5.-HANDICAP DOUBLES. Single Games. The winners to hold the Mesurier Cups for one year, or until the next competition, whichever is the shorter period. No two Players of Handicap 1½ or lower may play together. All Games start at the 3rd hoop. Entrance Fee, 7s. for each player.

# NOTES

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

# PRIZES

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

# **ENTRIES**

On Official Entry Forms ONLY please.

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

# THE DRAW

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

Luncheons and Teas will be provided on the Ground at moderate

Bridge Rooms are available.

Standard setting, 34in. Hoops.

Play will commence each day at 10 a.m. or earlier if necessary. Every Competitor shall wear flat-soled boots or shoes, so as not to damage the Courts.

At least eight Lawns will be provided.

# THE CROOUET CHAMPIONSHIP THE DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP

Will be played for at

THE HURLINGHAM CLUB on MONDAY, JULY 14th

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the Croquet

Manager.-Mr. E. A. Roper.

Referee and Handicapper.-Mrs. E. Reeve.

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

# **EVENTS**

- THE CROQUET CHAMPIONSHIP. Open to any Competitor (subject to Regulation 22). Entrance Fee, 11s. 6d.
  Matches best of three games. Prize: The Coronation Gold Challenge Cup and a medal. Runner-up a Silver Challenge Cup. Holder: Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins.
- 2.—THE DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP. Open to any competitor (subject to Regulation 22). Entrance Fee, 11s. 6d. each person. Matches of single games. Prizes: A Pair of Silver Challenge Cups presented by M. B. Reckitt and the late G. L. Reckitt. Holders: H. O. Hicks and Dr. W. R. D.
- 3.—THE ASSOCIATION PLATE. Open to competitors who have entered for Event 1 and have not qualified for the third round or at the discretion of the Manager. Matches of single games throughout. Entrance Fee, 6s. each entry as they qualify. Level play. Prize: A Challenge Cup presented by W. Longman. Holder: W. P. Ormerod.

CONDITIONS

Hoops 31in. wide. Jaques' "Eclipse" balls will be used.

No leave can be granted till after the Draw.

The winners hold the respective trophies for one year, or until the next competition whichever is the shorter period. Other prizes according to number of entries.

The Committee reserve the right to refuse any entry without assigning a reason. Flat-soled footwear must be worn.

The Entries, accompanied by the Entrance Fees for Event 1 must be sent to the Secretary, C.A., so as to reach her not later than the first post on Wednesday, July 9th, and for Event 2 by noon on Tuesday, July 15th. Competitors must give with their entries the address at which messages will reach them during the tourna-

# DRAW

The Draw for Event 1 will take place at 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1, at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, July 9th, and for Event 2 at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, July 15th, and for Event 3 as will be announced on the ground.

Play will begin at 10 a.m. daily.

Competitors must report themselves to the Manager on arrival. Any competitor who is not present, or is otherwise unable to play when called upon to do so will be liable to be scratched.

The semi-finals and finals of the Championships will be so arranged that play in them will extend over the afternoons of Friday and Saturday, July 18th and 19th.

# CHELTENHAM

THE FORTY-SECOND ANNUAL OPEN TOURNAMENT

will be held on the

Club Lawns, Old Bath Road

On Monday, July 21st, and five following days

(Under the Laws and Regulations of the Croquet Association)

Committee of the Cheltenham Croquet Club.-Miss M. M. Paulley (Chairman).

Manager, Referee and Handicapper.-F. Langley.

Tournament Secretary.—Cdr. D. W. Roe, Cheltenham Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham.

- 1.—OPEN SINGLES. CHELTENHAM CHAMPIONSHIP CUP. To be held for one year or till the next competition, which-ever be the shorter period. "Two Life System." Holder, Mrs. E. Rotherham. Entrance Fee, 11s. 6d.
- 2.—LEVEL SINGLES. MONEY SALVER. To be held for one year or till the next competition, whichever be the shorter period. For players with four or more bisques. Law 44 suspended. Holder, Mrs. A. M. Daniels. Entrance Fee,
- 3.—HANDICAP SINGLES. For players with seven or more bisques. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. No players may enter for more than one of the above events.

4.—HANDICAP SINGLES "X.Y." Open to all. Entrance Fee,

- 11s. 6d. 5.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. BARWELL SALVERS. Un-
- restricted. To be held for one year or till the next competition, whichever be the shorter period. Holders, Dr. A. L. Yoxall and Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. each

Two prizes at least will be given in each event. There will be ten Club lawns. Play will begin each day at 10 a.m. Competitors must wear flat-soled footwear. Light Luncheons and Teas may be obtained on the ground.

Buses run to and from town hourly. Entries must reach Secretary by Midday, Wednesday, July 16th.

Draw for Singles Events in Pavilion at 2 p.m. same day. Entries for Doubles close at 5 p.m. Monday, July 21st.

Cheques for entrance money should be made payable to the Cheltenham Croquet Club.

Hotels: Ellenborough, Irving, Langton, Lansdown, Eltham Lawn, Lilleybrook, Montpellier, Moorend Park, Plough, Queen's, Regent, Star, Rodney, George.

# THE "LADIES' FIELD" CUP

Holder-Mrs. E. Rotherham

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

No Entrance Fee

Will be played for at THE HURLINGHAM CLUB (by kind permission of the Committee of the Club) on MONDAY, JULY 28th, and following days

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the C.A. Manager and Referee.-Mrs. E. E. Turner. Secretary.—The Secretary, C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London,

Hoops 33in. wide. Jaques' "Eclipse" balls will be used. Each Competitor meets each of the other Competitors twice in each Competition.

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

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

In the event of a tie between more than three Competitors, the

names of the winners will be drawn on the Bagnall-Wild system, and single games will be played in each round.

All Competitors must furnish the Secretary with the address at which messages will reach them during the Tournament. Flat-soled footwear must be worn.

# PLAY

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

# THE SILVER JUBILEE CUP

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

Holder: R. C. V. de Wesselow

Will be played for at the Hurlingham Club (by kind permission of the Committee of the Club) on Monday, July 28th, and four following days

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the Croquet

Manager and Referee.-Mrs. E. E. Turner. Handicapper.-Miss D. A. Lintern.

# OPEN TO ASSOCIATES ONLY

# THE SILVER JUBILEE CUP, HANDICAP SINGLES

An event open to Associates who are classed at scratch or more. Entrance Fee, 6s. Matches of single games throughout. The Event will be drawn in two or more approximately equal blocks, the winners of which will play off as for the Gilbey Cup.

Hoops 33in. wide and Jaques' "Eclipse" balls will be used. Flat-soled footwear must be worn.

The entries, accompanied by the Entrance Fee, must be sent to the Secretary, C.A., so as to reach her not later than the first post on Wednesday, July 23rd.

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

# DRAW

The Draw will take place at 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1, on Wednesday, July 23rd, at 11 a.m.

# PLAY

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

# HURLINGHAM

THE ANNUAL CROQUET TOURNAMENT

including the

# "LADIES' FIELD" CANDLESTICKS

(Under the direction of the C.A.)

will be held from

MONDAY, AUGUST 4th, to TUESDAY, AUGUST 12th, 1958

Committee.—The Croquet Committee of the Club.

Manager, Referee and Handicapper.-V. A. de la Nougerede. Secretary.-Lieut.-Col. R. F. J. Hayward, V.C., M.C.

# EVENTS

- 1.—THE HURLINGHAM CUP. Holder, J. W. Solomon. Level Singles. Draw and Process. Entrance Fee, 11s.
- 2.—THE TURNER CUP. Holder, S. S. Townsend. Level Singles. For players handicapped at 2 bisques 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, B. Lloyd Pratt. Level Singles. For players handicapped at 4½ 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, M. Vlasto, Level Singles. For players handicapped at 8 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. Fifth hoop variation. Law 44 suspended.
- 6.-HANDICAP SINGLES. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. (To be completed by 9th August).
- 7.—THE "LADIES' FIELD" CANDLESTICKS. (Ladies' Handicap Doubles). Holder, Mrs. P. Heley and Miss E. J. Warwick. Open to Lady Members of the C.A. only. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. each player.
- 8.—MEN'S HANDICAP DOUBLES. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. Fifth hoop variation

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

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, 30th July. Entries for Events 3, 7 and 8, will close at noon on Tuesday, 5th August. The Draw for Events 2, 4, 5 and 6, will take place at the Club on Wednesday, 30th July, at 2.30 p.m.; for other Events as announced on the ground.

# 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 (except Mondays, 10.30)

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.

# CROOUET PUTTING COMPETITION

There will be a Putting Competition with Croquet Mallets and Balls on the Club Putting Course from 5th to 12th August (excluding the week-end). Entrance Fee, 1s. per round. Prizes will be given according to number of entries.

# CROQUET DINNER

There will be a Dinner for Croquet Players and their friends at The Hurlingham Club on Thursday, 7th August. Tickets—price 15s. 0d. can be obtained from the Secretary, The Hurlingham Club. Dress. Dinner Jacket.