

the name

behind the game

JAIQUES

CROQUET

"a most authoritative handbook"

CROQUET

The strokes and tactics of the game
by The Rev. Handel Elvey, M.A.

price 7/6 net from your usual sports
shop, or in case of difficulty write
to JOHN JAIQUES & SON LTD.

Chapters on
STYLE · THE OPENINGS · DOUBLE
STROKES · HOW TO LAY BREAKS
TRIPLE & DOUBLE PEELS, etc., etc.

Of value to the experienced player and a 'must'
for the beginner

Chosen for all important occasions JAIQUES' CROQUET EQUIPMENT combines the experience and skill of the old craftsmen with the modern technique of manufacture. It was an earlier John Jaques who first introduced Croquet to this country, and the present generation of the family maintains the same high standards of quality.

Single items or complete sets.

Mallets made to your own specification.

The famous ECLIPSE CHAMPIONSHIP ball

(Formerly AYRES CHAMPIONSHIP).

You know by the ease and grace with which you instinctively handle JAIQUES equipment that here is the best.

From all good stores and sports shops, or in case of difficulty write for illustrated catalogue to

JOHN JAIQUES & SON LTD.

THORNTON HEATH · SURREY

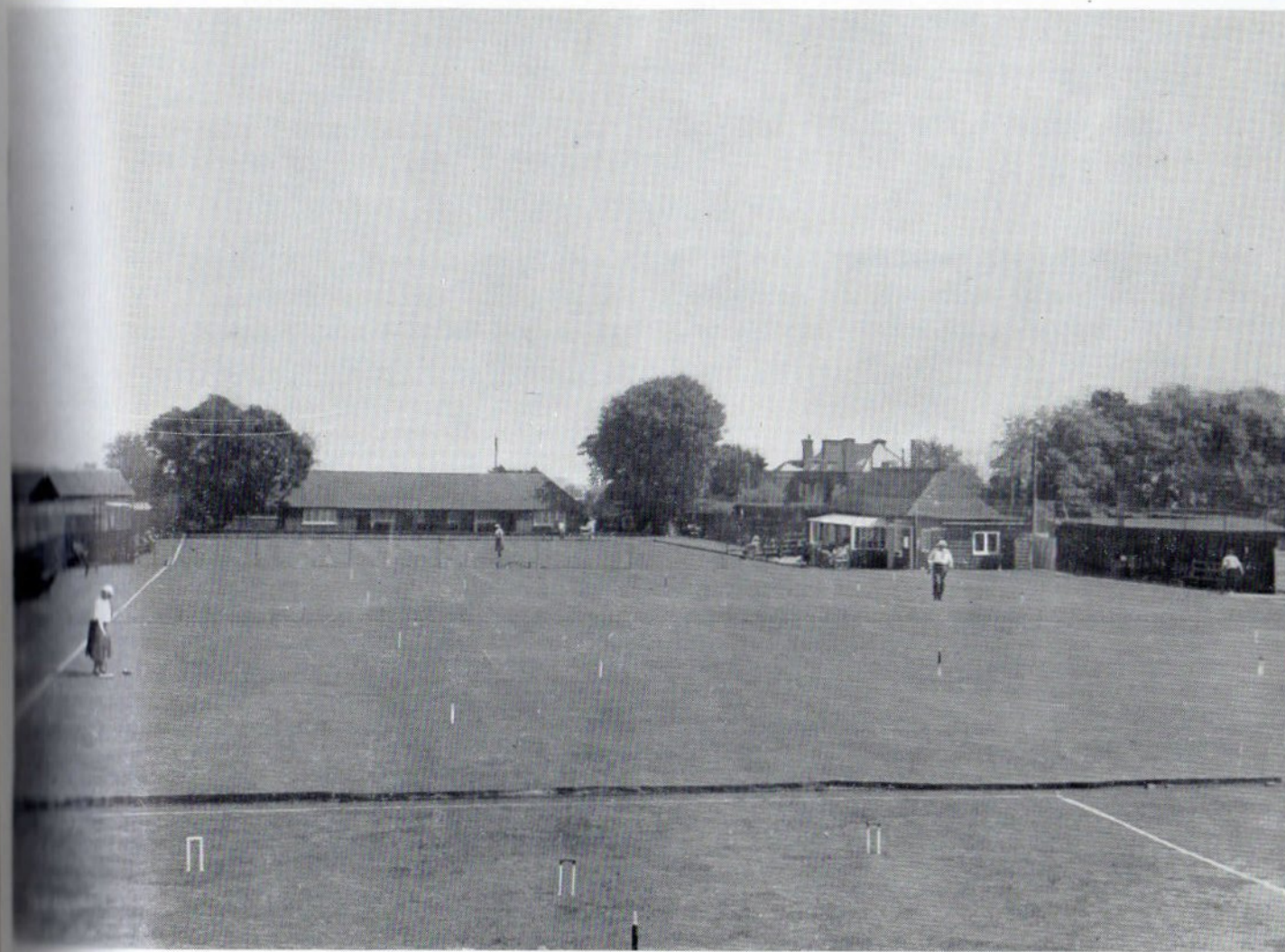
by JAIQUES — that's good!

No. 4. July 1954

Price 1s.

CROQUET

*The Official Organ
of The Croquet Association*



The Budleigh Salterton Club Lawns

and equipment by Jaques, of course

To See Championship Croquet
Join
THE CROQUET ASSOCIATION

SUBSCRIPTION . . . £1 PER ANNUM

Your Membership Card will admit you to CROQUET ASSOCIATION events played at the Roehampton, or Hurlingham Clubs on payment of normal gate fee (usually 2/6)

DATES OF IMPORTANT EVENTS

July 5—10	HURLINGHAM	Open Championships
July 26—31	HURLINGHAM	Ladies' Field Cup
Aug. 12—21	ROEHAMPTON	Challenge and Gilbey Cups
Sept. 6—11	ROEHAMPTON	President's Cup

For dates of other events see the calendar on page 2

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

Write to the Secretary
CROQUET ASSOCIATION, 4 SOUTHAMPTON ROW, W.C.1.

PUBLISHED TWICE YEARLY
IN MARCH AND DECEMBER

"The New Zealand
Croquet World"

Price 1/7½ Post Free

Apply to:

MRS. W. ASHTON, THE ORCHARD,
8 SPRINGFIELD ROAD, PARKSTONE, DORSET

BE PROUD OF YOUR GARDEN!



With
'VERDONE'
there is
no need to
hand-weed
your lawn

'Verdone' is a selective weedkiller. That means it kills weeds on lawns—roots and all—without harming the grass. Dilute 'Verdone' with water and apply it to the lawn—that's all.

P.S. A bottle of 'Verdone', enough to treat 1,152 sq. ft., costs 3/-—also the Jiffy pack for only 1/6—both from your local seedsman, ironmonger, chemist or store.



THE SIGN OF TROUBLE-FREE GARDENING

Plant Protection Ltd

In Our August Number—

SUSSEX COUNTY (BRIGHTON) CROQUET CLUB (Cover)

BEGINNERS, PLEASE!

A QUESTION OF LAW

NOTES FROM THE CLUBS

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

BRIDGE

By E. P. C. COTTER

TOURNAMENT FIXTURES

July	12	Budleigh Salterton. <i>Hon. Sec.</i> , Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave, Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, Budleigh Salterton.
"	19	Exmouth. <i>Hon. Sec.</i> , Miss A. E. Mills, Grey Friars, Budleigh Salterton.
"	19	Cheltenham. <i>Hon. Sec.</i> , T. J. Gould, Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham.
"	26	Warwickshire Croquet Club (Leamington Spa). <i>Hon. Sec.</i> , Major A. M. Deakin, Cliffe House, Guys Cliffe Avenue, Leamington Spa.
"	26	Ladies' Field Cup and Silver Jubilee Cup (Hurlingham). <i>Secretary C.A.</i> , 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
Aug.	2	Hurlingham. <i>The Games Secretary</i> , Hurlingham Club, London, S.W.6.
"	7	Match. Hurlingham v. The Rest (Hurlingham).
"	11	All England Handicap Final Stages (Roehampton).
"	12	Challenge Cups and Gilbey Cup. Golf Croquet, Ascot and Delves Broughton Cups (Roehampton). <i>Secretary C.A.</i> , 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
"	23	Brighton. <i>Hon. Sec.</i> , F. E. Corke, 28 Mansfield Road, Hove 3.
"	30	Hunstanton. <i>Hon. Sec.</i> , Mrs. B. C. Perowne, 65 Victoria Avenue, Hunstanton.
"	30	Parkstone. <i>Hon. Sec.</i> , Mrs. L. H. Ashton, The Orchard, Parkstone.
Sept.	6	President's Cup and Creyke Cups (Roehampton). <i>Secretary C.A.</i> , 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
"	20	Roehampton. <i>Games Secretary</i> , Roehampton Club, Roehampton Lane, London, S.W.5.
"	27	Eastbourne, Devonshire Park. <i>Secretary C.A.</i> , 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
Oct.	2	Match. Men v. Women (Devonshire Park).
NON-OFFICIAL FIXTURES		
Aug.	23	Hunstanton (American). <i>Hon. Sec.</i> , Mrs. B. C. Perowne, 65 Victoria Avenue, Hunstanton.
"	30	Brighton. <i>Hon. Sec.</i> , F. E. Corke, 28 Mansfield Road, Hove 3.
Sept.	6	Cheltenham. <i>Hon. Sec.</i> , T. J. Gould, Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham.

HANDICAPS

HANDICAPS CONFIRMED OR ALTERED BY THE HANDICAP CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE June 24th, 1954

BUDLEIGH SALTERTON (non official)
J. K. Brown $-\frac{1}{2}$ to -1 .
Mrs. C. E. Gatehouse 7 to 6.
Miss S. C. Gough 14 (D 12) to 13 (D 11).
Mrs. H. J. Philpot *5 to 5.
Mrs. M. H. Vincent 13 (D 12) to 12 (D 10).

**NON-ASSOCIATES
NEW HANDICAPS GIVEN**
W. H. Pearce 14 (D 12).
Miss J. Cooper 14 (D 12).

BRIGHTON
Brig.-Gen. B. C. Fellows -1 to $-1\frac{1}{2}$.
Mrs. A. Ross 4 to 3.
Mrs. H. D. Wooster $8\frac{1}{2}$ to 8.
D. Woodhams 9 to 8.

RYDE
Mrs. R. H. Burrell 13 to 11.
Mrs. O. E. Bostock 12 to 11.
V. A. de la Nougerede $\frac{1}{2}$ to 0.
Miss E. M. Watson $6\frac{1}{2}$ to 6.
NEW HANDICAP GIVEN
Miss L. Isaac 12.

WOKING
Major C. T. Carfrae 7 to 6.
E. V. Carpmael 1 to $\frac{1}{2}$.
G. V. Evans $\frac{1}{2}$ to 0.
Brig. J. S. Omond 10 to 8.
Mrs. E. A. Roper 8 to 7.
R. Whitham 9 to 8.
T. P. Dalton 2 to 3.

Continued foot of next column

Two

CROQUET ASSOCIATION NOTICES

Cheques for the Annual Subscription (£1) should be made payable to "The Croquet Association" and sent to The Secretary, C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

ELECTION OF ASSOCIATES

Mrs. J. W. Allsopp
Mrs. H. D. Aldred-Brown
R. A. Allback
Maj.-Gen. F. H. N. Davidson
L. D. D'Arcy
Mrs. E. M. Gill
Mrs. A. S. Greaves
Mrs. B. Vernon Harcourt
Major F. Hill-Bernhard
Mrs. F. Hill-Bernhard
Mrs. G. L. Jarratt
F. Livesay
Sir Ian Orr-Ewing
Mrs. J. G. Stevenson
Mrs. K. A. Slade
Mrs. M. H. Vincent
J. Weston-Martyr
Com. S. D. Wilson
Brig. L. W. McKay Forbes

INTERVENING REFEREES

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

SALE OF BALLS

"Brento" balls used at the Challenge and Gilbey Cups Meeting will be for sale at £3 per set, carriage 1s. 9d. Apply Secretary, C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

LORN C. APPS,

Secretary.

EDITORIAL PANEL OF "CROQUET"

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

HANDICAPS—continued

NON-ASSOCIATES
Lord Charles Hope 14 (D 12) to 12.
Mrs. D. Gunnell 10 to 9.

NOTTINGHAM
G. N. Bright 3 to 2.
Rev. F. J. Denbow 7 to 6.
Dr. G. L. Ormerod 6 to 5.
Mrs. E. L. Smith *10 to 10.

**NON-ASSOCIATES
NEW HANDICAP GIVEN**
Mrs. E. J. Cook 9 to 7.

NEW HANDICAP GIVEN
Mrs. M. E. Bradfield *9.
ROEHAMPTON CLUB
Mrs. S. Phillips 2 to 2 $\frac{1}{2}$.
PERSONAL APPLICATION
Mrs. R. G. H. Belcher 9 to 10.

Room for Improvement

THE desire to excel, to raise ourselves beyond the achievements and reputation of others, has often, and no doubt rightly been suspect. Shakespeare made Wolsey at his fall charge his secretary to "fling away ambition," and the hesitant Macbeth spoke of his "vaulting ambition which o'erleaps itself." This latter quotation is one which has doubtless been recalled by many a croquet player who has broken down at something which he had always suspected to be beyond his powers. Nevertheless, without a measure of ambition neither the individual player nor the game he plays will ever make progress. It is our conviction that Croquet and croquet players today are alike suffering not from too much ambition but from too little.

It has been a main purpose of this journal to attempt to help its readers to improve their game. While the series *Beginners, Please* has been aimed at assisting the neophyte to make a start on the right lines; the sequence of articles contributed by our leading players is designed to inspire the average tournament player to play better and to show him how he may do so. We hope that those of our readers who come within this category are as grateful to those who are offering them this assistance as they ought to be. For we come here to a matter of more than individual interest. There is too little competition at—or even near—the top of the game nowadays; no "hungry generation" threatens to "tread down" our leading players. We sometimes hear the complaint that the same names recur again and again in the "Best Eights," but this monotony, however regrettable, is not the fault of the selectors. It is the fault of that large mass of players who have got so far and seem content to get no further; who have not the curiosity to find out the causes of their arrested development, or the patience to practise what they fail now to do properly, or the enterprise to try out new methods and more adventurous manoeuvres. Apart from a tiny handful at the top and a larger number handicapped by age or infirmity, there is no one of us who has not the power to improve our game—and thereby improve the game, which is even more important.

It is related of a well-known player, half a century ago, that invited to join in a "knock-up" he replied, "I don't play Croquet for pleasure." Taken *au pied de la lettre* it was doubtless an indefensible and even absurd remark. Yet we think we know what he meant. He was implying

that, for him, the only Croquet worth playing was of a kind that called forth the full concentration which the game demanded if it was to be worth while. Much Club Croquet today is taken either too lightly or too seriously. It is taken too lightly if it is made the occasion for slovelly execution and thoughtless tactics. It is taken too seriously (or rather seriously in the wrong way) if it becomes more important for Mr. A. to beat Mrs. B. in the "American" than it is for him to improve his game in preparation for his next Open Tournament. Club games may be useful in testing our ability as match players, but they can be positively harmful if we will never use them for trying to get out of the groove in which we have got stuck.

But it is practice which is necessary above all. And this need not be solitary practice only. If two players would engage with one another with an agreed determination to attempt in the course of their game something (e.g. in regard to the finish of the turn or the making of a simple peel) which they badly need to master, they would find their knock-ups not only more interesting but far more valuable. A particularly good example of this is afforded by the pegged-out game, a phase of Croquet about which many, even among tournament players, are abysmally ignorant. Let an agreed position be set up, with one man playing the part of the "pegger out" and the other that of the single ball; then let the roles be reversed. This, as the Victorians were wont to say of their pastimes, is both instructive and amusing.

There is too much bad Croquet seen at our tournaments. By this we mean not failure to achieve what is aimed at, for that "to err is human," is nowhere more true than on the croquet court. We mean that far too many players go on trying for the wrong thing in the wrong way. Much of this is due to faulty execution, perhaps more is due to bad thinking. The improving player is one who, when things have gone wrong, always asks himself why this is so; he thus makes every set-back the raw material of future victory. Unless you use your head there is a close limit to what your hands will do for you. A well-known American labour leader was wont to exhort his hearers to "think, learn to think; it'll hurt like hell at first, but go on and you'll get used to it." We trust that the articles which our leading players are contributing to our pages will aid in this painful but necessary process.

Three

NOTES by ROVER

WHILE few perhaps expected an altogether new name to be engraved on either Gold Casket, there was much interest in seeing whether the holders would retain their handsome trophies. In each event it was the ultimate winner who actually prevented them from doing so, and we congratulate Patrick Cotter and Daisy Lintern on recovering the titles they had won on an earlier occasion. The Mixed Doubles title is one which seems to change hands more often than any other, and it went this year to a new, and certainly formidable combination, from whom it is likely to take some wresting. It gave special pleasure to all of us that Arthur Ross should win the first of what we expect to be a sequence of cups during his so welcome presence among us this season. An unusual feature of the week was a referendum taken to guide the Council towards a decision whether to revive the pre-war practice of occasionally playing this tournament at a provincial centre. It cannot be said that the result of this was very encouraging to a proposition for which at first sight there is much to be said. Several of our best players are not just unwilling but are literally unable to play away from London at this time of year, and were the Caskets to be competed for in the provinces next June, neither of the present holders would be free to defend their titles—surely a regrettable circumstance.

* * *

Associates who were present at the Annual Meeting, and others who read the account of the proceedings there which appeared in our last issue, will doubtless be interested to hear the result of the Council's handling of the matter of the Selection Committee for the "Best Eight" events. It will be remembered that this question was the subject of lively discussion on this occasion, and the Council took careful note as usual of the opinions then expressed. As a result it was decided to hold a ballot vote of Council members, but it was not required that those to be voted for should necessarily be of this number. In the event, however, it proved that those chosen to fulfil this important responsibility were all members of the Council, not all of those so elected however being willing to do so. The following are those who did agree to serve: The Rev. G. F. H. Elvey, the Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury, E. P. Duffield, C. B. Bird and B. H. Wiggins. Mr. Duffield was subsequently designated as Chairman. It is well that Associates should know who are those who are prepared to accept exacting tasks on their behalf, so that they may be as grateful as no doubt they always are to such persons for agreeing to fulfil these obligations.

Four

"There's no harm," we are often told, "in asking." The remark usually carries the implication that there is not much hope in doing so either. Nevertheless we are asking all Associates who read these lines—the great majority we boldly assume—to send in their entries for tournaments on the official forms provided by the C.A. By doing so they will greatly assist the secretariat, whether at the London office or at local tournaments. The odd (often very odd) scraps of paper on which competitors are all too accustomed to forward their names, accompanied—or not—by cheques, are not only difficult to file for reference but seldom provide all the information a tournament secretary requires. Before the War tournament programmes were often issued with these forms attached, but the rise in printing costs has, naturally enough, more or less put an end to this convenient practice. It is now up to Associates to obtain pads of entry forms from the C.A. office for the modest price of 2s., an investment which in most cases will not need to be repeated more than once about every three years. But since it is always easier for us to know our duty than to do it, really enterprising clubs could help on the good work by obtaining a supply of these pads and retailing them to their members. Club secretaries might note this point—if only in their own interests.

* * *

Watching Croquet in the opening weeks of the season, we derived the impression that players were taking longer than usual to run into form. Whether it is that the unnaturally chilly Spring made most of us reluctant to start practice, or whether the excessively heavy counts at the London clubs have impaired our "touch," never in any May have we seen so much missed so often by so many. Even our finest players seemed to be less untouched by human frailty than is generally the case. A natural, though perhaps not wholly creditable emotion prompts many weaker players to find in the occasional gaffes of the great, consolation and even encouragement. We do not share this sentiment, since we find it always faintly depressing to see what we know can be done really well done badly, and to behold eminence reduced, however temporarily, to the common level. On such occasions we recall the rejoinder of the late Leslie O'Callaghan to a lady, who, witnessing one of his rare "slip-ups," told him how glad she was to see that somebody like him could make silly mistakes "just like us." "Yes, madam," said the great C.L. "We can, but there's a difference all the same. We don't make a habit of it."

Beginners, Please!

HIT—OR MISS!—The Single-Ball Strokes

by

The Rev. G. F. H. Elvey

WELL, it is nice to be on the lawn again, and happily it is a pleasant day. Though the weather is not very settled, it is fine for the moment and the cold wind has gone.

Now about those roquets. I hope you have been practising them with great diligence and enthusiasm. A friend of mine, who was a splendid player in the old days, looked upon the method of trying roquet after roquet at varying distances as one of the very best ways to practise. I would, however, issue a warning. Do not keep on too long trying roquets at a considerable distance, as after a while the eyes get tired, and then you will begin to be unnecessarily discouraged!

Before we leave what we may call the plain straightforward roquet, there is a question that keeps cropping up, and among first-class players, as well as others. Why are short roquets often missed? It is quite easy to answer this question, much easier in fact than to avoid missing roquets! Well, these are the main reasons for the disaster, when it happens. First, failure to keep the head down and your eyes on your ball. The trouble is that you are so apt to look up quickly to see the result of your stroke, and if you do, it is not likely to be the result that you want. Therefore be very careful to keep your head down and your eyes on your own ball. There are, however, several other reasons for failure. For example, hand or foot predominance, which I have told you about before, and which causes you to pull to one side or the other. Forgetfulness about aiming with your whole body as well as with the mallet. In other words, you are trying so hard to aim with your mallet that you are not bothering about your foot and body position. And there are two other ways in which roquets in a break are often missed. A player goes through a hoop and then swivels round quickly to make the return roquet without stalking the ball, and without giving himself time to adjust himself to the new position. Again, there is another road to disaster that I should like you to make a note of, though it won't probably affect you for some time to come. A player has a difficult hoop to make; he makes it with a magnificent stroke, and then to his dismay and the astonishment of the spectators turns round and misses an easy roquet. How extraordinary you think, and yet the reason is a very simple one. To run the difficult hoop he keyed himself up, and as he struck his ball his muscles were all tight, and then he failed to relax before that little roquet and so his muscles were not under control again, and anything might happen. This brings me to another important word on the executive side of croquet. I have already told you about the tremendous importance of RHYTHM. Now I want to stress the importance of RELAXING.

Well—I am rather afraid we have been drifting towards advanced croquet, and so we must come back again to roquets. Now when you are going to make a short roquet of about a yard or less, you will almost certainly want to do something more than just make the hit, you will want to drive the roqueted ball to some place where you need it. To try this out put your ball at the very end of Baulk A in the middle of the boundary line. Put the object ball a yard from it, in the direction of the first hoop. Now try and roquet the object ball up to the first hoop. A word of warning: don't think that because you are doing something with two balls, you have got to tie yourself into a knot and hit much harder. What we want is a nice, firm, easy stroke. Well—that was not too good, so let my next pupil "have a go." That was a bit better, but not quite right. You have not got near enough to the hoop, and if this was a game you would have a very long approach. Let's bring the balls back and let the next pupil try. Ah! that won't do at all, you hit down on to your ball, and so you nearly jumped over the other ball. Remember that in rushing, the slightest bit of downward stroke is always fatal. Now let my fourth pupil make the attempt, and, of course, you have the best chance because you can see the mistakes that the others have made. Yes, quite a good stroke. If anything you have rushed the object ball too far, but all the same it was a good stroke.

Next we must try something still more difficult. Balls are seldom in an exact line with the place you want to get to. You usually have to rush the object ball to left or right. If you want to rush to the left obviously you must hit the object ball on the right, if you want to rush to the right, you must hit the object ball on the left. These strokes are somewhat like the half-ball billiard strokes. We call this sort of rushing *cutting*.

I am going to pause to bring in a new definition, so far, I believe, almost unused in *Croquet*. I notice in all books on Billiards, the striker's ball is named the "cue ball," I am going to apply this to Croquet and call the striker's ball the "mallet ball." I think you will find that this is both convenient and helpful. It will be specially so when we come to the Double Stroke i.e. "Taking Croquet."

To continue the lesson, bearing this new definition in mind, put the mallet ball on the same spot as before, and instead of putting the other ball in line with the first hoop, place it about a foot to the right of that line. Now try and cut it up to the first hoop. Not too bad for a first attempt by any means! You had better try the left cut. Quite good, and here are one or two final remarks about rushing and cutting, before we pass on to the next

Five

item on the agenda—hoop running. Remember on no account to hit down on to your ball, or you may jump the object ball altogether, and you certainly will fail in your rush. Keep your stroke nice and smooth and sweeping. Trust to hitting the mallet ball correctly rather than to any kind of force. And—a last tip. If there is any roughness in the ground, or if the ground is on the heavy side, just slightly (only slightly) raise the "toe" of the mallet. This will help the rush and ensure you against jumping.

Well—we have made some progress, we have talked about and tried ordinary roquets and rushing and cutting, and now we come to the next important single stroke—hoop-running. Now one of my pupils please put the mallet ball two feet from the first hoop, and try and run it! No luck! You were careful in your aim. You kept your eye on the mallet ball, no fault so far, but you blobbed the hoop. Lucky thing it was not a tournament game. Here it does not matter, because you can bring the ball back and have another try. Now remember in hoop running, you are not aiming at an object, you are aiming at a hole. It is said that the golfer tries to put a small ball into a big hole, while the croquet player tries to drive a large ball through a small hole. In any case when you made a roquet, you were aiming at a solid object, and you had quite a large margin of error. The centre of your ball could go three inches to the right or left of the centre of the object ball, without your missing the roquet. But when you aim at a hoop or rather to run a hoop, you are aiming at an empty space, in itself more difficult, and you have a very small margin of error. In running a hoop your ball has only a sixteenth of an inch clearance on each side, so that if you are the veriest fraction more than an eighth of an inch out, your chances are not good, and if you are a quarter of an inch out, they have vanished altogether.

It follows therefore that as the margin of error is so very small, you must take special care of your aim, and you must use a type of stroke that will impart follow to the ball. As to aiming, there is a dodge that is, to say the least, very helpful. Begin by raising the mallet head above the ball and noting that it is exactly central between the hoop uprights. You can then make your stroke directly without grounding the mallet, or you can ground the mallet before making your stroke in the ordinary way. I recommend either of these methods strongly. If your ball is not right

in front of the hoop, but somewhat at the side, you must take care to aim well inside the further hoop upright. If you can put about two-thirds of your ball within the hoop, you can usually get through. But disaster will come if your ball touches the near upright. So take very special care to miss the near upright. If you are very much in a sideways position, it sometimes pays to hit hard down on to your ball. This is a stroke that requires practice, and is at best somewhat uncertain, but often it is successful, and when it is so, the ball hits the further upright and as it falls to the ground, gently rolls through, much to the player's delight, and the adversary's disappointment!

Now what about "follow"? When you strike a croquet ball, it does not at once begin to roll, instead it slides along the ground for several inches, perhaps even a foot. This is all right for roquets, but for hoop-running, you want to get your ball rolling as quickly as possible; this is what is meant by imparting follow. When there is plenty of follow on the ball, it will often push its way through the hoop, even though your aim has not been quite perfect. On a slow lawn hoop-running is slightly easier because the resistance of the grass pushes the ball into its rolling motion more quickly. But what can you do to impart follow? To start with be careful that your muscles are all nice and free and not taut. Don't grip the mallet too tightly as this will cause you to stun the ball, and so produce the very effect you don't want i.e. increase the sliding motion of the ball. And—and this is very important—be specially careful of the back swing of your mallet. If you pull the mallet back with the slightest jerk, it will ruin the stroke. This is why almost every player occasionally fails under the stress of nerves. He is anxious about that last hoop, he lets his muscles go tight, brings the mallet back with a quick jerk, utterly stuns the ball so that it has no chance of pushing its way through the hoop, or the stroke may be so bad that the ball does not even get between the uprights.

Well—I think I have been doing a great deal of talking, and I hope I have given you a lot to think about. What I want you to do in the next few days before we can have another lesson, is to practice roquets, rushes, cuts, and hoop-running. If you practise these individual strokes and try to master them, you will make much quicker progress than in any other way.

The Editor's Dream

Within his sanctum's shade he sat,
With pen and ink at hand,
His head was nude, his attitude
Was infinitely grand.
The Editor slept and he dreamed of the things
The new Gazette had planned.

He dreamt that, month by month, he watched
Its circulation soar—
'Twas sold by newsboys in the street
At bookstall shop and store.
And with gratitude deep he relaxed in his sleep.
What could he wish for more?

He dreamt that all old clubs revived
Whilst new clubs came to stay,
And hundreds stood in queues to join
The flourishing C.A.
And croquet became a most popular game
Which thousands learned to play.

His journal *Croquet* proved itself
An influence supreme
The Council too had now become
A most harmonious team.
Then he woke—and he sighed to think all this
Was nothing but a dream. N.H.O.

GETTING BETTER

by

Dr. W. R. D. WIGGINS

Holder.—Open Doubles Championship, Open Championship of the South of England

I wonder how many "B" Class players realize that the future of Croquet very largely depends on them? It is from their ranks that the great players of the future are to be drawn and it is vital that they should come forward in increasing numbers during the next few years. Croquet cannot flourish without a modicum of good players. I have heard it stated several times that the same players take part in the President's Cup year after year. As one of those who has played in that competition in recent years, I wish that that was not so and that there were more good players to choose from. It is not a good thing for the top-line players to feel that they are safe to play in what is really a very gruelling competition for yet another year.

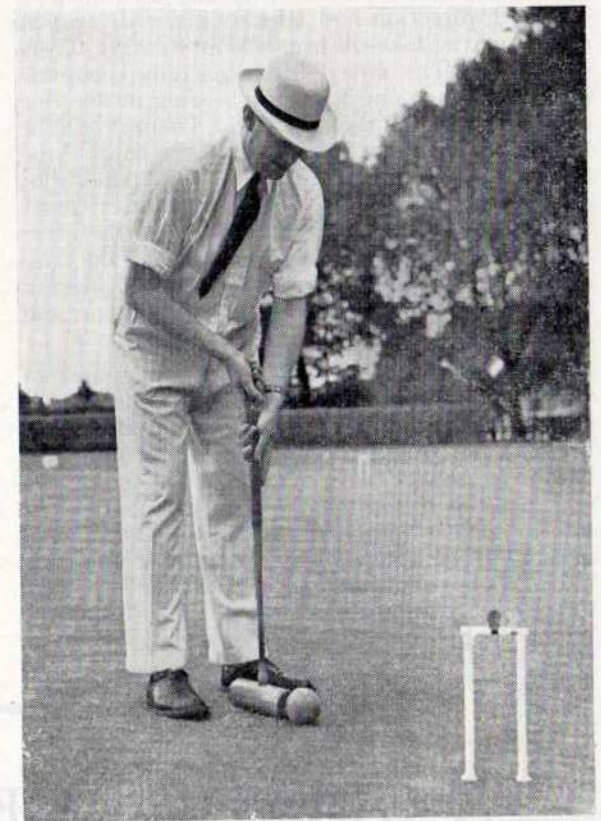
Well, you "B" Class players, what about it? What does it take to become passably good at this difficult but intriguing game?

I would put first temperament and the will to win. Presuming these qualities to be present, the next and all-important quality is stroke play. Most of you can play a straight-forward four-ball break when it is presented to you but the difficulty lies in picking it up. Herein lies also its great attraction and you are getting better when you can do it now and again. This will rapidly become possible when you have mastered the following four points:—

1. You have studied from a book and thoroughly grasped the art of break-laying.
2. You can rush a ball with force and accuracy.
3. You can "take-off" fine to any agreed distance.
4. You are content to lay a break and not try to make an odd hoop, if circumstances suggests that progress will best be made this way.

You will note that I have not mentioned hoop running. This does not enter into the problem at all. Not all "A" Class players are good hoop runners, but they are mostly good stroke players which more than makes up the difference. You will see what I mean when I go through the items severally.

1. This takes a lot of learning and can best be done by watching only the very best players. Follow the game carefully and note how the situations arise and what steps the opponent takes to counter them. Never rely on your opponent playing with the ball you have so carefully laid at your next hoop, he may well choose the other one and cut into your game severely. C. D. Locock's book covers nearly all the theory that will be required.



2. To rush a ball accurately is probably the most difficult of all strokes, bar the pass roll. When mastered it yields rich dividends and gives great satisfaction. The stroke can best be learnt by constant practice. When you are by yourself, place the balls to give yourself dead straight "baby" rushes. Practice till you can rush the ball to the exact spot selected. Gradually lengthen the rush and continue using the cut rush. Always choose some spot to which to rush the ball; direction and length are equally important. It is just as important to be able to rush a ball accurately for 5 yards as it is to be able to do so for 25 yards. As regards watching the stroke, I believe that there is only one player who can execute a long rush accurately, such is its difficulty. Take the chance therefore when it comes to watch Mr. H. O. Hicks play this stroke. Note the enormous dividends it produces and how a seemingly very difficult position is immediately transformed as a result of it. To illustrate the value of the rush, imagine the balls are lying in what to you is a most unfavourable position: Blue and Black are 2 yards apart on the side boundary, Blue being in the first corner. Red is in the second corner, Yellow is somewhere on the boundary between hoops 3 and 4. By a cut rush the first hoop is made, the forward ball being so controlled that a forward rush is done after the hoop has been made. By rushing the forward ball into the second corner, the opportunity for a corner cannon is presented and a break should result quite easily. Note the shots that gave you the break. Two rushes.

3. There seems to be a lot of nervousness amongst "B" Class players about taking-off. So many of you in your anxiety to make the object

ball shake, take-off far to thick and consequently lose both direction and length. Carefully watch a good player take-off from the first corner to the third hoop. The object ball moves only about one half to one inch and has little bearing on the line of direction of the striker's ball. There should be no fear of the object ball going off the court if the balls are correctly placed. This stroke takes a lot of practice, but when learnt, anxieties about taking-off from one end of the lawn to the other will cease. You will learn more about the pace of a lawn if your ball goes off the court from a take-off than you will if it is hopelessly short and this results in your missing the roquet.

4. When you hit in and conditions are not very favourable, do not try to make a hoop at all costs. Carefully survey the situation and lay a break for next time. Trying to do a hoop on the cheap, as it were, is generally costly in innings and leads to breaks for the opposition. If it is safe to make a hoop and you are reasonably sure of doing so then it has its advantages in that you have the use of all the balls and should have a forward rush from your hoop which will help in laying the break.

A QUESTION OF LAW . . . by Lex

WE think that some of our readers will be interested in the following which comes to us from South Africa. The decision was of course a correct one.

A and B are playing a match. A shoots with Black at Blue and missed. B in process of placing a ball on a boundary calls out that A has played too quickly before she has finished. A obediently replaces his Black ball. When B has completed her arrangement on the boundary A plays again but this time elects to play with Blue and shoots at A's Red and Yellow and hits. B now protests and declares that A must play with his black ball.

The referee's decision was that A in shooting with Black was playing out of turn which was deemed null and void and that a few moments later, it being A's turn to play in order, he could elect to play with either ball. And did.

* * *

We have been asked to explain the terms used to define certain shots in Croquet.

1.—A stop shot is a croquet stroke when the striker's ball travels less far in relation to the croqueted ball than if hit normally.

2.—A roll shot is a croquet stroke where the striker's ball travels further in relation to the croqueted ball than if hit normally, whereas a pass roll is where under similar conditions the striker's ball overtakes and passes the croqueted ball.

3.—A croquet stroke which parts the two balls at a wide angle is often called a split shot.

Eight

And now that question of hoop running. If, as I have urged, you have learnt to rush a ball accurately, that pilot ball will be lying plumb in front of your hoop and you should have a perfectly straight shot of about six inches. You can tell when a player is at the peak of his form by the length of the hoops he has to run. Also by having control, the nightmare of the missed return roquet does not arise.

There is a point with which you should be acquainted. There is a difficult period for you to go through when your handicap is coming down, and you are in the 0—1 class. You will find that you will be knocked out of the Opens fairly quickly and often by 26. But do not worry; so long as your stroke play is improving, conditions will soon change. Most of your victories will come in handicaps, and it is here that the attention of the handicapper is focussed. It is not usual to incur handicap reductions in level events. Your play will improve much more quickly when you play against better players. So watch these players and practise and you will not be unrewarded.

4.—A hammer or chop shot is a downward stroke, sometimes almost vertical, necessitated when a hoop interferes with the back swing of the mallet.

5.—Drag is the pull or side imparted to a croqueted ball in a split shot.

6.—Side is a spin imparted intentionally to the striker's ball.

* * *

Can you answer the following?

1.—May a player move a ball from a hole in the surface of the lawn?

2.—After croqueting two balls through a hoop in order the striker's ball catches up the front ball and roquets it again. Does this roquet count?

3.—In doubles the striker's partner, standing close by, states that the croqueted ball was not moved or shaken. Is this in order?

4.—Pegging out an opponent in a croquet stroke the pegged out ball runs off the court. Does the turn end?

5.—A ball is left "nearly through its hoop" when the players go to lunch. On their return it is found to have run the hoop, being just through. Can it be claimed?

6.—In taking croquet from a ball in contact with a hoop the striker "squeezes" that ball between his own ball and the hoop. Is this a crush?

Answers on page 20.

Notes from the Clubs

THE May Tournament at BUDLEIGH SAL-TERTON has already been reported and the Club has settled down to its own competitions. The first to be completed was the novices tournament, for which only six came forward this year, and Miss S. C. Gough won from Mrs. Newnham Davies, by plus one. Instruction and advice were given during play by Mrs. Rotherham and Major Stone.

An event which will, however, interest all croquet players was the Birthday Party given to Mrs. H. J. Philpot on her 90th birthday. Still an active tournament player with a low handicap, Mrs. Philpot is renowned for the accuracy of her long shots and for her steady if defensive tactics.

The party was held on the first Golf Croquet Saturday of the season, when "Croquet" players partner "non-croquet" players in a series of miniature tournaments, four or five pairs to a lawn, the winners of each lawn meeting in semi-finals. Unfortunately, this competition was stopped by rain shortly after tea, at which Mrs. Philpot was the Guest of Honour. Forty members assembled to play and help eat the birthday cake, made in the form of a croquet lawn with vivid green icing, complete with hoops, balls and corner flags.

We take this opportunity of congratulating Mrs. Philpot and wishing her a successful and happy croquet season.

* * *

We have interesting news from COLCHES-TER, which is one of the smaller clubs. Strongly established, it enjoys a membership of over thirty with three courts which are, however, pleasantly situated and easily reached from the town. Two of the courts will bear comparison with the best in the country, having no semblance of a "roll" either on boundaries or elsewhere.

Throughout the twenty-five years of its existence the Club has had enterprising officers, generous members and, at two critical periods in particular, valuable assistance from the C.A. There is available all the usual ground equipment with the exception of a modern water sprinkler which constitutes the principal outstanding need.

Few clubs can claim, as Colchester can, that it enjoys the freehold occupation of its ground and pavilion, with no loans or debentures outstanding, but a modest balance at the Bank.

During the course of the Season there is conducted a lively series of Club Competitions and inter-club matches with the neighbouring Ipswich and Chelmsford Clubs which are always keenly contested.

* * *

We hear from the ROEHAMPTON Club that the Club's first Golf Croquet Tournament was held on Thursday, 29th April. Miss D. A. Lintern won the Singles, and the Doubles were won by Miss D. Jennings and Mrs. M. Carrington.

From 1st to 8th May, the Club Handicap Singles for the Trevelyan Bowl took place, and resulted in Col. C. C. Adams, M.C., winning the

handsome Trophy presented by the late Mrs. W. F. Trevelyan. Mrs. G. W. Solomon was the runner-up, and therefore holds the Memorial Tankard.

A number of Club competitions are in progress and the results of which we shall hope to publish in later issues.

* * *

We hear from JERSEY that Major Fullerton hopes to revive the game there. At present there are no lawns but the neighbouring smaller island of GUERNSEY has its established Croquet club. Major Fullerton feels that Jersey, too, must have its club. We heartily agree and wish him every success.

* * *

We wish to draw the attention of our readers to the notice, elsewhere in this issue, that a dinner is to be held at the HURLINGHAM Club on Thursday, August 5th. It is for Croquet Associates and their friends. Tickets can be bought from the Secretary at the Club or from any of the tournament committee.

* * *

The Warwickshire Croquet Club at LEAM-INGTON has been open for play since mid-April. One lawn was available for practice throughout the winter months, but in view of the weather was not frequently used. Enthusiasts, like F. H. Fisher and Mrs. Craven have been doing all-round breaks which suggest that the courts are in good condition. The Club holds its official tournament at the end of July and in addition the four Club competitions will be in progress throughout the season.

* * *

The BUXTON Club recently played two inter-Club matches. On May 25th, a team went to Bowden. This consisted of Dr. Penny, T. Wood-Hill, Mrs. Megson and Mrs. Chorlton, while their opponents were Mrs. Briggs, Mrs. Curnick, Mrs. Fotiadi and Miss Roebuck. Buxton won 3 out of the 4 single games and both the doubles.

On May 29th, Buxton played a match at home against a team from Nottingham. This time the home team consisted of Dr. Penny, T. Wood-Hill, J. Hunter and Mrs. Chorlton, whilst the visiting club was represented by H. O. Hodgson, G. N. Bright, E. Cook and Mrs. E. Cook. In this match Buxton again won 3 out of the single games and both the doubles.

The scores were as follows:—

SINGLES.

Dr. Penny bt H. O. Hodgson by 10.
G. N. Bright bt T. Wood-Hill by 16.
J. Hunter bt Mrs. Cook by 18.
Mrs. Chorlton bt E. Cook by 6.

DOUBLES.

Dr. Penny and T. Wood-Hill bt H. O. Hodgson and G. N. Bright by 4.
T. Hunter and Mrs. Chorlton bt E. Cook and Mrs. E. Cook by 7.

It is hoped that more such inter-Club matches can be arranged for they are very enjoyable and provide extremely good practice.

Nine

NO sooner had my last letter been posted when news reached me that, after all, the National Championships and English Silver Medal would be played for at Pretoria. For the first time, this historic city, some 36 miles north of Johannesburg, will be the venue of the highlight of our croquet year. So, in October, it will be 1,000 miles for us Cape Town people, and 500 for most Natal players. Incidentally, the writer, in winning the Natal Singles Championship, travelled about 20 miles for each hoop run! Thus, you may have some idea of distances over here; and an understanding of our problems in staging tournaments. Indeed, each Tournament is an Event!

Two or three in one year is all we can manage; other than purely Club affairs. The Natal Croquet Association held its annual Tournament on May 3rd and following days, at Pinetown, a small country club, 12 miles out of Durban. Its two good grass courts were augmented by a bowling green and the use of the bowling pavilion—English bowling clubs, please note!

At these Natal meetings, a special Doubles Event, for the Kirby Trophy, is held. Teams of 4, play in two sections, the "A" pair in one section and the "B" pair in the other. Each section is played "American," provided there are no more than 5 pairs in each. 2 points are given for a win; and the combined scores of the "A" and "B" pairs in a team are tabled. This event was won by the combined Berea Club and Pine-town. The Berea Club providing the "A" pair.

In addition to the Singles; I was able to put on a small handicap, limited to 10 players who had lost their first game in the open event. In all, 39 games were played on the 3 courts and all were over at 3.30 on Saturday afternoon, when Mrs. Shepstone, wife of the Natal Administrator, presented the prizes.

In looking through an early copy of this old established tournament brochure of some 20 years back some interesting reading caught my eye. Mr. K. P. Walters quotes from a book published in 1598. Sir Robert Wallington, writing in "Method of Travel" says: "Among all the exercises of France I prefer none before the Paille Maille, both because it is a gentlemanly sport—not violent, and yields good occasion and opportunity of discourse as the players walk from one hoop to the other." It would appear that "interruption of adversary" was not in vogue in those days; nor would it have been appreciated!—my comment. The above quotation must be about the earliest reference to the origins of our game. Croquet historians please check. It is time, indeed, my pen were checked, or I will incur severe cutting from the Editorial Panel.

E. L. WARD PETLEY

P.S.—In the Natal Tournament we had 9.0 a.m. starts every day. No one late throughout the week! Play stops at 5 o'clock, owing to fading light. You will realize 21st June is our shortest day in these climes.

THE Club was founded in 1885, as the Budleigh Salterton Archery and Tennis Club. The principal activity was Archery but there were even then two croquet lawns. In 1887 Bowls was introduced and was allowed to be played if the ground was not required for Archery. At this time there was upwards of a hundred members.

It was in 1893 that the first suggestion came of holding a Club Croquet tournament, though it is not clear whether it was held or not. The year 1896 was an important year from a Croquet point of view for the first Open Croquet Tournament was then held on the two croquet lawns and three tennis courts. It henceforth became an annual event.

A few years later the club became registered with the Croquet Association and decided to level a further piece of land for a third croquet lawn. Be it noted this cost the club the sum of £10! In 1907 yet a further lawn was added and the May tournament first took place and became a regular fixture. Since that date the Club grounds and buildings have from time to time been gradually enlarged and improved. There are now eight tennis courts (six of which can be used for Croquet), six Croquet lawns, a Bowling Green and an Archery Range. There is, besides, a large and comfortable Club House with all the amenities that could be required, including a Bridge room enthusiastically frequented at all seasons of the year.

A feature of Croquet at Budleigh Salterton was the presence there during the war of a number of leading players, and it is probably true that the finest games played during this period took place here. Many players in more exposed areas took the opportunity of spending a brief holiday at Budleigh Salterton and conceived an affection for this beautifully situated Club which they have retained ever since.

SOLUTION TO JUNE CROSSWORD

1	H	A	N	D	I	C	A	P	P	E	R
8	U	C	O	R	N	E	R	E	L	L	O
12	R	O	V	E	R	N	O	N	A	G	E
14	L	T	I	C	E	T	Q	A	Y	A	H
16	I	T	C	H	B	R	U	L	E	R	A
17	N	E	E	A	A	E	E	T	R	I	M
20	G	R	C	U	R	L	T	Y	T	A	P
23	H	A	L	F	B	I	S	Q	U	E	T
24	A	L	I	F	E	F	O	U	R	R	O
28	M	A	P	E	R	T	D	I	N	G	N
30	A	S	S	O	C	I	A	T	I	O	N

AUGUST is the month in which the Golf Croquet season reaches its climax with the tournament which last year was held at Roehampton at the same time as the Challenge and Gilbey Cups meeting. This arrangement proved so successful that it has been decided to repeat it this year. It does give more players an opportunity of competing as those who are playing in the Challenge and Gilbey Cup competition can enter also for the Golf Croquet. There are several clubs in the neighbourhood of London where a great deal of Golf Croquet is played. We should like to see members from all these clubs competing this year at Roehampton. In our August issue we shall publish an article on Golf Croquet tactics by that experienced player Mr. Crowther Smith. The main object of this article will be to assist those who are to compete later in the month at Roehampton.

* * *

We give below the scores of a match played at Roehampton, on May 18th, between the home club and Dulwich. A very enjoyable match included a number of close games; particular reference should be made to the remarkable recovery staged by Mrs. Austin and Miss Carlyon, who after losing the first five points of their game against Mrs. Raine and Mrs. Armstrong, finally won by two.

- Mrs. Nickisson and Mrs. Carrington bt Mrs. Paine and Miss Richardson 2 and 1.
 - Mrs. Phillips and Mrs. Haigh Smith lost to Mrs. Pethebridge and Mrs. Swindlehurst 2 and 4.
 - Mrs. Austin and Miss Carlyon bt Mrs. Armstrong and Mrs. Raine 1 up.
 - Mrs. Nickisson and Miss Carrington bt Mrs. Pethebridge and Mrs. Swindlehurst 5 and 4.
 - Mrs. Phillips and Mrs. Haigh Smith bt Mrs. Armstrong and Mrs. Raine 4 and 3.
 - Mrs. Austin and Miss Carlyon bt Mrs. Paine and Miss Richardson 2 up.
 - Mrs. Nickisson and Miss Carrington lost to Mrs. Armstrong and Mrs. Raine 2 up.
 - Mrs. Phillips and Mrs. Haigh Smith lost to Mrs. Paine and Miss Richardson 1 up.
 - Mrs. Austin and Miss Carlyon bt Mrs. Pethebridge and Mrs. Swindlehurst 4 and 3.
- Roehampton won by 6 games to 3.

* * *

We are glad to give Mr. Crowther Smith an opportunity of replying to the criticism of his article on the game which appeared in our last issue.

Mr. Crowther Smith writes:—

"In reply to the criticism of my criticism of the game of Golf Croquet of today, the players I mentioned were not only all croquet players of the scratch and minus class, but thoroughly familiar with the unwritten code of laws under which we played.

"Obviously, the skilful device would never have been invented—still less employed—if it had no value, and only, as we said, when a suitable opportunity occurred. The opponents could do nothing about it because the moment was chosen for Blue to stop in the fourth hoop when,

not only was there no enemy ball on the non-playing side of that hoop to knock Blue out, but both Red and Yellow were several yards away from the hoop.

"Having tried to show that the 'skilful device' was almost a stupid one, the writer goes on to say that it was in order to prevent this purposely sticking in a hoop that Law 5 was introduced. The remedy seems to have no bearing on the so called complaint it is meant to cure.

"Then if it is only because of damage to the lawn that jumping is made illegal in Golf Croquet, surely a player of that game is quite as capable of stamping down any damage to the lawn after making a jump, as a Croquet player?"

News from New Zealand

IT is to be regretted that the 1954 Croquet Season in New Zealand had concluded when the first issue of *Croquet* arrived for it would have undoubtedly added further stimulus to the preparations for the 1956 N.Z. Tour of England. With N.Z. Croquet Council preparations for the tour well in hand and the many local associations already well on the way to filling their "quotas," interest in the English Croquet scene has perceptibly sharpened. Questions regarding the English croquet players and season were often heard round the lawns of this year's Dominion Tournament.

* * *

The outcome of the Dominion Championships will not be without interest to readers, particularly members of the English Team that toured N.Z. in 1950-51. With the absence of Arthur Ross, the field was, so to speak, "wide open." Clem Watkins made every post a winning post and his winning the Open Men's Handicap Singles and (with Mrs. Watkins) the Doubles Championships is a unique achievement in N.Z. Croquet. With Watkins a possible for the 1956 tour, his form is naturally pleasing to those Kiwis who recall his not altogether unsuccessful encounters with John Solomon in N.Z.

* * *

To those unfamiliar with croquet in N.Z. the previous reference to the N.Z. Croquet Council and local associations may appear somewhat confusing. The actual administration of croquet in N.Z. is based on an altogether different structure from that in England. The N.Z.C.C. is a national body consisting of delegates from 18 Associations. These Associations are responsible for the well being of croquet within their boundaries (corresponding roughly to the Provincial Boundaries) to the National Body, the N.Z.C.C. The Council meets once a year in January: its routine business during the year being carried out by an Executive consisting of a President, five Vice-Presidents, a Handicapper, Secretary, Referee, Publicity Officer, Treasurer and Gazette Editor. The President is now Mr. W. H. Kirk, an excellent player and also a "possible" for 1956.

ASHLEY HEENAN

CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editor, *Croquet*.

Dear Sir,

I heartily agree with H. B. W. Denison when he writes suggesting that many prospective Croquet players are possibly lost because in the early stages they would not wish to join a Club, but I cannot think that they should be allowed to play *without charge*, for more than one visit per season.

After that could they not be encouraged to pay a 2s. 6d. green fee for their 3 hours' enjoyment? A sum similar to that paid for a game of golf, or tennis or a seat at the Cinema. This would help the upkeep of the courts and be fair to members.

Faithfully yours,

D. LOCKS LATHAM

To the Editor, *Croquet*.

Dear Sir,

Any Associate with the good of the game at heart and three half-crowns in his pocket/her handbag can, I believe, exploit a useful channel of publicity by presenting a copy of *Croquet* each month to the local library for display in the Reading Room alongside the *Angler's Gazette*, *Fur and Feather*, and *What Have You*. The April issue in the Birmingham Library has already produced one likely new member.

What about some articles in *Croquet* on "Care of the Lawn," with one eye on the parasites and the other on the pennies—we haven't all got the facilities of Hurlingham and Roehampton. It was said by somebody in the Penultimate Century (or was it the Rover?), that he who could make two blades of wheat (ears of corn) grow, where only one grew before, would be worthy of something or other. Show us how to make two blades of grass grow on a Croquet lawn where only one grows at present, Sir, and you shall have an Oscar for every Fescue.

Yours faithfully,

B. R. SANDIFORD

To the Editor, *Croquet*.

Dear Sir,

Recently I had the pleasure of entertaining a visitor from the U.S.A. who had expressed a wish to see CROQUET as it is played in England.

He seemed surprised at the size and comparative levelness of our lawns and was quite nonplussed by our setting.

Apparently croquet is very popular on private lawns in New York State, but not normally catered for in Clubs. The set-up used is as far as I can make out a variation of the pre-1896 vintage. They start off with two hoops, or as they call them "wickets," close together and if the striker makes both with one shot he has two free shots to follow. They still have two sticks or pegs which they refer to as stakes. After making a roquet the striker has the option of taking croquet with the balls in contact or if preferred the length of a mallet head apart.

They still adhere to play in sequence and it seems that their game is akin to our house-party Croquet of the early 1890' ties.

I gave my visitor an up to date copy of our Laws and he has promised to send me a copy of theirs.

I hope therefore before long to be able to give you some further information about Croquet in the U.S.A. which may be of interest to your readers.

Yours faithfully,

A. E. STOKES-ROBERTS

(We have had from another source news of this type of Croquet in U.S.A. We understand that a more up-to-date game is played in Hollywood.—Editorial Panel.)

Twelve

BRIDGE

by

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

NO TRUMP BIDDING II

LAST month I dealt with the opening bid of 1NT and responses thereto. Now it may happen, if you are a lucky card holder, that you hold a hand of no trump pattern but with a point count of more than 18. What are you to do? Well, hands counting 19 or 20 points belong to a twilight zone—they are too good for 1NT and not good enough for 2NT. Such hands must be opened with one of a suit (this bid will be dealt with in a later article). Hands counting 21 or 22 may be opened with 2NT. For example:—

Spades, A, 10, 4; Hearts, K, Q, 9, 6; Diamonds, A, Q, J; Clubs, A, J, 8 (or A, Q, 8). Now if you remember last month's figures of 25/26, you will see that the partner may raise the opening 2NT to 3NT if he holds 4 or 5 points. Now we come to hands that have a count of 23 or 24. You will find that the best method of coping with such hands is to open with a conventional two clubs and over partner's two diamond response to rebid 2NT. This tells partner that you have a balanced 23 or 24. Partner may pass this 2NT rebid if his hand contains less than 3 points and has no distributional features.

Remember this is the *only* bidding sequence that may be passed under game after an opening 2C bid.

Balance hands of 25 and 26 points should be opened with two clubs and over partner's two diamonds rebid to 3NT.

One of the things the beginner has to realize is that 4 to 5 points is enough to raise 2NT to 3NT, and that 3 or 4 is enough to raise to 3NT after the sequence 2C—2D—2NT. So many players who can see only their own cards, make a moronic pass with such holdings and say, "I couldn't give you another. I had such a poor hand."

So far I have dealt with game bids. But sometimes both partners may have a few tickets and the slam zone is reached. Bidding no trump slams when both partners have balanced hands is easy, merely a matter of simple arithmetic. The magic figure for the combined point count is 33 for a small slam and 37 for the grand. It follows from this that if you hold 17 points and hear your partner bid 1NT, you bid 6NT. If you hold 21 points opposite a 1NT you bid 7NT and make room in your purse. As a corollary, if your points and a maximum in your partner's hand cannot produce a slam forget it. For example, with as many as 14 points opposite a 1NT just bid 3NT. 14+18=32 and that is not enough unless things are lucky.

[Copyright.]

BRIDGE COMPETITION

The Editor has awarded the following two prizes: E. P. C. COTTER in respect of Question 2 and L. KIRK-GREENE in respect of Question 3. No correct answer was received in answer to Question 1 and a further competition question will subsequently appear to determine the winner of this prize.

INTER-COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

THE HURLINGHAM CLUB

May 24th

It reflects great credit on all those who contributed to this—the 40th Inter-County Championship Meeting—that there were twice as many teams competing as last year. The Hurlingham Club, therefore, presented a lively, and, when the sun shone as it did on several days, a gay scene.

It was a notable achievement on the part of the Hants and Dorset team again to finish second, as last year. This time they won the same number of matches as Surrey, namely five, and only failed to win the Championship through winning 12 games instead of 14. This team from the south: Mrs. L. H. Ashton, Mrs. E. Rotherham, Mrs. V. C. Gasson, V. A. de la Nougere, Major J. H. Dibley and Commander G. V. G. Beamish, are to be congratulated on their success.

Surrey got away from Middlesex, both in matches and games, and deserve their place as Champion County for the thirteenth time. Middlesex finished third as last year, winning the same number of matches, namely four, as Bedford, and Sussex.

The quality of the play was, on the whole, not of a high standard. The 3½ hours limit was often employed to the full, and games won by the points when time was called.

We only heard of three double peels—though we saw a triple begun, but short-lived because of a yard roquet missed when the orthodox peel through 4-back had been made after making the third hoop.

The Event had a fitting commencement, J. W. Solomon, on Monday, making an all-round break from hitting the tice.

From the spectators' point of view a pegged out game can be interesting. Col. C. C. Adams was the victim of Cotter's attack, and M. B. Reckitt—only for the penultimate—was the sole survivor. G. C. Reid Walker, when this position had occurred, was for the third hoop; and though Reckitt had many chances—mostly remote—to obtain the innings, Reid Walker played good croquet and Middlesex beat Surrey, +3.

Surrey's other pair, Major J. W. Cobb and Mrs. G. J. Turketine took their revenge on Capt. H. G. Stoker and Miss D. Lintern, the Middlesex couple. Cobb in trying to get to the two opponents' balls and peg out his partner, at the same time went off the boundary. Miss Lintern for the rover hoop—her partner for the peg—found the rover hoop unwilling to let her through and finish the game. Instead Cobb shot in and Surrey won, +3.

The game, Bedford v. Oxon, Berks and Bucks was one of the several won on time by—in this instance—Bedford. It was a good win, for it looked very likely at one time to be going the other way.

Hants and Dorset, in the seventh round, were opposed to Middlesex, Mrs. Rotherham and Mrs. Ashton v. E. P. C. Cotter and Miss Lintern. Cotter soon played a quick and attractive break to 4-back; there followed a missed long shot. Though Miss Lintern let Mrs. Ashton in by failing at the second hoop, no progress was made for Hants and Dorset because the third hoop barred it. Mrs. Rotherham later brightened up the game with a good break to 4-back. Mrs. Ashton stuck at 2-back; but, let off by Cotter, went to the peg. The shot was missed, and Mrs. Rotherham went out, giving Hants and Dorset the game, +10.

The ninth round provided plenty of entertainment when Surrey opposed Gloucester. Surrey's pair were Reckitt and Solomon, their opponents, F. H. Fisher and Mrs. B. H. Wiggins. Fisher got to 2-back but had to stop and provide against Variation B. Then Solomon, for the fourth hoop, had little material from which to make it—one opponent's ball in the 4th corner the other on the East boundary about half-way. He got a wonderful break out of this, the corner ball going to the 5th hoop and the approach—which was a perfect one—from the boundary ball to the 4th hoop. Alas! the hoop remained unmade.

An example of the reaction that has not been overcome, caused by such an unexpected success. A pause for recovery on such occasions is to be recommended. However, the same player won the game for Surrey in the end. Gloucester could—and should—have won; they were both

rovers, but could not make contact with the peg. There were chances to do so—indeed there was one occasion when Reckitt's rover ball might have been pegged out, and then one of the Gloucester pair. All was at last laid for the simple rush to the peg by Gloucester; Solomon, near the fourth corner, elected to shoot at his partner's ball two or three yards behind the 4-back hoop—almost the longest shot on the ground. He hit it full in the face and went out from 4-back to win, +2.

Mrs. L. E. G. Nickisson was again responsible for the duties of manager, and carried them out with her usual efficiency and courtesy.

SCORES IN MATCHES AND GAMES

Surrey won 5 matches; namely, against Bedford, Eastern Counties, Gloucester and Warwick, Hants and Dorset, Middlesex; and lost 2 matches: against Oxon Berks and Bucks, and Sussex.

Hants and Dorset won 5 matches; namely, against Bedford, Eastern Counties, Gloucester and Warwick, Middlesex, Sussex; and lost 2 matches: against Bedford, and Sussex.

Bedford won 4 matches; namely, against Eastern Counties, Hants and Dorset, Middlesex, Oxon Berks and Bucks; and lost 3 matches: against Gloucester and Warwick, Surrey, and Sussex.

Middlesex won 4 matches; namely, against Eastern Counties, Gloucester and Warwick, Oxon Berks and Bucks, Sussex; and lost 3 matches: against Bedford, Hants and Dorset, and Surrey.

Sussex won 4 matches; namely, against Bedford, Eastern Counties, Gloucester and Warwick, Surrey; and lost 3 matches: against Hants and Dorset, Middlesex, and Oxon Berks and Bucks.

Oxon Berks and Bucks won 3 matches; namely, against Eastern Counties, Gloucester and Warwick, Surrey; and lost 4 matches: against Bedford, Eastern Counties, Gloucester and Warwick, and Middlesex.

Gloucester and Warwick won 2 matches; namely, against Bedford, Oxon Berks and Bucks; and lost 5 matches: against Eastern Counties, Hants and Dorset, Middlesex, Surrey, and Sussex.

Eastern Counties won 1 match; namely, against Gloucester and Warwick; and lost 6 matches against Bedford, Hants and Dorset, Middlesex, Oxon Berks and Bucks, Surrey, and Sussex.

The games were as follows:

	A	B	C	Games
	Pair	Pair	Pair	
Surrey	5	4	5	14
Hants and Dorset	4	3	5	12
Bedford	4	5	4	13
Middlesex	5	4	3	12
Sussex	4	4	4	12
Oxon Berks and Bucks	3	4	2	9
Gloucester & Warwick	2	3	3	8
Eastern Counties ...	1	1	2	4

THE GOLD CASKETS MEETING

May 31st—June 5th

The entry for this old established competition was one of quality rather than quantity; yet there were names missing from that of the Men—notably W. Longman, last year's runner-up, Col. C. C. Adams, Col. J. G. Clarke, and J. G. Warwick. The Women's Championship was slightly better as regards entries, than last year, and it was good to see Mrs. A. Ross, and Mrs. L. H. Ashton among them.

Whether it was Buchan's cold spell that reigned for most of the week we have not been able to confirm, but the delightful change to warm sunshine towards the latter part was most gratefully received.

THE MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP

E. P. C. Cotter, winner in 1952, did a triple peel in his first match in the first round against G. W. Solomon, and then met Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins in the next round. The Rev. G. F. H. Elvey was Wiggins' opponent in the

Thirteen

first round, and had one clip, Yellow, on 4-back; he elected to shoot into the third corner from near the first corner—instead, he ran the 4-back hoop!

The match, Cotter *v.* Wiggins, was remarkable. Cotter won the first game, +26, and he finished it with a double peel. However, in the second game, Cotter was not allowed to take part until Wiggins was almost out—in fact, this game showed so very clearly how true it is that a game of croquet is never won till both balls have hit the peg. Wiggins played an accurate break to 4-back, and he continued to do the same with the other ball; towards the end, before making the penultimate, a most unusual thing happened—he rushed one ball on to another and the two remained in contact. But he managed to overcome this very rare misfortune. Cotter missed the lift shot; not at once did Wiggins arrive at the peg with both rovers, and when he did, in rolling them up to the peg—which he had to do—the forward ball stymied him from pegging out the mallet-ball. Later Wiggins went out with one ball, and then Cotter played; he made a very accurate 3-ball break to the peg from the second hoop, in fact, to adapt the phrase, it was—"according to Cotter." The single rover of his opponent had been left about 15 yards from the peg; Wiggins shot at it, missed it, but hit the 6th hoop leaving that ball in the court. Cotter, from the second corner, and for the second hoop, went out with another wonderful 3-ball break. The two scores, +26, and +1, are not often found together in such contrast.

Our very welcome visitor, A. Ross, had a comfortable win over E. V. Carpmael, and then encountered Dr. H. J. Penny; Ross won the first game, playing in that attractive style—the exemplary swing of his mallet in itself an object lesson. Penny was the winner in the next two very close games. M. Spencer Ell, that wonderful player—now down to scratch—took the first game from M. B. Reckitt; but the other two were not his, and Reckitt was a semi-finalist. Penny was the other, and he did not allow Reckitt to reach the final round without strong opposition; the second game, as the score shows, nearly made a third necessary, but Reckitt was the finalist.

As last year, Cotter met J. W. Solomon in the semi-final—but with a different result. It was a most attractive match for the spectators—play of a high standard—and in warm sunshine. Solomon at once went round with a cleverly developed break—from the fourth ball—to 4-back and peeled his partner through the first hoop. The lift shot missed. Solomon with a clever split shot ought to have started a 3-ball break from second hoop—but the rush went wrong. Soon he was himself again and put his clip on the peg. Cotter missed the long shot, and Solomon with two rovers, pass-rolled to an enemy ball, putting one out; the other then followed its partner to the peg.

But Solomon, we shall see, was not going to be allowed to repeat his victory in this event of last year. Solomon, started well in this second game to make "bricks without straw." But, having overcome difficulties, he let Cotter in at the third hoop—an expensive lapse, for Cotter went to 4-back. Solomon hit with the lift shot and from little material also put his clip on 4-back. Cotter, however, was in again, going for the triple peel; he had done two of the peels when, from a collapse by 2-back, Solomon got in—but only made one hoop. This let his opponent in again and he made both balls rovers; he put out one at a time, the intervening shot proving unable to prevent it.

The third game was full of incident and interchange of innings. Solomon made an all-round break and was allowed to start another—in the course of which he peeled his ball through 4-back. Then he failed at the 5th hoop. Cotter by exceptional play reached 4-back; but, permitted to start his second break, he failed at the fourth hoop. Solomon was then in, and peeled his partner ball through the penultimate; unfortunately after 1-back, he missed a short roquet, from which his opponent profited greatly—going out with a double peel.

Not for the first time had Cotter and Reckitt met in the final of the Gold Caskets, the previous occasion was 1952. After a hoop or two by Cotter, Reckitt shot in; and because the long shot of about 13 yards resulted in a rush to the first hoop—*mirabile dictu*—and progress was simple thereafter, he put his clip on 4-back, Cotter missed the lift shot by the proverbial hair's breadth, and Reckitt went to the peg. Both these breaks were played with great accuracy—and yet, though there was every opportunity to finish the game, the penultimate retained its

clip. Soon Cotter was in and put his clip on 4-back; the lift shot missed, and a very accurate second break to the peg—peeling the partner ball through 4-back en route—followed. Reckitt missed the shot, but it looked as if Cotter would not go out from the penultimate to finish, for a bad rush meant a long take off from behind that hoop; yet he made the hoop—only just through—so that the roquet after this might well have been missed. It was hit, and Cotter won a very uphill game, +4.

The second, and—as it turned out—the deciding game, was played in heavy rain and to the accompaniment of thunder. Cotter made a good break to 4-back; then there were mistakes from both players, indeed the game finally suggested a third game would be necessary. Cotter prevented this, and won the Gold trophy for the second time. Seldom have there been two such closely fought games in this long-established Event, as the scores, +4 and +7, suggest.

THE WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP

Of the eleven women who had entered to play their part in the Gold Caskets there were two who did not play last year—of course, Mrs. A. Ross, and Mrs. L. H. Ashton, while Mrs. Turketine was an absentee. Mrs. E. Rotherham, the holder, defeated Mrs. B. H. Wiggins in the first round, and though only two games sufficed the first was won by the narrow margin, +4. Miss E. F. Rose did well to take the first of the three games against Mrs. Ashton, and to continue strong opposition in the third. Miss D. A. Lintern *v.* Mrs. E. Reeve, though resulting in a two-game victory for Miss Lintern was remarkable for the closely-contested second game. Perhaps the most interesting two-game match was that put up by Mrs. N. Oddie against Miss Lintern in the next round, the scores—+9 +4 suggesting the close finishes. Mrs. Oddie pegged out Miss Lintern's rover from 15 yards—but her opponent shot in and went out from the penultimate.

Mrs. Rotherham against Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey in the semi-final was a protracted struggle. Mrs. Elvey, though having only the rover hoop to make and finish, could not run it—though many attempts were made.

Mrs. Ross had to yield to Miss Lintern in the other semi-final, her opponent playing one of her best matches, as the scores of the two games suggest.

So, the final was contested between Miss Lintern and Mrs. Rotherham. It was not a final of quality; Mrs. Rotherham was the first to reach 4-back with a fine break—the second break ended at the second hoop, and a lull set in, until Miss Lintern's clip, joined that of her opponent on 4-back. There was some interval before she made progress to the peg, and, Mrs. Rotherham having missed the lift shot, Miss Lintern won +16. The second game was one of long duration, because, though one ball made good progress to 4-back—propelled by each player during her turn with accurate strokes—the partner ball of each player did not follow this laudable example for some time. Then it was that Miss Lintern went to the peg with a good break. Even so, when she was allowed to proceed in the direction of the peg with her other ball, she stuck in 4-back. Mrs. Rotherham, however, failed to stop her opponent from making both balls hit the peg and thus winning the match.

THE MIXED DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP

This Event brought together several formidable pairs—as the score sheets show; two of the pairs who reached the semi-final did not do so without meeting determined opposition; namely, the holders, Dr. Wiggins and Mrs. Rotherham, who narrowly escaped defeat from Cotter and Mrs. Turketine; and the Elveys who only just beat Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury and Mrs. R. C. J. Beaton.

This stern opposition between the mixed pairs continued in the semi-final itself, where Reckitt and Miss Lintern, who had very decisively proved their superiority in the previous round. Here, against the holders, though not by any means ignominiously beaten, they did not proceed to the final. The other semi-final gave both pairs plenty to do, but Solomon and his nonchalant—yet accurate—partner became the other pair to challenge the holders in the final.

The game opened with promise, but both Solomon and Mrs. Oddie were unable to make use of the chances they had. Wiggins, with little material for it, went to 4-back with a fine break, peeling his partner through the

first hoop en route; Mrs. Rotherham, though allowed to proceed, made no hoop; but soon after she not only made this second hoop but looked certain to go to the peg. She failed to make the third hoop. After missed roquets from both sides, Solomon profited by the last and was making points for his side—and peeling Wiggins through 4-back.

This triple in embryo did not mature, for another short roquet was missed by Solomon before 1-back. Mrs. Oddie now was seen in play with a quick and accurate 3-ball break, which took her from the second hoop to 2-back, but here she stuck. Solomon was in again but failed at 4-back, letting Wiggins in; little harm to Solomon's side resulted, and Mrs. Oddie was in again—but out through failing at 4-back. Mrs. Rotherham might have benefited from this mishap but she did so only to the extent of one hoop. Solomon shot in—a fine shot—and went to the peg; the shot from Mrs. Rotherham missed, and though Mrs. Oddie made 4-back she failed at the penultimate. Wiggins shot in and put Solomon's rover out; but Mrs. Oddie made her three points and thus she and her partner became the holders of the Mixed Doubles Championship.

THE "DU PRE" CUP

There was universal pleasure expressed when Ross won this Cup, adding another illustrious name to the twelve previous winners. Ross had shown his profound knowledge of the tactics, and given an exemplary display of the many fine strokes that make his game so attractive to watch.

The Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury was in charge of the Meeting and gave the same satisfaction to the competitors as he did on the other two occasions.

This Gold Caskets Meeting was held this year at Roehampton instead of Hurlingham; for many years this Event was played at various Clubs, but latterly Hurlingham has been its venue.

We have been asked by more than one competitor to express to the groundsmen their appreciation of the courts throughout the week—or to be more precise the very accurate setting of the hoops and marking of the boundaries. Most players found the lawns disappointingly heavy, but perhaps it is the wretched weather which is to blame for that.

THE MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP.

GOLD CASKET.

(13 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

M. Spencer Ell *w.o.* G. Williams opponent scratched.
A. Ross *bt* E. V. Carpmael +18 +21.
Dr. H. J. Penny *bt* Major J. W. Cobb +9 +3.
Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins *bt* Rev. G. F. H. Elvey +10 +26.
E. P. C. Cotter *bt* G. W. Solomon +26 +15.
The rest had byes.

SECOND ROUND.

M. B. Reckitt *bt* M. Spencer Ell —10 +26 +16.
Dr. H. J. Penny *bt* A. Ross —15 +11 +13.
E. P. C. Cotter *bt* Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins +26 +1.
J. W. Solomon *bt* G. V. Evans +24 +16.

SEMI-FINAL.

M. B. Reckitt *bt* Dr. H. J. Penny +15 +4.
E. P. C. Cotter *bt* J. W. Solomon —24 +14 +8.

FINAL.

E. P. C. Cotter *bt* M. B. Reckitt +4 +7.

THE WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP.

GOLD CASKET.

(11 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

Mrs. E. Rotherham *bt* Mrs. B. H. Wiggins +4 +16.
Mrs. L. H. Ashton *bt* Miss E. F. Rose —3 +23 +11.
Miss D. A. Lintern *bt* Mrs. E. Reeve +24 +9.
The rest had byes.

SECOND ROUND.

Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey *bt* Mrs. R. C. J. Beaton +11 +18.
Mrs. E. Rotherham *bt* Mrs. L. H. Ashton +12 +16.
Miss D. A. Lintern *bt* Mrs. N. Oddie +9 +4.
Mrs. A. Ross *bt* Mrs. M. B. Reckitt +15 +23.

SEMI-FINAL.

Mrs. E. Rotherham *bt* Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey +16 +3.
Miss D. A. Lintern *bt* Mrs. A. Ross +23 +26.

FINAL.

Miss D. A. Lintern *bt* Mrs. E. Rotherham +16 +13.

MIXED DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP.

(10 Pairs).

FIRST ROUND.

Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury and Mrs. R. C. J. Beaton *bt* Dr. H. J. Penny and Mrs. A. Ross by 23.
E. P. C. Cotter and Mrs. G. J. Turketine *bt* E. V. Carpmael and Mrs. E. Reeve by 15.
The rest had byes.

SECOND ROUND.

J. W. Solomon and Mrs. N. Oddie *bt* Col. J. G. Clarke and Mrs. B. H. Wiggins by 20.
Rev. G. F. H. Elvey and Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey *bt* Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury and Mrs. R. C. J. Beaton by 4.
Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins and Mrs. E. Rotherham *bt* E. P. C. Cotter and Mrs. G. J. Turketine by 9.
M. B. Reckitt and Miss D. A. Lintern *bt* A. Ross and Mrs. L. H. Ashton by 26.

SEMI-FINAL.

J. W. Solomon and Mrs. N. Oddie *bt* Rev. G. F. H. Elvey and Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey by 13.
Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins and Mrs. E. Rotherham *bt* M. B. Reckitt and Miss D. A. Lintern by 11.

FINAL.

J. W. Solomon and Mrs. N. Oddie *bt* Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins and Mrs. E. Rotherham by 9.

THE "DU PRE" CUP.

(13 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

Major J. W. Cobb *w.o.* Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins opponent scratched.
G. W. Solomon *bt* G. V. Evans by 3.
E. V. Carpmael *bt* Rev. G. F. H. Elvey by 6.
M. Spencer Ell *bt* Mrs. M. B. Reckitt by 16.
A. Ross *bt* Mrs. B. H. Wiggins by 19.
The rest had byes.

SECOND ROUND.

Major J. W. Cobb *bt* Mrs. L. H. Ashton by 25.
E. V. Carpmael *bt* G. W. Solomon by 6.
A. Ross *bt* M. Spencer Ell by 21.
Mrs. E. Reeve *bt* Miss E. F. Rose by 15.

SEMI-FINAL.

Major J. W. Cobb *bt* E. V. Carpmael by 9.
A. Ross *bt* Mrs. E. Reeve by 21.

FINAL.

A. Ross *bt* Major J. W. Cobb by 15.

HANDICAP SINGLES.

(8 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

Dr. H. J. Penny (—1½) *w.o.* Mrs. M. B. Reckitt (2½) opponent scratched.
Mrs. B. H. Wiggins (—2) *bt* Mrs. A. Ross (3) by 17.
Mrs. L. H. Ashton (—2) *bt* Mrs. E. Reeve (—2) by 14.
E. V. Carpmael (1) *bt* Mrs. G. W. Solomon (3) by 3.

SEMI-FINAL.

Dr. H. J. Penny (—1½) *bt* Mrs. B. H. Wiggins (—2) by 15.
E. V. Carpmael (1) *bt* Mrs. L. H. Ashton (—2) by 21.

FINAL.

Dr. H. J. Penny (—1½) *bt* E. V. Carpmael (1) by 7.

BRIGHTON

It has been whispered that Croquet in May is a cold, damp business and it must be admitted that the weather during this year's Brighton Tournament was only slightly warmer than it might have been—the one chilly aspect of an excellent week's play and good fellowship.

At Brighton one finds lawns that are well cared for, set in beautiful surroundings and well supplied with shelters; the local players spare no effort to make visitors welcome and the lunches and teas are the best ever; no wonder this year's entry was larger than ever.

As will be seen from the records below, the games were for the most part well contested, in the Open Singles Mrs. Oddie won her way to the final of both Draw and Process in her customary carefree fashion, there to go down to Messrs. Kirk-Greene and A. Ross who had fought out two hard matches in order to qualify, one in each life. In the final Kirk-Greene proved too steady for his opponent and again carried off the Abbey Challenge Cup.

The handicaps produced numbers of interesting games. Miss Steel achieved a notable feat in winning the "X" handicap from the low figure earned by her many triumphs in the past, her fame appearing to have a somewhat hypnotic effect on some at least of her opponents. It is worthy of note that the winning doubles pair completed every match in less than the time limit imposed upon the event.

Major Dibley carried out his task with such tact and success that it was possible to hold a presentation ceremony after tea on the Saturday afternoon, the trophies being presented by Mrs. A. Ross.

OPEN SINGLES.
("Two Life" System).

THE "ABBEY" CHALLENGE CUP.

THE DRAW.
(13 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

Mrs. W. Longman bt Mrs. M. Craven by 17.
Miss D. D. Steel bt T. Wood-Hill by 14.
Mrs. N. Oddie bt F. H. Fisher by 16.
L. Kirk-Greene bt N. Oddie by 19.
A. Ross bt Brig.-Gen. B. C. Fellows by 14.
The rest had byes.

SECOND ROUND.

H. T. Pinckney Simpson bt Mrs. W. Longman by 17.
Mrs. N. Oddie bt Miss D. D. Steel by 19.
A. Ross bt L. Kirk-Greene by 13.
Miss M. J. Daldy bt W. Longman by 17.

SEMI-FINAL.

Mrs. N. Oddie bt H. T. Pinckney Simpson by 17.
A. Ross bt Miss M. J. Daldy by 20.

FINAL.

A. Ross bt Mrs. N. Oddie by 11.

PROCESS.
(13 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

F. H. Fisher bt Miss M. J. Daldy by 17.
A. Ross bt Mrs. W. Longman by 15.
L. Kirk-Greene bt H. T. Pinckney Simpson by 18.
W. Longman bt N. Oddie by 15.
Brig.-Gen. B. C. Fellows bt Mrs. M. Craven by 8.
The rest had byes.

SECOND ROUND.

A. Ross bt F. H. Fisher by 16.
L. Kirk-Greene bt Miss D. D. Steel by 25.
W. Longman bt T. Wood-Hill by 18.
Mrs. N. Oddie bt Brig.-Gen. B. C. Fellows by 8.

SEMI-FINAL.

L. Kirk-Greene bt A. Ross by 5.
Mrs. N. Oddie bt W. Longman by 21.

FINAL.

L. Kirk-Greene w.o. opponent scratched.

HANDICAP SINGLES.

(29 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

Mrs. H. D. Wooster (8½) bt Mrs. A. J. Robards (2½) by 12.
Mrs. H. F. Chittenden (3½) bt Miss D. Latham (9) by 12.
Miss M. M. L. Morgan (11) bt Mrs. E. A. Roper (8) by 22.
F. H. Fisher (-1½) bt Mrs. Lord (6½) by 11.
A. Ross (-4) bt W. Longman (-3) by 10.
Mrs. A. Ross (4) bt Miss G. Forbes-Cowan (6) by 11.
S. F. Sopwith (1½) bt Mrs. M. Craven (1) by 24.
Miss H. D. Parker (5½) bt Mrs. C. B. Cumberlege (2½) by 12.

F. W. Snow (7½) bt Mrs. P. E. Heley (5) by 15.
Brig.-Gen. B. C. Fellows (-1) bt G. E. W. Hitchcock (3) by 9.

Mrs. J. H. Dibley (6) bt T. Wood-Hill (1½) by 6.
Mrs. W. Longman (-1) bt E. A. Roper (7) by 10.
H. T. Pinckney Simpson (-1) bt Sir Crawford Douglas-Jones (6) by 17.
The rest had byes.

SECOND ROUND.

Mrs. H. D. Wooster (8½) bt Mrs. C. A. Bishop (8) by 12.
Mrs. H. F. Chittenden (3½) bt Miss M. Morgan (11) by 4.
A. Ross (-4) bt F. H. Fisher (-1½) by 13.
Mrs. A. Ross (4) bt S. F. Sopwith (1½) by 5.
F. W. Snow (7½) bt Miss H. D. Parker (5½) by 6.

Brig.-Gen. B. C. Fellows (-1) bt Mrs. J. H. Dibley (6) by 8.
H. T. Pinckney Simpson (-1) bt Mrs. W. Longman (-1) by 13.

Mrs. F. Veale (6½) w.o. Mrs. H. Franc (4) opponent scratched.

THIRD ROUND.

Mrs. H. F. Chittenden (3½) bt Mrs. H. D. Wooster (8½) by 12.

Mrs. A. Ross (4) bt A. Ross (-4) by 14.
Brig.-Gen. B. C. Fellows (-1) bt F. W. Snow (7½) by 4.
H. T. Pinckney Simpson (-1) bt Mrs. F. Veale (6½) by 14.

SEMI-FINAL.

Mrs. A. Ross (4) bt Mrs. H. F. Chittenden (3½) by 6.
Brig.-Gen. B. C. Fellows (-1) bt H. T. Pinckney Simpson (-1) by 9.

FINAL.

Brig.-Gen. B. C. Fellows (-1) bt Mrs. A. Ross (4) by 9.

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

EVENT "X".

(38 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

Mrs. P. Heley (5) bt F. H. Fisher (-1½) by 2.
Brig.-Gen. B. C. Fellows (-1) bt Mrs. C. M. Turner (8) by 5.
N. Oddie (1) bt Miss P. Hartridge (10) by 20.
Sir Crawford Douglas-Jones (6) bt Mrs. N. Oddie (-2½) by 3.

L. Kirk-Greene (-1½) bt Mrs. E. A. Roper (8) by 13.
H. T. Pinckney Simpson (-1) w.o. Dr. F. Veale opponent scratched.
The rest had byes.

SECOND ROUND.

Miss M. Morgan (11) bt Miss E. M. Bray (7) by 18.
Mrs. M. Craven (1) bt S. F. Sopwith (1½) by 3.
F. W. Snow (7½) bt Mrs. C. A. Bishop (8) by 14.
Mrs. H. F. Chittenden (3½) bt G. E. W. Hitchcock (3) by 25.

D. Woodhams (9) bt Mrs. F. Veale (6½) by 11.
Miss M. J. Daldy (-1) bt Mrs. R. S. Lord (6½) by 18.
Mrs. P. E. Heley (5) w.o. Mrs. H. Franc (4) opponent scratched.

Brig.-Gen. B. C. Fellows (-1) bt N. Oddie (1) by 12.
L. Kirk-Greene (-1½) w.o. Sir Crawford Douglas-Jones opponent scratched.
Miss H. D. Parker (5½) bt H. P. Pinckney Simpson (-1) by 13.

E. A. Roper (7) bt Miss D. Latham (9) by 3.
Miss L. Tallmach (6) bt Mrs. A. J. Robards (2½) by 8.
Mrs. J. H. Dibley (6) bt J. A. Bland (9) by 21.
Mrs. C. B. Cumberlege (2½) bt Mrs. H. D. Wooster (8½) by 3.

T. Wood-Hill (1½) bt Miss G. Forbes-Cowan (6) by 9.
Miss D. D. Steel (-4) bt Mrs. A. Badcock (1½) by 11.

THIRD ROUND.

Mrs. M. Craven (1) bt Miss M. Morgan (11) by 7.
Mrs. H. F. Chittenden (3½) bt F. W. Snow (7½) by 18.
D. Woodhams (9) bt Miss M. J. Daldy (-1) by 14.
Mrs. P. E. Heley (5) bt Brig.-Gen. B. C. Fellows (-1) by 15.

L. Kirk-Greene (-1½) bt Miss H. D. Parker (5½) by 7.
E. A. Roper (7) bt Miss L. Tallmach (6) by 4.
Mrs. J. H. Dibley (6) bt Mrs. C. B. Cumberlege (2½) by 15.
Miss D. D. Steel (-4) bt T. Wood-Hill (1½) by 9.

FOURTH ROUND.

Mrs. H. F. Chittenden (3½) bt Mrs. M. Craven (1) by 22.
D. Woodhams (9) bt Mrs. P. E. Heley (5) by 20.
E. A. Roper (7) w.o. L. Kirk-Greene (-1½) opponent scratched.
Miss D. D. Steel (-4) bt Mrs. J. H. Dibley (6) by 13.

SEMI-FINAL.

D. Woodhams (9) bt Mrs. H. F. Chittenden (3½) by 3.
Miss D. D. Steel (-4) bt E. A. Roper (7) by 7.

FINAL.

Miss D. D. Steel (-4) bt D. Woodhams (9) by 2.

EVENT "Y".

(19 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

S. F. Sopwith (1½) bt Miss E. M. Bray (7) by 6.
Mrs. C. A. Bishop (8) w.o. G. E. W. Hitchcock retired.
Mrs. F. Veale (6½) bt Mrs. R. S. Lord (6½) by 7.
The rest had byes.

SECOND ROUND.

Mrs. C. M. Turner (8) bt F. H. Fisher (-1½) by 21.
Mrs. N. Oddie (-1½) bt Miss P. H. Hartridge (10) by 9.
Mrs. E. A. Roper (8) w.o. Dr. F. Veale (7) scratched.
S. F. Sopwith (1½) bt Mrs. C. A. Bishop (8) by 6.
Mrs. F. Veale (6½) w.o. Mrs. H. Franc (4) scratched.
Mrs. A. J. Robards (2½) bt Miss D. Latham (9) by 5.
J. A. Bland (9) bt Mrs. H. D. Wooster (8½) by 5.
Miss G. Forbes-Cowan (6) bt Mrs. A. Badcock (1½) by 14.

THIRD ROUND.

Mrs. N. Oddie (-2½) bt Mrs. C. M. Turner (8) by 11.
Mrs. E. A. Roper (8) bt S. F. Sopwith (1½) by 17.
Mrs. A. J. Robards (2½) bt Mrs. F. Veale (6½) by 3.
Miss G. Forbes-Cowan (6) bt J. A. Bland (9) by 5.

SEMI-FINAL.

Mrs. N. Oddie (-2½) bt Mrs. E. A. Roper (8) by 8.
Mrs. A. J. Robards (2½) bt Miss G. Forbes-Cowan (6) by 17.

FINAL.

Mrs. N. Oddie (-2½) bt Mrs. A. J. Robards (2½) by 5.

EVENT "Z".

(20 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

Miss P. Hartridge (10) bt Miss D. Latham (9) by 15.
F. W. Snow (7½) w.o. Dr. F. Veale scratched.
Mrs. A. Badcock (1½) bt E. M. Bray (7) by 1.
Miss M. J. Daldy (-1) bt Miss H. D. Parker (5½) by 4.
The rest had byes.

SECOND ROUND.

Mrs. H. D. Wooster (8½) bt G. E. W. Hitchcock (3) by 22.
Mrs. R. S. Lord (6½) bt N. Oddie (1) by 1 on time.
F. H. Fisher (-1½) w.o. Mrs. H. Franc (4) scratched.
F. W. Snow (7½) bt Miss P. Hartridge (10) by 11.
Miss M. J. Daldy (-1) w.o. Mrs. A. Badcock (1½) scratched.

T. Wood-Hill (1½) bt Miss L. Tallmach (6) by 15.
Sir Crawford Douglas-Jones (6) bt H. T. Pinckney Simpson (-1) by 15.
Miss M. Morgan (11) bt Mrs. C. B. Cumberlege (2½) by 7.

THIRD ROUND.

Mrs. H. D. Wooster (8½) bt Mrs. R. S. Lord (6½) by 12.
F. H. Fisher (-1½) w.o. F. W. Snow (7½) scratched.
Miss M. J. Daldy (-1) bt T. Wood-Hill (1½) by 16.
Sir Crawford Douglas-Jones (6) bt Miss M. Morgan (11) by 10.

SEMI-FINAL.

Mrs. H. D. Wooster (8½) bt F. H. Fisher (-1½) by 8.
Sir Crawford Douglas-Jones (6) bt Miss M. J. Daldy (-1) by 15.

FINAL.

Miss H. D. Wooster (8½) bt Sir Crawford Douglas-Jones (6) by 15.

HANDICAP DOUBLES.

(16 Pairs).

FIRST ROUND.

S. F. Sopwith and Miss M. J. Daldy (½) bt F. E. Corke and Mrs. E. A. Roper (12½) by 4 on time.
Mrs. H. F. Chittenden and Miss H. D. Parker (9) bt N. Oddie and Miss G. Forbes-Cowan (7) by 6 on time.
Mrs. N. Oddie and Mrs. P. E. Heley (2½) bt D. Woodhams and Mrs. C. M. Turner (17) by 1 on time.

F. W. Snow and Mrs. A. Ross (11½) bt Miss M. Morgan and Sir Crawford Douglas-Jones (17) by 15.
J. A. Bland and Miss D. D. Steel (5) bt Mrs. A. J. Robards and Mrs. C. B. Cumberlege (5) by 3 on time.
W. Longman and Mrs. W. Longman (-4) bt A. Ross and E. A. Roper (3) by 4.

Mrs. R. S. Lord and Mrs. A. Nichols (11) bt Mrs. H. D. Wooster and Mrs. F. Veale (15) by 10 on time.
L. Kirk-Greene and Major J. H. Dibley (0) bt Mrs. A. Badcock and Mrs. C. A. Bishop (9½) by 13.

SECOND ROUND.

S. F. Sopwith and Miss M. J. Daldy (½) bt Mrs. H. F. Chittenden and Miss H. D. Parker (9) by 11.
F. W. Snow and Mrs. A. Ross (11½) bt Mrs. N. Oddie and Mrs. P. E. Heley (2½) by 10.

J. A. Bland and Miss D. D. Steel (5) bt W. Longman and Mrs. W. Longman (-4) by 12.
L. Kirk-Greene and Major J. H. Dibley (0) bt Mrs. R. H. Lord and Mrs. A. Nichols (11) by 17.

SEMI-FINAL.

F. W. Snow and Mrs. A. Ross (11½) bt S. F. Sopwith and Miss M. J. Daldy (½) by 14.
L. Kirk-Greene and Major J. H. Dibley (0) bt J. A. Bland and Miss D. D. Steel (5) by 15.

FINAL.

F. W. Snow and Mrs. A. Ross (11½) bt L. Kirk-Greene and Major J. H. Dibley (0) by 11.

RYDE

JUNE 7th—JUNE 12th

At the end of the week, the writer has only one regret, namely, that, not until this year, has he played in the Ryde Tournament.

Six courts, of slightly above average standard, in peaceful surroundings and a beautiful setting, a charming Pavilion (newly done up), and a warm and friendly welcome from the club members, are what visitors find awaiting them.

The Tournament was managed by Major Dibley with great skill, courtesy, and, may it be added, firmness. Mr. V. A. de la Nougerede refereed admirably. The writer was agreeably impressed with the high standard that prevailed in regard to clean approach shots.

Mention must be made of Miss Walker's fine long shooting and Mrs. Blake's plucky play in the Doubles. Mr Farnsworth is a rapidly improving player. Miss Watson played most courageously and has a pleasing style. Mrs. Rand has a very sure touch and on a really fast court would prove a most formidable opponent. Mrs. Bostock, Mrs. Burrell and Miss Isaac are all players who should quickly be able to reduce their handicaps.

A special word of thanks is due to Mr. Compton, who besides taking on the secretarial duties of the tournament, rang the bell most vigorously each day at five minutes to one, and at four o'clock, whereupon mallets were at once downed, sometimes with almost indelicate haste.

Refreshments at Ryde are taken seriously. The lunches were of a very high order, and the teas can only be described as superlative.

Thank you, ladies of the Committee, for your truly noble achievements. Associates who have not yet played at Ryde have indeed a rare treat in store for them.

ISLE OF WIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP.

OPEN SINGLES.

THE CHALLENGE TROPHY.

(4 Entries).

SEMI-FINAL.

H. O. Hicks bt V. A. de la Nougerede +23 +24.
Major J. H. Dibley bt Miss M. K. Haslam +22 +12.

FINAL.

H. O. Hicks bt Major J. H. Dibley +24 +23.

LEVEL SINGLES (CLASS "B").

THE CHAPMAN CUP.

(3 to 6 Bishes).

(3 Entries).

SEMI-FINAL.

Miss E. Walker bt Miss L. Newman by 16.

FINAL (best of three games.)

Miss E. Walker bt Mrs. J. H. Dibley +6 +7.

HANDICAP SINGLES (CLASS "D").

THE HUTTON CUP.

(10 Bishes and over).

(7 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

Mrs. R. H. Burrell (13) bt Mrs. A. B. Ward (10) by 10.
Mrs. G. Ratsey (10) bt Mrs. R. W. Hutton (10) by 1.
Mrs. B. V. Harcourt (13) bt Miss L. Isaac (12) by 7.

SEMI-FINAL.

Mrs. R. H. Burrell (13) bt Mrs. G. Ratsey (10) by 4.
Mrs. O. E. Bostock (12) bt Mrs. B. V. Harcourt (13) by 2.

FINAL.

Mrs. O. E. Bostock (12) bt Mrs. R. H. Burrell (13) by 7.

HANDICAP SINGLES ("X.Y.")

THE DIBLEY CUP.

EVENT "X."

(18 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

Mrs. C. F. Rand (2½) bt Mrs. R. W. Hutton (10) by 20.

SECOND ROUND.

Mrs. O. E. Bostock (12) bt Mrs. A. B. Ward (10) by 10.
Mrs. C. R. Farnsworth (7) bt Mrs. R. W. Burrell (13) by 10.

Mrs. J. H. Dibley (6) bt Miss L. Isaac (12) by 5.
V. A. de la Nougerede (½) bt Mrs. C. F. Rand (2½) by 8.
Miss L. Newman (5½) bt Mrs. G. Ratsey (10) by 15.
Miss E. Walker (3½) bt H. O. Hicks (—5½) by 11.
Miss E. M. Watson (6½) bt Mrs. B. V. Harcourt (13) by 8.
Miss M. K. Haslam (1½) bt Mrs. J. C. Blake (6) by 9.

THIRD ROUND.

Mrs. C. R. Farnsworth (7) bt Mrs. O. E. Bostock (12) by 12.

V. A. de la Nougerede (½) bt Mrs. J. H. Dibley (6) by 15.
Miss L. Newman (5½) bt Miss E. Walker (3½) by 21.
Miss E. Watson (6½) bt Miss M. K. Haslam (1½) by 20.

SEMI-FINAL.

V. A. de la Nougerede (½) bt Mrs. C. R. Farnsworth (7) by 3.

Miss E. M. Watson (6½) bt Miss L. Newman (5½) by 5.

FINAL.

V. A. de la Nougerede (½) bt Miss E. M. Watson (6½) by 5.

EVENT "Y."

(8 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

Mrs. A. B. Ward (10) bt Mrs. R. W. Hutton (10) by 8.
Mrs. R. H. Burrell (13) bt Miss L. Isaac (12) by 8.
H. O. Hicks (—5½) bt Mrs. G. Ratsey (10) by 11.
Mrs. B. V. Harcourt (13) bt Mrs. J. Cowper Blake (6) by 16.

SEMI-FINAL.

Mrs. R. H. Burrell (13) bt Mrs. A. B. Ward (10) by 9.
H. O. Hicks (—5½) bt Mrs. B. V. Harcourt (13) by 20.

FINAL.

H. O. Hicks (—5½) bt Mrs. R. H. Burrell (13) by 10.

HANDICAP DOUBLES.

(Unrestricted).
(9 Pairs).

FIRST ROUND.

H. O. Hicks and Mrs. O. E. Bostock (6½) bt Mrs. C. F. Rand and Miss E. Watson (9) by 3.

SECOND ROUND.

Major J. H. Dibley and Miss L. Isaac (13½) bt Miss L. Newman and Mrs. R. W. Hutton (15½) by 13.
H. O. Hicks and Mrs. O. E. Bostock (6½) bt Miss E. Walker and Mrs. G. Ratsey (13½) by 9.
Mrs. J. Cowper Blake and Mrs. J. H. Dibley (12) bt Mrs. C. R. Farnsworth and Mrs. A. B. Ward (17) by 12 (on time).

V. A. de la Nougerede and Mrs. R. H. Burrell (12½) bt Miss M. K. Haslam and Mrs. B. V. Harcourt (13½) by 1 (on time).

SEMI-FINAL.

H. O. Hicks and Mrs. O. E. Bostock (6½) bt Major J. H. Dibley and Miss L. Isaac (13½) by 13.

Mrs. J. Cowper Blake and Mrs. J. H. Dibley (12) bt V. A. de la Nougerede and Mrs. R. H. Burrell (12½) by 1 (on time).

FINAL.

H. O. Hicks and Mrs. O. E. Bostock (6½) bt Mrs. J. Cowper Blake and Mrs. J. H. Dibley (12) by 13.

EXTRA EVENT.

HANDICAP SINGLES.

(10 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

Mrs. F. R. Farnsworth (7) bt Mrs. R. W. Hutton (10) by 16.
Mrs. G. Ratsey (10) bt Mrs. B. V. Harcourt (13) by 3.

SECOND ROUND.

Mrs. A. B. Ward (10) bt Miss L. Isaac (12) by 11.
Mrs. F. R. Farnsworth (7) w.o. Mrs. R. H. Burrell (13) opponent scratched.
Miss M. K. Haslam (1½) bt Mrs. G. Ratsey (10) by 10.
V. A. de la Nougerede (½) bt Major J. H. Dibley (1½) by 1.

Eighteen

SEMI-FINAL.

Mrs. F. R. Farnsworth (7) bt Mrs. A. B. Ward (10) by 11.
V. A. de la Nougerede (½) bt Miss M. K. Haslam (1½) by 8.

FINAL.

V. A. de la Nougerede (½) bt Mrs. F. R. Farnsworth (7) by 7.

WOKING

Many people would have despaired of the possibility of playing this tournament had they seen the pools of water lying on the lawns on the previous Saturday and Sunday reminiscent of the wretched conditions of play here fourteen months ago. However, the weather was fine even if the sky was a bit overcast throughout the week. Thanks to Groundsman Pearson's activities with roller and motor-mower, the lawns were in the excellent state of which he and we are so justly proud. Visitors said that they are as good as any in England. The tournament as a whole once again owes a deep debt of gratitude to Mrs. E. Turner for her clear-headed and sympathetic management. Much of the smooth running is due to her tact and unobtrusive watchfulness. Major Cobb was her active and helpful assistant even in the matter of carrying cups of morning coffee to faint and weary players. Mrs. Turner has kindly presented two delightful silver cups for the Handicap Doubles. Major G. F. Stone and Brigadier Omond were the first to share the honour of winning these new trophies after a good game against Messrs. Maurice Reckitt and Victor Evans.

It is a pity, perhaps, there there was not a bigger entry. It was hoped that despite the rival attractions of Ascot, a June meeting would draw a larger field. Woking is very accessible. There are so many trains, both up and down to London from the south and west that a timetable is hardly necessary. There is also a half-hourly bus service to and from the station to a point within easy walking distance of the Club. However, what was lacking in numbers was made good by the presence of welcome visitors including Mr. and Mrs. R. G. H. Belcher, Miss Elphinstone-Stone, Major C. T. Carfrae, Mrs. E. Reeve, Major G. F. Stone, Miss M. Morgan, Mr. E. V. Carpmael, and Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Roper with their caravan.

Pressure by the Editorial staff of *Croquet* makes it impossible to send anything but this brief account as it has to be in their hands by June 21st. Nevertheless reference must be made to one or two happenings. There is a Biblical saying to the effect that husbands should discipline their wives. In the Final of Y, Mrs. Roper whose play gets consistently steadier and better, reversed this advice and "disciplined" her husband to the tune of 26 points within an hour. This is surely a record. And is not this another—a player's mallet striking a watching referee? This did happen, contact being made by the shaft of a mallet with the victim's chin. Fortunately no damage resulted.

Brigadier Omond played steadily winning the Doubles and X. No doubt his handicap will be reduced.

Well, the weather, the play, the lawns and the teas, were all excellent, and we in the Woking Club look forward to an even better and larger tournament next year.

OPEN SINGLES.

THE DRAW.

(12 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

Mrs. L. C. Apps bt Miss L. Elphinstone Stone by 12.
Mrs. E. Reeve bt E. V. Carpmael by 5.
G. Victor Evans bt M. B. Reckitt by 3.
Major G. F. Stone bt Major J. W. Cobb by 21.

SECOND ROUND.

A. McClure Williams bt Mrs. C. Waydelin by 4.
Mrs. L. C. Apps bt Mrs. E. Reeve by 9.
Major G. F. Stone bt G. Victor Evans by 9.
T. F. Dalton bt Mrs. M. B. Reckitt by 7.

SEMI-FINAL.

A. McClure Williams bt Mrs. L. C. Apps by 1.
Major G. F. Stone bt T. F. Dalton by 18.

FINAL.

Major G. F. Stone bt A. McClure Williams by 9.

PLAY OFF.

G. Victor Evans bt A. McClure Williams by 16.

PROCESS.

(12 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

T. F. Dalton bt Miss L. Elphinstone Stone by 7.
Major G. F. Stone bt A. McClure Williams by 18.
G. Victor Evans bt Mrs. M. B. Reckitt by 20.
Major J. W. Cobb bt Mrs. C. Waydelin by 15.

SECOND ROUND.

M. B. Reckitt bt T. F. Dalton by 17.
Major G. F. Stone bt E. V. Carpmael by 11.
G. Victor Evans bt Mrs. L. C. Apps by 24.
Major J. W. Cobb bt Mrs. E. Reeve by 4.

SEMI-FINAL.

Major G. F. Stone bt M. B. Reckitt by 9.
G. Victor Evans bt Major J. W. Cobb by 12.

FINAL.

Major G. F. Stone bt G. Victor Evans by 9.

HANDICAP SINGLES.

(2 Bishes and over).

(16 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

Miss M. M. L. Morgan (11) bt R. Whitham (9) by 7.
Mrs. D. A. Gunnell (10) bt Mrs. R. Whitham (10) by 6.
R. G. H. Belcher (2½) bt Mrs. J. S. Omond (12) by 2.
Major C. T. Carfrae (7) bt Mrs. MacArthur (3) by 15.
Lord Charles Hope (14) bt Mrs. R. G. H. Belcher (9) by 15.
Brig. J. S. Omond (10) bt Mrs. C. A. Bishop (8) by 2.
Mrs. E. A. Roper (8) bt Miss J. Birch (4½) by 17.
Capt. K. B. Millar (8) bt E. A. Roper (7) by 8.

SECOND ROUND.

Mrs. D. A. Gunnell (10) bt Miss M. M. L. Morgan (11) by 2 on time.
Major C. T. Carfrae (7) bt R. G. H. Belcher (2½) by 2.
Brig. J. S. Omond (10) w.o. Lord Charles Hope (14) opponent scratched.
Mrs. E. A. Roper (8) bt Capt. K. B. Millar (8) by 9.

SEMI-FINAL.

Mrs. D. A. Gunnell (10) bt Major C. T. Carfrae (7) by 13.
Brig. J. S. Omond (10) bt Mrs. E. A. Roper (8) by 3.

FINAL.

Mrs. D. A. Gunnell (10) w.o. Brig. J. S. Omond (10) opponent scratched.

HANDICAP SINGLES ("X.Y.")

(25 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

E. V. Carpmael (1) bt Mrs. E. A. Roper (8) by 7.
Mrs. J. S. Omond (12) bt Mrs. D. A. Gunnell (10) by 9.
R. G. H. Belcher (2½) bt Mrs. C. A. Bishop (8) by 2.
Major C. T. Carfrae (7) bt Miss M. Morgan (11) by 17.
Mrs. R. Whitham (10) bt Miss L. Elphinstone Stone (3½) by 2 on time.
Lord Charles Hope (14) bt E. A. Roper (7) by 2.
Mrs. R. G. H. Belcher (9) bt A. McClure Williams (2) opponent retired.
R. Whitham (9) bt Mrs. M. B. Reckitt (2½) by 25.
Mrs. E. Reeve (—2) bt T. F. Dalton (2) by 6.

SECOND ROUND.

G. Victor Evans (½) w.o. Major G. F. Stone (—3½) opponent scratched.
E. V. Carpmael (1) bt M. B. Reckitt (—3) by 17.
R. G. H. Belcher (2½) bt Mrs. J. S. Omond (12) by 10.
Major C. T. Carfrae (7) bt Mrs. R. Whitham (10) by 21.
Mrs. R. G. H. Belcher (9) bt Lord Charles Hope (14) by 6.
R. Whitham (9) bt Mrs. E. Reeve (—2) by 14.
Brig. J. S. Omond (10) bt Capt. K. B. Millar (8) by 7.
Mrs. M. F. MacArthur (3) bt Mrs. H. T. Farris (6½) by 8.

THIRD ROUND.

E. V. Carpmael (1) bt G. Victor Evans (½) by 24.
Major C. T. Carfrae (7) bt R. G. H. Belcher (2½) by 23.
R. Whitham (9) bt Mrs. R. G. H. Belcher (9) by 17.
Brig. J. S. Omond (10) bt Mrs. M. F. MacArthur (3) by 12.

SEMI-FINAL.

E. V. Carpmael (1) w.o. Major C. T. Carfrae (7) opponent scratched.
Brig. J. S. Omond (10) bt R. Whitham (9) by 17.

FINAL.

Brig. J. S. Omond (10) bt E. V. Carpmael (1) by 25.

EVENT "Y."

(13 Entries).

FIRST ROUND.

Mrs. E. A. Roper (8) bt M. B. Reckitt (—3) by 12.
Mrs. D. A. Gunnell (10) bt Mrs. C. A. Bishop (8) by 6.
Miss M. M. L. Morgan (11) bt Miss L. Elphinstone Stone (3½) by 12.
E. A. Roper (7) bt A. McClure Williams (2) by 12.
T. F. Dalton (2) w.o. Mrs. M. B. Reckitt (2½) opponent scratched.

SECOND ROUND.

Mrs. E. A. Roper (8) w.o. Major G. F. Stone (—3½) opponent scratched.
Mrs. D. A. Gunnell (10) w.o. Miss M. M. L. Morgan (11) opponent scratched.
E. A. Roper (7) bt T. F. Dalton (2) by 25.
Capt. K. B. Millar (8) bt Mrs. H. T. Farris (6½) by 10.

SEMI-FINAL.

Mrs. E. A. Roper (8) bt Mrs. D. A. Gunnell (10) by 15.
E. A. Roper (7) bt Capt. K. B. Millar (8) by 17.

FINAL.

Mrs. E. A. Roper (8) bt E. A. Roper (7) by 26.

HANDICAP DOUBLES.

(11 Pairs).

FIRST ROUND.

Major G. F. Stone and Brig. J. S. Omond (6½) bt Miss M. M. L. Morgan and Lord Charles Hope (23) by 8.
E. V. Carpmael and Capt. K. B. Millar (9) bt Mrs. E. Reeve and Mrs. J. S. Omond (10) by 7.
M. B. Reckitt and E. Victor Evans (—2½) bt Mrs. C. A. Bishop and Miss L. Elphinstone Stone (11½) by 15.

SECOND ROUND.

Mrs. E. A. Roper and E. A. Roper (15) bt Mrs. R. Whitham and Mrs. R. G. H. Belcher (19) by 8.
Major G. F. Stone and Brig. J. S. Omond (6½) bt E. V. Carpmael and Capt. K. B. Millar (9) by 12.
M. B. Reckitt and G. Victor Evans (—2½) bt Major J. W. Cobb and R. Whitham (8½) by 7.
Mrs. L. C. Apps and Major C. T. Carfrae (5½) bt T. F. Dalton and A. McClure Williams (4) by 5.

SEMI-FINAL.

Major G. F. Stone and Brig. J. S. Omond (6½) bt E. A. Roper and Mrs. E. A. Roper (15) by 6.
M. B. Reckitt and G. Victor Evans (—2½) bt Mrs. L. C. Apps and Major C. T. Carfrae (5½) by 5.

FINAL.

Major G. F. Stone and Brig. J. S. Omond (6½) bt M. B. Reckitt and G. Victor Evans (—2½) by 12.

CLUB TEAM CUP

BEDFORD *versus* WOKING

Played at Hurlingham on June 21st, 1954. Bedford players named first.

SINGLES.

Mrs. K. Eakin (7) bt Brig. J. S. Omond (8) by 4.
Canon A. J. W. Pym (½) bt T. F. Dalton (3) by 6.
Miss E. Steel (1) lost to Capt. K. B. Millar (8) by 18.

DOUBLES.

Miss E. Steel and Mrs. K. Eakin (8) bt Brig. J. S. Omond and Mrs. M. F. MacArthur (11) by 21.
Canon A. J. W. Pym and Miss D. N. Towle (6½) bt T. F. Dalton and Capt. K. B. Millar (11) by 6.

RESULT.—Bedford bt Woking by 4 games to 1.

HURLINGHAM *versus* RYDE

Played at Woking on 5th June, 1954. Hurlingham players named first.

SINGLES.

D. E. Buckland (3½) bt Major J. H. Dibley (1½) by 3.
I. W. Cheavin (3½) bt Miss E. Walker (3½) by 4.
T. E. Miles (3½) lost to Mrs. J. H. Dibley (6) by 5.

DOUBLES.

D. E. Buckland and T. E. Miles (7) lost to Major J. H. Dibley and Miss G. Ratsey (10) by 9.
I. W. Cheavin and I. C. Baillieu (9) bt Miss E. Walker and Mrs. J. H. Dibley (9) by 13.

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

Nineteen

THE "LADIES' FIELD" CUP

Presented to the C.A. by "The Ladies' Field."

Holder—Miss D. A. Lintern.

For the 8 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 Hurlingham Club) on

MONDAY, JULY 26th, 1954
AND FOLLOWING DAYS.

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the Croquet Association.

Manager, Referee and Handicapper.—Mrs. B. H. Wiggins.

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

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

CONDITIONS.

Hoops 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches 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 commenced.

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.

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

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 10.30 a.m. daily, unless otherwise notified.

Competitors must report themselves to the manager on arrival, and no leave of absence can be given in any circumstances.

OBITUARY

We regret to announce the death of Mr. H. M. Newton, Chairman and Treasurer of the Clifton Club, whose loss will be badly felt at this Club for which he had done much. He had been too busy to play in tournaments but was hoping to do so in future seasons. Our sympathies for this loss go out to this old established Club which has triumphed over so many difficulties in recent years.

Twenty

THE SILVER JUBILEE CUP

Challenge Cup, presented to the C.A. in 1935

by H. T. Pinckney Simpson, Esq.

Holder—G. Williams ($\frac{1}{2}$)

will be played for at

THE HURLINGHAM CLUB

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

MONDAY, JULY 26th, 1954
AND FIVE FOLLOWING DAYS.

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the Croquet Association.

Manager.—Mrs. B. H. Wiggins.

Referee and Handicapper.—B. H. Wiggins.

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

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

OPEN TO ASSOCIATES ONLY.

THE SILVER JUBILEE CUP, HANDICAP SINGLES.

An Event open only to Associates who are classed at scratch or more. Entrance Fee, 6s. Matches of single games throughout. Prizes, the Challenge Cup and other prizes according to the number of entries. The Event will be drawn in two or more approximately equal Blocks, the winners of which will play off as for the Gilbey Cup.

CONDITIONS.

Hoops 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches wide, and Jaques' "Eclipse" Balls will be used.

The winner will hold the Challenge Cup for one year or until the next Competition, whichever is the shorter period.

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

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

ENTRIES.

The Entries, accompanied by the Entrance Fees, must be sent to the Secretary, C.A., 4, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1., so as to reach her not later than the first post on **Wednesday, July 21st.**

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 21st, at 2.30 p.m.

PLAY.

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

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

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

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

A Question of Law (see page 8)

ANSWERS

1.—Except in the case of a hole in the corner spot the permission of a referee is always necessary.

2.—Not unless the balls remain in contact. Law 34b.

3.—No. Only the striker can make this declaration.

4.—No. Law 34d.

5.—No. Law 34f. "Should a ball deemed to be at rest move or make a point not due to the action of the striker it shall be replaced, the point not being scored."

6.—No.

HURLINGHAM

THE ANNUAL CROQUET TOURNAMENT

including the

"LADIES' FIELD" CANDLESTICKS

(Under the direction of the C.A.), will be held from

MONDAY, AUGUST 2nd, to WEDNESDAY,
AUGUST 11th, 1954

In the Grounds of the Hurlingham Club

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

Committee.—Mrs. R. C. J. Beaton, Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury, D. E. Buckland, I. W. Cheavin, W. Longman, Mrs. W. Longman and B. H. Wiggins, O.B.E.

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

Secretary.—Lieut.-Col. R. F. J. Hayward, V.C., M.C. Assistant Referees may be appointed under Reg. 15 (a).

EVENTS.

1.—THE HURLINGHAM CUP. Holder, Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins. Level Singles. Best of three games throughout. Entrance Fee, 11s.

2.—THE TURNER CUP. Holder, M. Spencer-Ell. Level Singles. For players handicapped at scratch or over not entered for Event 1. Challenge Cup presented in 1926 (originally for Ladies only) by Mrs. Ernest Turner. Single games throughout. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d.

3.—THE HURLINGHAM DOUBLES. Holders, Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins and Mrs. E. Rotherham. Level Play. Mixed Pairs. Challenge Cup presented in 1932 by Mrs. Henry Franc. Singles games throughout. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. each player.

4.—THE YOUNGER CUP.—Holder, G. E. W. Hitchcock. Level Singles. For players handicapped at 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ bisques or more not entered for Events 1 or 2. Challenge Cup presented in 1935 by Lt.-Col. J. A. C. Younger. Singles games throughout. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d.

Law 44 suspended.

5.—THE LONGWORTH CUP. Holder, K. E. Shelley. Level Singles. For players handicapped at 6 bisques or more not entered for Events 1, 2 or 4. Challenge Cup presented in 1927 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, Mrs. B. H. Wiggins and Miss M. S. Carlyon. Open to Lady Members of the C.A. only. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. each player.

8.—MEN'S HANDICAP DOUBLES. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. each player.

The Tournament is open to Members of the Croquet Association and Members and their relations and Associate Members of the Hurlingham Club, with the Exception of Event No. 7, which is open to Lady Members of the C.A. only.

Tournament Plant by Messrs. John Jaques and Son Ltd., 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ in. 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 for Events 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6, with the addresses of the competitors (and telephone number if possible) must reach the Secretary, Croquet Tournament, The Hurlingham Club, Fulham, S.W.6, by first post on **Wednesday, 28th July**, and must be accompanied by fees; cheques made payable to The Hurlingham Club.

Entries for Events, 3, 7 and 8 will close at noon on **Tuesday, 3rd August.**

The Draw for Events, 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6, will take place at the Club on Wednesday, 28th July, at 2.30 p.m.; for other Events as announced on the ground.

No leave later than 2 o'clock on Monday, 2nd August, can be given until after the Draw.

(Continued at foot of next column)

PARKSTONE (East Dorset)

CROQUET TOURNAMENT

MONDAY, AUGUST 30th, AND FIVE FOLLOWING
DAYS

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

Committee.—Croquet Committee of the Parkstone Club.

Manager and Handicapper.—L. H. Ashton.

Referee.—Lt.-Col. F. E. W. Baldwin.

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

EVENTS.

1.—OPEN SINGLES. Single games. Entrance Fee, 8s. Bournemouth Bowl. Losers of the first match qualify for the Ashton Trophy. Single games. Entrance Fee, 5s.

2.—LEVEL SINGLES. Variation B. For players of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ —4 bisques inclusive. Entrance Fee, 8s. Deshon Cup.

3.—HANDICAP SINGLES. For players of 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ bisques and over. Entrance Fee, 8s. Halse Salver. Competitors may only enter for one of the above three events.

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

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

CONDITIONS.

Entries for Events 1, 2, 3 and 4, must reach the Hon. Secretary on or before midday Thursday, August 26th. Entries for Event 5 close at midday on Tuesday, August 31st.

The Draw will take place at the Club on Thursday, August 26th, at 3 p.m.

Six Courts will be provided and Jaques' "Eclipse" balls be used. Standard 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ in. hoops. Play will commence at 10 a.m. (or earlier if necessary).

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

Lunch and Tea will be provided at the Club at moderate prices.

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

(Continued from previous column)

GENERAL.

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

The Committee reserves the right of altering the conditions and refusing entries without assigning a reason. Every Competitor must wear such flat-soled boots or shoes as cannot damage the Courts.

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

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.

CROQUET DINNER

There will be a Dinner for Croquet Players and their friends at the Hurlingham Club on Thursday, 5th August. Tickets price 10s. 6d., can be obtained from the Secretary, The Hurlingham Club.

CROQUET PUTTING COMPETITION.

There will be a Putting Competition with Croquet Mallets and Balls on the Club Putting Course from 3rd to 10th August (excluding the week-end). Entrance Fee, 1s. per round. Prizes will be given according to number of entries.

Twenty-one

THE CHALLENGE CUPS and GILBEY CUP

Will be played for at

THE ROEHAMPTON CLUB

The Headquarters of the Croquet Association

THURSDAY, AUGUST 12th, to SATURDAY,
AUGUST 21st, 1954

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the Croquet Association.

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

Referee.—E. P. C. Cotter.

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

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

EVENTS.

Open to Associates only.

THE CHALLENGE CUPS.

1.—FIRST DIVISION. THE ROEHAMPTON CHALLENGE CUP (Open). Entrance Fee, 11s. 6d. Level Play. This event will be played on the "Two Life" system. Prizes: The Challenge Cup, presented by the Roehampton Club, and the number of other prizes will be according to the number of entries received. Holder—E. P. C. Cotter.

2.—SECOND DIVISION. THE COUNCIL CHALLENGE CUP. Open to Associates handicapped at $\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ bisques inclusive. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. Matches of single games except that matches best of three games will be played in the semi-final (if time permits) and final. Level Play. This event will be played under Variation "B." Prizes: The Challenge Cup, presented by the Council of the C.A., and the number of other prizes will be according to the number of entries received. Holder—M. Spencer Ell.

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. Prizes: The Challenge Cup, presented by the late E. S. Luard, and the number of other prizes will be according to the number of entries received. Holder—Miss A. E. Mills.

4.—FOURTH DIVISION. THE RECKITT CHALLENGE CUP. Open to Associates handicapped at $5\frac{1}{2}$ to $7\frac{1}{2}$ bisques inclusive. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. Matches of single games throughout. Level play. Prizes: The Challenge Cup, presented by the late G. L. Reckitt, and the number of other prizes will be according to the number of entries received. Holder—Mrs. D. Attfield.

5.—FIFTH DIVISION. THE STEVENSON CHALLENGE CUP. Open to Associates handicapped at 8 bisques or over. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. Matches of single games throughout. Level play. Prizes: The Challenge Cup, presented by the late Mrs. W. Stevenson, and the number of other prizes will be according to the number of entries received. Holder—E. Whitehead.

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 five events.

Twenty-two

6.—THE "GILBEY" CUP. HANDICAP SINGLES.

This event will be drawn in four Blocks, "A," "B," "C" and "D" according to handicaps, so as to give nearly as possible an equal distribution of competitors. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. Matches of single games throughout. Prizes: Winner, a Challenge Cup presented by Arthur N. Gilbey; other Winners of Blocks, Silver Challenge Cups presented by Trevor Williams, and the number of other prizes will be according to the number of entries received, the winner and runner-up receiving additional prizes. To qualify for the "Gilbey" Cup, the winner of "A" v. "B" will play the winner of "C" v. "D." Holders—The Event, Miss J. Warwick (7), Block "A" Major J. W. Cobb ($\frac{1}{2}$), Block "B" Major R. A. D. Fullerton ($2\frac{1}{2}$), Block (D) E. Whitehead (8).

Block "D" one of the authorized shortened games may be played.

7.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Combined handicaps of 1 bisque or over. Entries should be made in pairs. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. each person. Matches of single games throughout. The number of prizes will be according to the number of entries received. Winners—E. V. Carpmal and Mrs. P. E. Heley ($7\frac{1}{2}$).

CONDITIONS.

Hoops $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide. "Brento" Balls will be used.

Eight Courts will be provided.

The Winners hold the respective Challenge Cups for one year or until the next Competition, whichever is the shorter period.

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

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

ENTRIES.

The Entries, accompanied by the Entrance Fees, for Events 1 to 6, must be sent to the Secretary, C.A., 4, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1, so as to reach her not later than the first post on Friday, August 6th, and for Event 7 (in pairs) by 11 a.m. on Saturday, August 14th.

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, August 9th, at 10.30 a.m.

The Draw for Event No. 7 (Handicap Doubles) will take place at the Roehampton Club at noon on Saturday, August 14th.

PLAY.

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

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

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

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

GOLF CROQUET

THE ASCOT CUP

and

DELVES BROUGHTON CHALLENGE CUPS

will be played for at

THE ROEHAMPTON CLUB

On THURSDAY, AUGUST 12th, 1954

and following days

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the Croquet Association.

Manager, Referee and Handicapper.—Miss D. A. Lintern and Mrs. L. E. G. Nickisson.

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

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

1.—GOLF CROQUET SINGLES. The "Ascot" Challenge Cup. Open to all. Entrance Fee, 4s. 6d. The competition will be played under the Official Rules of Golf Croquet. Prizes: The "Ascot" Challenge Cup and the number of other prizes will be according to the number of entries. Matches best of three games. This Event will be played under Alternative "Y.", in two blocks according to handicaps; the winners of the blocks playing off to decide the winner of the cup. Holder.—Mrs. H. F. Chittenden.

2.—GOLF CROQUET DOUBLES. The "Delves Broughton" Challenge Cups. Open to pairs with combined Croquet handicaps of not less than scratch. Entrance Fee, 4s. 6d. each player. The competition will be played under the Official Rules of Golf Croquet. Entries must be made in pairs. Prizes: The Challenge Cups presented by the late Sir Delves Broughton, Bart., and the number of other prizes will be according to the number of entries. Matches of single games. This Event will be played under Alternative "Y." Holders—C. L. Robertson and Mrs. D. M. Cork.

CONDITIONS.

Standard Setting, with Hoops $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide, and "Brento" Balls will be used.

The alternative game (18 points) authorized for 1954 will be played.

The winners will hold the respective Challenge Cups for one year or until the next Competition, whichever is the shorter period.

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

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

ENTRIES.

The Entries, accompanied by the Entrance Fees, must be sent to the Secretary, C.A., 4, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1., so as to reach her not later than the first post on Friday, August 6th.

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

DRAW.

The Draw for Event 1 will take place at 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1, at 10.30 a.m. on Monday, August 9th.

Draw for Event 2 on the ground at noon on Saturday, August 14th.

PLAY.

Afternoon and evening play. Postal notification will be sent to competitors not playing in the Challenge and Gilbey Cups events.

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

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

BRIGHTON, 1954

THE FORTY-FIRST

AUTUMN TOURNAMENT

MONDAY, AUGUST 23rd, and FIVE FOLLOWING DAYS.

To be held on the Lawns of the Sussex County Croquet Club, Victoria Road, Southwick, Sussex.

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

President.—Major J. R. Abbey. Vice-President.—H. C. Davey, Esq.

Committee.—Mrs. F. H. Chittenden, Miss M. J. Daldy, Mrs. E. Miller, Miss M. M. Morgan, S. F. Sopwith, G. E. W. Hitchcock, D. Woodhams.

Joint Managers.—Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury and E. P. C. Cotter.

Referee.—E. P. C. Cotter.

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

Hon. Secretary.—F. E. Corke, 28 Mansfield Road, Hove 3.

EVENTS.

1.—OPEN SINGLES ("Two Lives" system). THE SUSSEX GOLD CUP presented by the late E. R. Harrison. Entrance Fee, 11s.

2.—LEVEL SINGLES (CLASS B) (no lift). THE FRANC CUP presented by Mrs. H. Franc. Open to players handicapped 2 to 5 bisques. Entrance Fee, 8s.

3.—HANDICAP SINGLES (CLASS 3). THE MONTEITH BOWL presented by the late G. C. Branthaisite. Open to players handicapped $5\frac{1}{2}$ bisques and over. Entrance Fee, 8s.

4.—HANDICAP SINGLES. THE MAURICE RECKITT BOWL presented by Mr. M. B. Reckitt. Entrance Fee, 8s.

5.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Entrance Fee, 8s. each partner.

ENTRIES.

Players may not enter for more than one of Events 1, 2 or 3. Entries for 1, 2, 3 and 4 must reach the Hon. Secretary by the first post on Thursday, August 19th, but may close earlier if necessary. Those for Event 5 may be made on the ground up to 2 p.m. Tuesday, August 24th.

Entries in all cases must be accompanied by entrance fee. Non-Associates (except members of the S.C.C.) pay a tribute of 10s. to the C.A., 5s. if they enter for only one event, but on becoming an Associate any tribute paid in the current year is credited against the subscription.

The Committee reserves the right of refusing any entry, without assigning a reason.

THE DRAW.

The Draw for 1, 2, 3 and 4, will take place at Southwick on Thursday, August 19th, at 2.30 p.m., and Event 5 on Tuesday, August 24th.

PLAY.

Play will commence at 10 a.m. and continue till 6.30 p.m. or later if necessary. Players coming from a distance requiring leave should notify it on their Entry Form. No leave will be granted later than 12 noon, Monday.

PRIZES.

First and Second in all Events.

GENERAL.

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

Every Competitor will wear such flat-soled boots or shoes as cannot damage the court.

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

TRANSPORT.

Green buses along Brighton Front leave the Palace Pier every seven minutes. The 9.20 bus arrives Southwick, Grange Road, 9.40 a.m. From Worthing bus service every quarter of an hour and train service to Southwick four times an hour.

Twenty-three

HUNSTANTON

THE FIFTY-SEVENTH HUNSTANTON OPEN CROQUET TOURNAMENT

Will be held on the Club Grounds on

MONDAY, AUGUST 30th, 1954

and five following days

(Under C.A. Laws and Regulations).

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

Manager.—C. B. Bird.

Referee and Handicapper.—Mrs. Edmund Reeve.

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

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

EVENTS.

- 1.—OPEN SINGLES (Class "A"). Draw and Process. Variation "B." The Norfolk Challenge Cup. Entrance Fee, 11s.
- 2.—LEVEL SINGLES (Class "B.") Law 44 suspended. THE HUNSTANTON CHALLENGE BOWL. 3½ to 8 bisques. Entrance Fee, 8s.
- 3.—HANDICAP SINGLES (Class "C"). 9 bisques and over. Entrance Fee, 8s.
- 4.—HANDICAP SINGLES. INGLEBY CHALLENGE CUP. Entrance Fee, 8s.
- 5.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. No players of 2 handicap or less may partner each other. Entrance Fee, 8s.

At the discretion of the Committee, any of these events may be played on the American system if number of entries warrants it.

No player may enter for more than one of Events 1, 2 and 3.

All Entrance Fees include the C.A. levy.

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

CONDITIONS.

Entries for 1, 2, 3 and 4, must reach the Secretary not later than the last post on Thursday, August 26th, and for Event 5 on Tuesday, August 31st, with application for leave, which will not be granted after 12 noon on Monday, unless the exigencies of the Draw permit.

The Committee reserves the right to themselves to limit or refuse any entry without assigning a reason.

Entrance Fees must be paid at the time of entry.

THE DRAW.

The Draw for Events 1, 2, 3 and 4 will take place in the Club's Pavilion on Saturday, August 28th, at 5 p.m.

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

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

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

HUNSTANTON AMERICAN TOURNAMENT,
MONDAY, AUGUST 23rd to 28th.
Entrance 15s.

BRIGHTON

(UNOFFICIAL).

An Unofficial Tournament will be held on

MONDAY, AUGUST 30th, and FIVE FOLLOWING DAYS.

(Under C.A. Laws and Regulations).

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

Hon. Sec.—F. E. Corke, 28 Mansfield Road, Hove.

EVENTS.

- 1.—HANDICAP SINGLES. 5½ and under. Entrance Fee, 8s.
- 2.—HANDICAP SINGLES. 6 and over. Entrance Fee, 8s.
- 3.—X.Y.Z. Entrance Fee, 8s.
- 4.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Combined Handicap to be not less than 4. Entrance Fee, 8s.

Entries for 1, 2 and 3 must reach the Hon. Secretary not later than **first post, Thursday, August 26th.**

The Draw for Events 1, 2 and 3, will take place at Southwick on **Thursday, August 26th,** and for Event No. 4 at 2.30, **Tuesday, August 31st.**

Luncheons and Teas will be obtainable in the Club canteen.

CHELTENHAM

N.O. TOURNAMENT

To be held on the CLUB LAWNS, Old Bath Road, on **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6th, and five following days**

EVENTS.

- 1.—OPEN SINGLES. (Two Lives.) Fee, 7s. 6d.
- 2.—LEVEL SINGLES. (Variation B. 3 bisques or more). Fee, 5s.
- 3.—HANDICAP SINGLES. (5½ bisques or more). Fee, 5s.
- 4.—HANDICAP SINGLES (X.Y. system). Fee, 7s. 6d.
- 5.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Unrestricted. Fee, 5s.

Entries to T. J. Gould, Cheltenham Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham, by Midday, September 2nd. Draw 2 p.m. same day.

No leave unless circumstances of Draw permit.

Manager.—Brig. B. C. Fellows.

Referee and Handicapper.—

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

NOTICE

You are particularly requested to enter for tournaments on the C.A. form and not by letter.

DIRECTORY OF CLUBS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Shepton Mallet—Hon. Secretary, Mrs. G. F. Blandford, Field View, Shepton Mallet.

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

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

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

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

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

Warwickshire Croquet Club (Leamington)—Joint Hon. Secretaries, Col. A. S. R. Hughes and W. N. Treneman, The Warwickshire Croquet Club, Guy's Cliffe Avenue, Leamington Spa.

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