

naturally

JAQUES

CROQUET EQUIPMENT

John Jaques the second, the grandfather of the present head of the family business first introduced the game of croquet into England nearly 100 years ago. Jaques are now acknowledged throughout the world as the makers of the finest equipment.

JAQUES range includes equipment for CLUB OR HOME. Can be purchased in sets or single items from all good sports shops or stores. Here are some examples:

- **MALLETS** made to personal requirements
- **REPAIRS** carried out to all equipment
- **ECLIPSE CHAMPIONSHIP BALL** (Formerly known as AYRES CHAMPIONSHIP) **should** be used for all matches and major tournaments. Complies with the official rules in regard to weight and size

Illustrated catalogue sent free on request to

JAQUES

SINCE 1795

JOHN JAQUES & SON, LTD. · THORNTON HEATH · SURREY

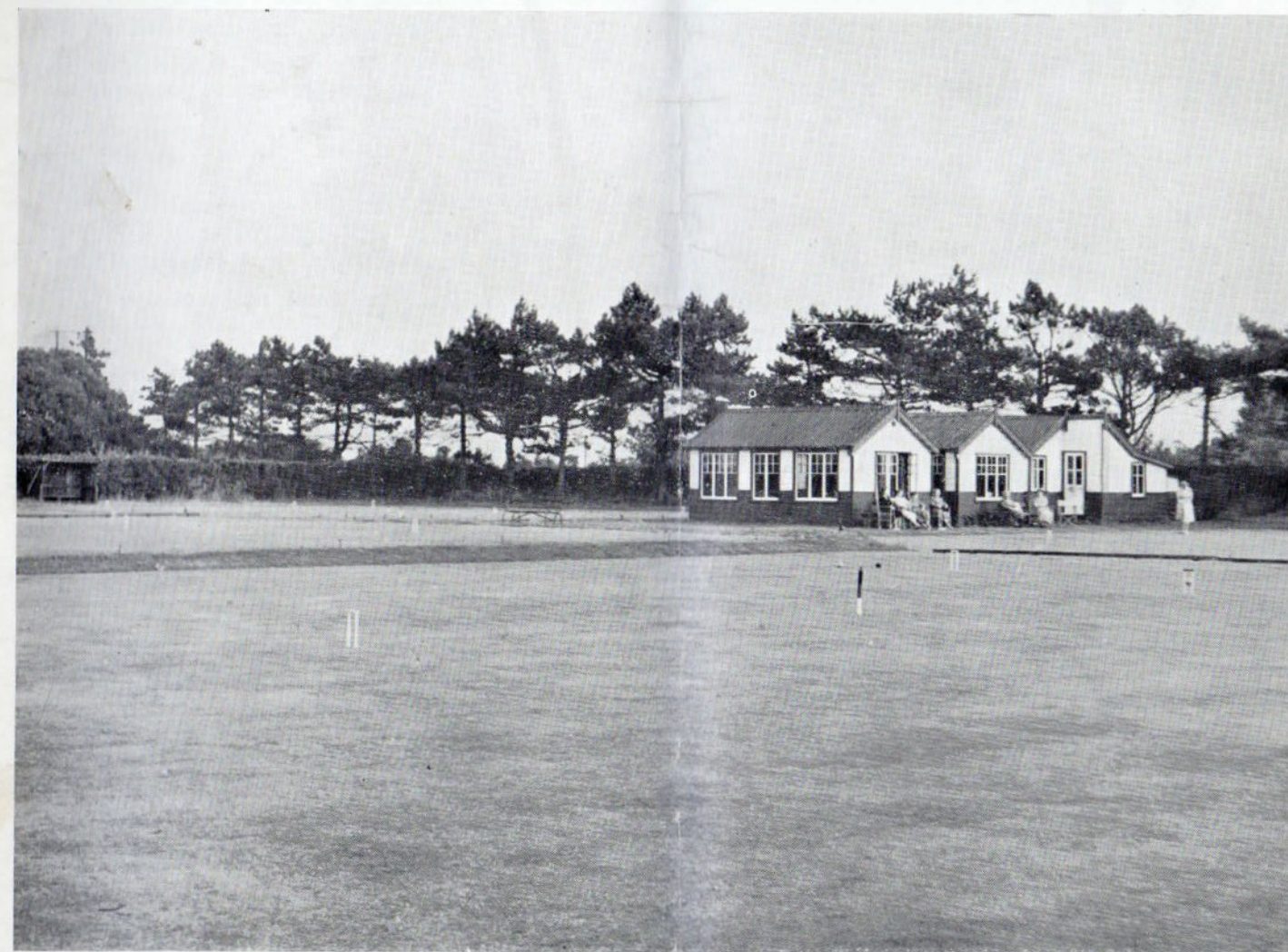
by **JAQUES** — that's good!

No. 43. April 1960

Price 1s.

CROQUET

*The Official Organ
of The Croquet Association*



Hunstanton Club Lawns

and equipment by Jaques, of course



Whose home this time?

Like everyone who has built up a pleasant home, you take precautions: you lock up valuables, you chain the door, you tell the police when you're going away.

But even then you can't be sure. In 1958 there were over 131,000 instances of breaking and entering, so it's no comfort to think that this is something that "only happens to other people."

Full financial protection is provided by the Prudential at reasonable cost—not only for goods stolen but for damage to property caused by housebreaking and burglary. So if your turn *does* come, make sure you can say: "**Thank goodness I took out that Prudential policy in time!**"

Ask the man from the

PRUDENTIAL

The address of the local office is in the telephone directory



By Appointment to

Her Majesty the Queen

Seedsmen

CARTERS TESTED SEEDS LTD.

For the Production of Fine Turf

Carters Tested Grass Seeds, Grass Dressings, Fertilisers, Weedkillers and Wormkillers are used by many of the Parks and Leading Sports Clubs throughout the country.

We invite you to consult our Sports and Advisory Department on any problem connected with the construction and maintenance of Lawn Tennis and Croquet Courts, Bowling Greens, Sports Grounds and Recreation Grounds.

The 1960 Edition of our illustrated booklet:—

"Treatment of Golf Courses and Sports Grounds"

free on request

Carters
TESTED SEEDS LTD

RAYNES PARK, LONDON, S.W.20.

The Handy Hoop and Ball Gauge

Essential to All Clubs
All Groundsmen
All Referees

Useful to All Players

- (a) Can be used for 3½", 3¾" and 4" Hoops.
- (b) Can be used for testing size and roundness of balls.
- (c) Can be used as a straight-edge to determine if a ball is through a hoop.

Size 5½" × 4" × ⅛" thick, made of Ivorine.

Price in Pocket Wallet which could contain the Laws Handbook as well 5/-, or 5/6 post free, from

W. LONGMAN,
42 CHELSEA SQUARE, S.W.3.

who will give all proceeds to charity

To See Championship Croquet

Join

THE CROQUET ASSOCIATION

SUBSCRIPTION . . . 30/- 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), and to Devonshire Park, Eastbourne, free

Read "CROQUET", the official organ of the C.A. published monthly; April, June 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, THE HURLINGHAM CLUB, S.W.6.

TOURNAMENT FIXTURES

1960

- May 9 Peel Memorials (Roehampton). *Secretary C.A.*, The Hurlingham Club, S.W.6.
- " 16 Southwick. *Hon. Sec.*, Miss J. Daldy, 10 Lansdowne Road, Hove 3.
- " 24 Inter-County Championships (Hurlingham). *Secretary C.A.*, The Hurlingham Club, S.W.6.
- " 30 Men's and Women's Championships (Roehampton). *Secretary C.A.*, The Hurlingham Club, S.W.6.
- " 30 Ryde. *Hon. Sec.*, Cmdr. J. Radford, R.D., R.N.R. (ret.), Leaholme, Appley Road, Ryde, I.O.W.
- June 13 Compton (Eastbourne). *Hon. Sec.*, C. J. Speer 36c Upperton Gardens, Eastbourne.
- " 13 Nottingham. *Hon. Tourn. Sec.*, 15 St. Jude's Avenue, Mapperley, Nottingham.
- " 20 Parkstone. *Hon. Sec.*, Mrs. M. McMordie, 4 Overbury Road, Parkstone.
- " 27 Leamington Spa. *The Croquet Secretary*, Guys Cliffe Avenue, Leamington Spa.
- July 4 Budleigh Salterton. *Hon. Sec.*, Major G. F. Stone, Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, Budleigh Salterton.
- " 11 Open Championships (Hurlingham). *Secretary C.A.*, The Hurlingham Club, S.W.6.
- " 18 Cheltenham. *Hon. Tourn. Sec.*, Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham.
- " 25 The Ladies' Field Cup (Hurlingham). *Secretary C.A.*, The Hurlingham Club, S.W.6.
- Aug. 1 Hurlingham. *Games Secretary*, The Hurlingham Club, S.W.6.
- " 9-11 All England Handicap. Area Finals (Roehampton). *Secretary C.A.*, The Hurlingham Club, S.W.6.
- " 10-20 Challenge and Gilbey Cups, Ascot and Delves Broughton Cups (Roehampton). *Secretary C.A.*, Hurlingham Club, S.W.6.
- " 22 Southwick. *Hon. Sec.*, Miss J. Daldy, 10 Lansdowne Road, Hove 3.
- " 29 Hunstanton. *Hon. Sec.*, Mrs. J. A. Clarke, 49 Northgate, Hunstanton.
- Sept. 5 President's Cup (Hurlingham), Surrey Cup (Roehampton). *Secretary C.A.*, The Hurlingham Club, S.W.6.
- " 12 Parkstone. *Hon. Sec.*, Mrs. M. McMordie, 4 Overbury Road, Parkstone.
- " 19 Roehampton. *Games Secretary*, Roehampton Club, Roehampton Lane, S.W.15.
- " 26 Devonshire Park (Eastbourne). *Secretary C.A.*, The Hurlingham Club, S.W.6.

NON-OFFICIAL

- Apr. 22-24 Hunstanton (American). *Hon. Sec.*, Mrs. J. A. Clarke, 49 Northgate, Hunstanton.
- May 9 Budleigh Salterton. *Hon. Sec.*, Major G. F. Stone, Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, Budleigh Salterton.
- June 4-6 Cheltenham (American). *Hon. Tourn. Sec.*, Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham.
- Aug. 29 Southwick. *Hon. Sec.*, Miss J. Daldy, 10 Lansdowne Road, Hove 3.
- Sept. 12 Cheltenham. *Hon. Tourn. Sec.*, Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham.

Two

CROQUET ASSOCIATION NOTICES

The Subscription of £1 10s. 0d. due on January 1st, 1960, should be sent to the Secretary, C.A., Hurlingham Club, London, S.W.6.

Will all Associates paying their subscriptions by Standing Banker's Order instruct their banks to make the same payable to the Midland Bank Ltd., 567/9 Fulham Road, Walham Green, S.W.6.

* * *

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

Obtainable from the Secretary, C.A., Hurlingham Club, London, S.W.6.

* * *

HANDBOOK

The new C.A. Handbook for 1960/61 will be available early in May at a slightly increased price of 4s. 6d. Obtainable from the Secretary, C.A., Hurlingham Club, S.W.6, but please do not apply before the beginning of May.

* * *

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

* * *

OLD EQUIPMENT (Mallets, Balls, etc.)

Anyone having regulation croquet hoops, pegs or mallets to sell second-hand please write to the Secretary, C.A., Hurlingham Club, London, S.W.6.

* * *

SURREY CUP TIE

The tie for the Surrey Cup, which has been approved by the Council, will be available at the beginning of May from T. M. Lewin and Sons, Ltd., 103 Jermyn Street, London, W.1, price 14s. 6d. plus postage 6d.

* * *

INCREASE IN LEVY

Clubs have been notified of the increased levies as approved by the Council. It is anticipated that the increases will be reflected in increased entry fees as it is not desired that they should fall on the clubs.

* * *

ENTRY FORMS FOR TOURNAMENTS

Competitors are reminded that they must use the official entry forms when entering for C.A. tournaments and that entry fees should accompany the entry forms.

Pads of 25 price 2s., can be obtained from the Secretary, C.A., Hurlingham Club, London, S.W.6. (see also page 4).

V. C. GASSON,

Secretary

NOTES by ROVER

The 1960 Season

In the next few weeks many of the clubs will be opening their season and players will be making their first hoops. As has been the custom for some years, the Hunstanton American Tournament is the first event in our Calendar. It is accordingly fitting that the Hunstanton Club should be the subject of our front page photograph this month.

There are no changes this year in the arrangements for the C.A. Tournaments, which include the five Championships, All England Handicap, Peel Memorials, etc., as well as the three Invitation events. Associates who intend to patronise Club Tournaments should, however, note some alterations of date compared with the pattern of recent years. The Nottingham and Parkstone June tournaments are both one week later this year than last, while Compton has moved its date forward by one week and thus no longer coincides with the first week of the Wimbledon Championships. Parkstone has put back its Autumn Tournament to September 12th, the week after the President's Cup and Surrey Cup.

The remarkable record of John Solomon in winning everything that he entered for in 1959 should spur on his competers in the coming season. We can be certain that his play will be keenly watched and, a penalty for the pinnacle on which he stands, any falling off, however slight, will doubtless be a target for comment. Finally, if the weather serves us only three parts as well as it did in 1959, we can anticipate a successful season.

Dispelling an Illusion

It seems as though some Associates have the idea that the Council of the Croquet Association is a body consisting of first-class players almost all resident in London, associated with the London clubs, and with a totally inadequate interest either in the provincial clubs, or in B, C, and D class players. How utterly absurd such an idea is may be judged from the following facts. Of the three *ex officio* members of the Council, one lives far out of London; of the elected members of the Council one is a member of the Budleigh Club; one is a member both of the Southwick and Compton Clubs; two are members of the Compton Club; one of the Parkstone Club; one of the Norwich Club; one of the Colchester Club; one lives in Cambridge; one is a member of the Clifton Club; one lives near Oxford. Thus of the twenty-seven members of the Council all told, no less than twelve are provincial members. As to first-class players, if that term is liberally interpreted, possibly a third of the members of the Council might come under that designation. So provincial Associates, to whatever class of play they belong, may be well assured that their interests are well represented; that the concern of the Council is for the good of the game and that those who are already players may continue to enjoy it; and that others may be introduced to something that would give them great pleasure.

Limited Companies

It is possible to be in full sympathy with Walt Whitman's strictures on "the never-ending audacity of elected persons" while equally lamenting the all too frequent inertia of those who elect them. Rover is disappointed sometimes to discover that criticisms of the Council's decisions are made by associates as a result less of reflection than of ignorance. A good deal of information upon what the Council is up to is always forthcoming in the reports of its meetings published in the close-season issues of this journal, but because there is good ground for suspecting that not every Associate studies these with the attention they deserve, it is worthwhile to call attention from time to time to some of the decisions arrived at. We select now for this purpose those which concern the three invitation events sponsored by the Council in the name of the C.A. It has seemed of late something of a scandal that refusals for these important and interesting contests should have become so frequent as to reduce the standard of play appropriate to them. It is in view of this that the Council has decided that in future such invitations will be limited to 14 in the President's Cup, to 16 in the Surrey Cup and to 14 in the Ladies' Field Cup. If—unhappily—fewer than six players (in the case of the President's Cup, five) of those invited accepted, the competition concerned will not be held in this year. We trust that Associates will appreciate the wisdom of these decisions. If the C.A. is to go to the trouble of organising (and paying for) these contests, it is clearly essential that a standard of play appropriate to them should be maintained.

New Zealand Championships

The numerous events which make up this famous tournament were competed for this year at Auckland, perhaps the largest croquet centre in the world, with nearly two dozen clubs, many of them with courts of the highest quality. The feature of the meeting was the truly astonishing success of a sixteen year old player, Tony Stephens, whose potentialities were indicated in an article which appeared in *Croquet* in April, 1958. Stephens won the Open and Men's Championships, one of the big Handicap events, beating another young man, Ralph Browne, in the final, and the Doubles Championship with Ashley Heenan, who had been tutoring him for some months and declares him to be a wonderful pupil, "who never makes the same mistake twice." It would seem as if duels between Stephens and Browne for New Zealand, and John Solomon and William Ormerod for England might be a feature of the Triangular Tests in 1963: youth seems to be in the ascendant in both countries.

Heenan won the other big Handicap—the English Rose Bowl, presented by our players on a former visit. The Women's Championship was won by Mrs. Wadsworth of Auckland, a particularly enterprising player, who was runner-up in 1958. The final represented a contest between North and South Islands, as the other finalist was Mrs. Martin of Christchurch, a player of much resource and experience.

Three

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Croquet Association will be held at the Hurlingham Club on Monday, May 23rd, at 4.30 p.m.

AGENDA

- Minutes of the last meeting.
- Report and Balance Sheet.
- Election of Hon. Treasurer Mr. D. E. Buckland retires from office and offers himself for re-election.
- Election of members of Council. The following retire by rotation and offer themselves for re-election:—
Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury
Col. J. G. Clarke
Major J. H. Dibley
Dr. G. L. Ormerod
Mrs. E. Rotherham
J. W. Solomon
Mrs. L. H. Ashton and S. S. Townsend do not offer themselves for re-election. There are accordingly two vacancies to be filled.
- Motion by J. W. Solomon. That the words "... on a date ... published in *Croquet*" in Rule XIV shall not apply to the proposed re-draft of the Laws, if such a re-draft be adopted by the Council.
- Report on Triangular Test Matches in 1963.
- Any other business.

Notes:—

Rule VI. Election of Council.

1.—Members elected by the votes of all Members of the Association.

(a) Candidates for election shall consist of:

(i) Members of the Council retiring under Rule II (a) and offering themselves for re-election.

(ii) Associates, duly proposed and seconded by two other Associates, of whose candidature notice in writing shall have been received by the Secretary at least 28 days before the date of the Annual General Meeting.

(b) (i) If the number of candidates does not exceed the number of full-term vacancies such candidates shall be deemed to be elected to fill the full-term vacancies.

(ii) If the number of candidates shall exceed the number of full-term vacancies there shall be an election, conducted as prescribed in (iii). On the poll being declared the candidates receiving the greatest number of votes shall be deemed to be elected to fill the full-term vacancies. Those next in order of number of votes shall be deemed to be elected to part-time vacancies, if any.

(iii) The election to fill vacancies on the Council shall be conducted as follows:

At least 10 days before the Annual General Meeting voting papers shall be issued to all Associates giving the list of the candidates and the names of the proposer and seconder of each.

In voting an Associate may not give more than one vote for any candidate and may not record more votes than there are vacancies.

The voting papers must be returned to the Secretary so as to arrive not later than the Saturday of the week preceding that in which the Annual General Meeting is held.

Two scrutineers, not being members of the Council, shall be appointed by the Council. They shall report the result of the poll at the Annual General Meeting.

Rule VII

(b) Any Associate desirous of proposing a candidate for the office of President or of moving a resolution at the Annual General Meeting, except on a question arising out of the Report and Balance Sheet, must give notice thereof to the Secretary, at least twenty-eight days before the date of Meeting, in order that the same may be published.

Associates will be admitted to the Club for the purpose of attending the Annual General Meeting on production of the current membership card.

ENTRIES FOR TOURNAMENTS

At the Council meeting on March 3rd it was proposed and carried "that the attention of Associates be drawn to Regulation 6 which will in future be enforced." Competitors are asked also to use official entry forms obtainable from the Secretary as shown in C.A. Notices. Relevant extract from Regulation 6—"The Committee of a Tournament shall not accept an entry as valid unless the entrance fee, together with C.A. levy and C.A. tribute (if due), has been paid prior to the draw."

Report of Council, 1959-60

The Council records with deep regret the deaths of a number of Associates, among whom are some who were eminent in the croquet world. The loss sustained by the death of Mrs. Apps has been the subject of contributions to *Croquet*; an Apps Memorial Fund was instituted in 1959 and a Committee was appointed by the Council to report on the manner in which the fund should most suitably be used. Among other notable losses were Mrs. R. C. H. Beaton, Mr. H. C. Davey, Mr. H. C. Crowther-Smith, Mr. J. A. McMordie and Mrs. Ernest Turner. Their services to croquet were the subject of notices in *Croquet*.

Mrs. V. C. Gasson was appointed Secretary of the Association and took up office in August. The Council welcome her appointment and wish her a long and happy association. The move of the C.A. office from Southampton Row to the Hurlingham Club took place during June and the Council wish to express their appreciation of the way in which the Hurlingham Club assisted throughout the whole of the proceedings.

The Council has had under consideration ways of improving the Association's finances, following Cmdr. Style's resolution at last year's Annual General Meeting. Levies have been increased and other ways of increasing the income are under discussion.

A large amount of time has been devoted to the re-drafting of the Laws. Considerable progress has been made and the Laws have had their first reading passed by the Council. There is now a book—the Laws Amendment Book—kept in the office and any Associate wishing to make amendments or criticisms can write these in this book. They will then be considered by the Laws Committee and the Council. We have come to a very large degree of agreement with the New Zealand and Australian Councils, but there are still a good many minor points to be cleared up and it is unlikely that the new Laws will be in print this summer.

The Council extend a very warm vote of thanks to Mr. Baillieu: it realises only too well the tremendous amount of time and work this re-draft has entailed. The Association owes a deep debt of gratitude to Mr. Baillieu and Mr. Rivington and the special sub-committee. Mr. and Mrs. Baillieu have now gone to Australia and they will be sadly missed at Hurlingham. Our best wishes go with them. The Council however hopes that it will continue to have the benefit of Mr. Rivington's guidance and counsel.

The Council has accepted the challenges from Australia and New Zealand for the International Trophy in the early part of 1963 and a sub-committee has been examining details.

The Council expresses its warmest appreciation of the services of Managers, Referees, Honorary Club Secretaries and all others who have done so much for the welfare of croquet. In particular, it thanks Mrs. Thom who gave up so much time after the death of Mrs. Apps to help with the secretarial work of the office.

THE ROYAL BIRTH

The Chairman, on behalf of the Council and Associates, sent a letter of congratulation to Her Majesty the Queen and Prince Philip on the birth of the new Prince. The following telegram has been received in reply.

"The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh sincerely thank you and the members of the Croquet Association for your kind message of congratulations on the birth of a son to Her Majesty and His Royal Highness." (Signed) PRIVATE SECRETARY

WOKING TOURNAMENT

Owing to the limited number of courts now available it is with great regret that the Woking committee have had to cancel their open tournament in June. This was always an enjoyable tournament and will be sadly missed by all those who have been accustomed to participate.

Regulations for Official Tournaments

In accordance with a decision of the Council, the following Regulations for Official Tournaments which affect players individually and of which they should accordingly be aware are reprinted below. This follows a decision that, in future, the Regulations shall not be printed with the Laws but only in the C.A. Handbook. It is, therefore, considered desirable at the outset of each season to draw the attention of Associates to those Regulations which concern them individually.

13. Time Limits

(a) The Committee of a Tournament may in any advertised event fix a time limit of not less than 3 hours, but in any series of events played in classes according to handicap or sex, the time limit must be the same for all games in each class. The game shall then be deemed to be finished when time is called, but the striker may first make a stroke for which he has already begun to take aim when time is called, and any point in order made by such a stroke shall be scored. The side which has then scored the greater number of points shall win. If the points are equal when time is called, the side which scores the next point in order shall win.

Notwithstanding this, or in an event to which no time limit has been applied in advance, the Manager may at his discretion call upon competitors to play under a different time limit, provided that such a limit be applied to all games in any particular round. Later he may, if he wishes, restore the original time limit, or allow the playing of full games, starting at a particular round.

(b) The Manager shall have power to impose a time limit of one hour on any game after it has been played for 2 hours, if in his opinion the length of that game is impeding the progress of the tournament.

(c) When a time-limit is imposed under (a) or (b) a further ½ hour's play may be claimed by the side which (or if both sides be equal either side which) is behind at the expiration of the time-limit, provided that such side has then scored all but 4 points.

16. (b) New Handicaps

A competitor who has no official handicap can obtain one at any tournament where the Handicapper is on the official list. When a competitor has produced a certificate signed by the Secretary of a Registered Croquet Club, written on the printed form provided by the C.A. and stating the club handicap of such competitor, who must be an annual paying or life member of the club, the Tournament Handicapper may assign that or any less handicap.

In other cases the Tournament Handicapper shall, at his discretion, give a starred handicap of not more than 7. A new handicap thus given shall not be effective and should not be notified (see Regulation 19) after a tournament unless the competitor concerned has played in at least one event at that tournament.

The Handicap Co-ordination Committee may at any time give an official handicap.

23. Responsibility for Correct Handicap

(a) Notwithstanding anything in these Regulations which may be deemed to be to the contrary, the responsibility for playing at his correct handicap rests finally with the competitor himself. If he plays at a handicap higher than that to which he is entitled, he shall be disqualified from the event in which he is, or has been, playing, and the last competitor whom he has defeated shall take his place. He should, therefore, before playing satisfy himself, by reference to the Tournament Handicapper if necessary, as to the correctness of the handicap at which he is marked to play.

(b) It is the duty of every competitor to record on his entry form and to report to the Tournament Handicapper on arrival at the tournament any reduction in his club handicap which may have been made since he last competed in an Official Tournament.

24. Liability to be scratched or disqualified

In addition to any other liabilities contained in the foregoing Regulations, competitors in a tournament shall be liable—

(a) at the discretion of the Manager:

(i) to be scratched, if they shall be absent or otherwise unable to play when called upon by the Manager;

(ii) to be disqualified, if they shall change a set or part of a set of balls during a match or at any other time during the tournament, without having first obtained the permission of the Manager;

(iii) to be disqualified, if they shall practise on the courts before, during, or after the hours of play, without having first obtained the permission of the Manager;

(iv) to be disqualified if, on being requested by the Manager to wear boots or shoes in accordance with Regulation 4 (g), they do not comply with such request;

(b) at the discretion of the Referee, to be disqualified for breaches of Law 38.

In all cases of disqualification a competitor shall forfeit any entrance fees, C.A. levy, and C.A. tribute, which he has paid, and shall return any prize that may have been awarded to him.

26. Assumed Names

Any associate who wishes to play under an assumed name shall, before competing, register such assumed name with the Secretary, C.A. The registration fee shall be 5/- per annum.

King George's Jubilee Trust

King George's Jubilee Trust held a meeting at St. James' Palace, of representatives of all sports, which the Secretary of the C.A. was invited to attend. H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester received all those present and luncheon followed. The meeting was to launch an appeal for money to help those who needed it in the sporting world—specially young people.

After the Duke of Norfolk (Chairman) had spoken many representatives of the different sports spoke of what they were prepared to do to raise money and help. As a "Cinderella" of sports the C.A. Secretary in a short speech offered to send leaflets to all clubs registered with the C.A. in an effort to obtain publicity for the Trust.

When the meeting was over and people foregathered in the Queen Anne room, the Secretary was much impressed at the interest shown in croquet by a large number of those present who talked to her.

It is hoped that Club Secretaries will very kindly co-operate when they receive these leaflets.

1959-60 RETURN OF ATTENDANCES AT COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

	Laws	Tournament	Finance and	General	Handicap	Appeal	Publicity	Golf Croquet	Council	Total	Total
			Purposes							Attendances	Possible
											Attendances
Adams, Col. C. C.	4	4	10
Ashton, Mrs. L. H.	4	4	10
Baillieu, I. C.	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	6	9
Brackenbury, Rev. B. V. F.	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	7	10	11
Chittenden, Mrs. H. F.	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	5	7	10
Clarke, Col. J. G.	2	..	..	..	..	..	6	8	10
Dibley, Major J. H.	1	2	..	1	..	..	8	12	12
Duffield, E. P.	2	..	..	..	..	..	8	10	10
Evans, G. V.	2	..	1	..	..	..	6	9	11
Heley, Mrs. P. E.	1	..	..	..	3	4	9
Lintern, Miss D. A.	1	2	..	1	..	..	8	12	12
Creed Meredith, Rev. Can. R.	7	7	10
Omond, Brig. J. S.	2	..	..	..	..	..	5	7	10
Ormerod, Dr. G. L.	6	6	9
Perry, H. C. S.	2	..	..	..	..	..	8	10	10
Reckitt, M. B.	1	..	..	1	..	..	7	9	10
Reeve, Mrs. E.	1	..	1	..	..	..	7	9	10
Rotherham, Mrs. E.	1	..	..	..	..	..	4	5	9
Solomon, J. W.	1	1	..	..	..	6	8	10
Stokes-Roberts, Brig. A. E.	1	..	..	..	..	4	5	12
Style, Lt.-Cmdr. G. W.	1	..	1	..	..	..	8	10	11
Townsend, S. S.	2	2	11
Turkine, Mrs. I. H.	1	..	..	..	8	9	10
Wiggins, Dr. W. R. D.	1	..	..	..	..	8	9	9
Buckland, D. E.	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	10
Hon. Treasurer											
Elvey, Rev. G. F. H.	2	2	8
Vice-President											
Longman, W.	3	3	8
Vice-President											

"WALTER JONES-WHITMORE"

and

The Birthplace of Scientific Croquet

by G. F. H. ELVEY, M.A.

ANY croquet player interested in the history of our game will, if he studies one of the older croquet books, quickly come across the name of Walter Jones-Whitmore.

Walter as we shall henceforth call him, belonged to a powerful and wealthy Shropshire family—the Whitmores. His uncle was the owner of the great house and estate of Dudmaston. It was hoped that this uncle, having no son, would make Walter his heir. Unhappily this hope was never realised, for Walter proved too versatile and unstable a young man to please his relative. Walter's father, having inherited Chastleton House, added the name of Jones to Whitmore, thus becoming Whitmore-Jones.

Walter, to give him his full name—Walter Thomas Whitmore-Jones—was born at Chastleton in 1830. He was educated at Bridgnorth Grammar School and St. John's College, Oxford. But he only remained at the University two years. This was because the most influential of the Whitmore-Jones's friends, none other than Benjamin Disraeli, became Chancellor of the Exchequer in Lord Derby's administration, and Walter's parents saw in this an opportunity for his advancement that ought not to be missed. Through Disraeli's influence, their son obtained a Civil Service post in the Audit Office and the Treasury.

Before long Walter became convinced that no Civil Service ever was or could be carried on so badly as that of this country. He declared that the young men did all the work and took all the responsibility, while their elders received larger salaries because they had done the work badly longer than anyone else.

Eventually Walter was transferred to the War Office but after a short time gave up his post. The reason was that his younger brother, Wolryche had invented an indoor table game, called "Squails," which was taken up by Jaques and proved a great success, bringing in an income of about £200 per annum. Squails indeed far outlived its inventor, and was actually played up to the time of the first world war. The £200, however, did not all go to Wolryche, being shared between him, his sister Mary, and Walter, who had constituted himself its London agent. Walter determined in no way to be outdone by his younger brother and used his War Office experience in inventing a game, called "The Game of War."

This game was played on a board with men, and was intended to illustrate the various arms of warfare on the field of battle. With characteristic over-confidence and hope, Walter actually believed that this game would prove a rival to chess.

His sister Mary, who was always fond of him, lent him £200 for promoting his game. He had the pieces elaborately cast in brass and iron, and, for less well-off folks, made in wood. He had many copies of the rules

printed and was completely convinced that this game would make his fortune. Alas, the whole business was a complete flop. Even to this day there are some 200 copies of the rules lying at Chastleton unused and unwanted. Later he invented another game, called "The Chinese and Imperial Game of Frogs and Toads." This was a moderate—a very moderate success.

Walter, as already said, was a versatile young man. He not only wrote a long treatise on how the country's services ought to be managed, but he wrote two volumes of poetry under the name of Walter Whitmore-Jones. These were published by Longmans, and received a varied reception from the critics in the Press.

The reason he subsequently changed his name to Walter Jones Whitmore is a curious one, and throws some light on his character. On two occasions walking with a friend of the name of Dickins in the West End of London, the said friend pointed silently to the emporium of Messrs. Dickins and Jones. For some, not very obvious reason, this displeased Walter, and caused him to change his name to Walter Jones-Whitmore!

One characteristic he retained throughout his life, namely the desire to put others right, and explain to them what they ought to do. Not long after joining the Volunteers, then newly founded, he wrote an exceedingly long letter to *The Times* explaining exactly how the country's defences should be organised. He even gave his sister Louisa detailed instructions as to the preservation of her facial beauty.

Just for the moment, in order that these notes may be better understood, we must consider the great house with which he was associated. Croquet players may well be proud to acclaim it as the birthplace of modern croquet. Chastleton House, one of the most interesting of the ancient Manor Houses of this country, stands on the Oxfordshire border near Moreton-on-the-Marsh. It was built in 1604, and its special charm lies in the fact that it has not been altered or added to in any way whatever. Not only the house itself, but much of its furniture is today as it was in the time of the Commonwealth.

There is an interesting story of civil war days. Arthur Jones, after Charles II's defeat at Worcester, rode home the thirty miles to Chastleton, pursued by some of Cromwell's Troopers. Having stabled his horse, he had hardly entered the house, and sat down to supper, when the enemy arrived. Fortunately he had just time to hide in the secret chamber, and though the soldiers searched through the whole house, it was without result. But to his lady's horror, as in the meanwhile it had grown dark, the Captain decided to stay the night. But not to be outdone, the resourceful Madam Jones, having prepared a meal for the officer and his men, put laudenum in their wine. And as soon as they were sound asleep, released her husband, who galloped away on the Captain's horse.

Chastleton House was always Walter's home, though he also had rooms in London. After the death of his parents, it became the property of his eldest brother Willie; but as none of the three brothers married, had he lived longer, Walter would have inherited Chastleton.

Walter was of an exceedingly inventive type of mind. He not only invented games, but some sixty ingenious devices, about five of which were patented, and a few produced. At Chastleton House there exists a croquet Box that he designed so made that mallets and balls were securely held and prevented from rattling, when travelling. And in days when people wore high laced boots, and suffered from the nuisance of having to withdraw the laces through the upper eyes, when they took them off, and having to re-thread them, when putting them on, Walter had small ratched winders made, which being used with extra long laces, avoided the unthreading and re-threading nuisance. Probably Walter's most successful invention was a curious focussing device to be attached to lamp-shades to save glare on the eyes. This was both patented and produced, and had a sale not only in this country but also in Paris.

One of his strangest inventions, patented but not produced, was designed to give protection to travellers, in days when there were no corridor trains, nor even communication cords. It consisted of a bell-pull or trigger, which when brought into use, liberated a hammer or weight on the top of the coach, and set off an explosion of gunpowder loud enough to attract the attention of the guard! Possibly Walter's most fantastic scheme was the desire to found an insurance company, which in return for the premiums paid, would guarantee the insurers against investment losses. To his dying day, no one was able to convince him of the complete unsoundness of this proposed scheme.

There was, however, one pursuit in which he excelled—croquet! The firm of Jaques produced a Code of Rules, and exhibited croquet equipment at the Great Exhibition of 1851. Exactly when Walter took up croquet is not known, but there is evidence that he was playing in 1861. Evidently the game captured his enthusiasm, for he organised what is believed to be the first open tournament ever held, namely the famous tournament at Evesham in 1867. He won the principal event and so became the first champion. The croquet historian, Mr. Arthur Lillie, wrote "using the prestige of his victory, he published the first book on croquet tactics, changing the game at once from the silliest open air game to the most intellectual one." There exists a copy of this book at Chastleton House, and another at Cheltenham Croquet Club. From our modern point of view there is nothing particularly helpful in this treatise. It must be remembered that it was written in the days of the ancient ten hoop setting, wooden balls probably smaller than those we use today, and certainly lighter, and of very small light mallets actuated by one hand! It was in fact a pioneer work that opened the way for the Hale setting (the six hoop setting, which, modified by Mr. Willis in 1904, we use today) large properly set out croquet courts, and heavy mallets, in fine the Croquet of the All England Club soon to come into being.

One statement of Walter's deserves remark. He declared that if a ball is wired at an adequate distance from the obstruction, it is possible to hit it so that it will curve round the intervening hoop and roquet the object ball. If this stroke was possible with the light mallets and lighter balls, it certainly does not appear to be possible today.

An interesting feature of Walter's book is the advertisements. You could obtain a complete croquet set with eight mallets, and eight balls, etc., for a matter of 60s. A special "Prize Set" with four boxwood balls, and ivory mallets, large size, cost £20. A similar set with smaller ivory mallets cost £14.

In the same year that Walter's book was published, 1868, "The Field" appointed a committee of three to revise the Rules. Walter was the most influential member, and for his services on this first "Laws Committee" he was allotted half the profits on the sale of Laws of Croquet. Soon afterwards, Walter and Mr. Walsh, the Editor of "The Field," were instrumental in the founding of the All England Croquet Club.

At this time it seemed as though Walter was to occupy the supreme position in the croquet world, and this indeed might have been the case, had there not ensued a bitter struggle between him and Walsh for the control of the newly founded Club. This fierce quarrel resulted in each depriving the other of his share in the profits on the sale of the Laws. Walter then persuaded the committee of the Club to take over the Laws of the game, assigning to himself the profits on the sales. This move of his was countered by Walsh, who got the committee to revise the Laws, after which the older book of the Laws, which should have been profitable to Walter became valueless.

The feud between Walter and Walsh became more and more bitter, and eventually led to a split. Walter and his friends and supporters left the All England Croquet Club and formed a rival society called the National Croquet Club, of which Walter was appointed Secretary.

Naturally, the existence of two bodies, each claiming national authority was both inconvenient and confusing. For example the A.E.C.C. organised an open championship meeting on the grounds of the Crystal Palace; which the N.C.C. countered by doing the same on grounds at Highgate. After a time, "The Field" refused to publish Croquet Notices in connection with the N.C.C. an action which Walter felt bitterly, as he had published notices for the A.E.C.C. in "Land and Water."

Unhappily for Walter, it was not very long before some of the promoters of the N.C.C. began to wonder whether they had done wisely in forming this society. The Chairman, Dr. Prior, and the Treasurer, Hugo R. Wiggins, complained of the way in which Walter conducted the affairs of the Club. His expense account especially came under criticism. Probably Walter's extreme optimism, openly and injudiciously expressed, in which he had declared the ridiculous hope of making thousands out of the Club, was largely to blame for this unfortunate state of affairs.

After a while, it was suggested that the A.E.C.C. and the N.C.C. should unite with Walter as the Secretary of the joint Club. The amalgamation took place in the spring of 1871, and the new society was given the grandiose name of the United All England Croquet Club. It is interesting to recall that when at the time of the great revival of croquet in 1896 and 1897, the Croquet Association was founded by Walter Peel and others, it was first called The United All England Croquet Association.

In spite of the desire of his friends, Walter did not become the Secretary of the United All England Croquet Club. Prior and Wiggins succeeded in frustrating this. However, Walter still remained the acknowledged chief legislator of the croquet world, and took an energetic part in revisions of the Laws.

Questions and Answers

Question: In a handicap game in doubles, red had already peeled yellow through four hoops; later in the game red roqueted yellow through a hoop in order. Was the hoop scored?

Answer: No. Yellow had already peeled four times.

Question: "A" attempts to peg out both his balls but misses with the forward ball and pegs out the second. B's clips are on one and 4-back. When B runs either of these hoops can A claim a lift?

Answer: No. See Law 44 (c). A player or the partner of a player, who has previously pegged out any ball during the game, is not entitled to a lift or a contact. An aid to memory is the following sentence. "A player who pegs out is penalised for any lift or contact."

Question: A player is wired from black, cannot hit red and claims that red prevents him from hitting yellow. Has he a lift?

Answer: No. It is only a ball which prevents him from hitting yellow. See Law 21. Only a hoop or a peg can wire a ball. M.M.R.

TO THE "BLACK ARROWS"—A CROQUET SET

Sir Francis Drake, impassive in the face of the approaching Armada, may have finished his game of bowls at leisure, but the pilots of the R.A.F.'s premier aerobic team—the "Black Arrows" of No. 111 Squadron—down their croquet mallets the instant duty calls.

The squadron's predilection for croquet was shown in a recent documentary film. Watching it, a member of the audience at one suburban cinema groaned silently as the croquet sequence was screened.

Writing later to Squadron Leader Peter Latham, the squadron's commanding officer, Mr. Erick Barnett, of Church Road, London, S.E.19, a first World War balloon pilot, extolled the squadron's performance in the air but gravely deplored its showing on the ground. Rebuking the squadron for the "battered condition" of their croquet set, he offered them a new one.

Invited to R.A.F. Wattisham, Suffolk, Mr. Barnett ceremoniously handed over mallets, woods and hoops after dinner in the Mess.

Said Squadron Leader Latham afterwards: "Surely this is the strangest sequel to a critic's appraisal of a film? However, we badly needed that croquet set."

(Extract from Air Ministry News Letter)

OBITUARY

Miss A. E. PINNOCK

Croquet players of some years' standing will be sorry to hear of the death recently of Miss A. E. Pinnock at the age of 94. Originally a member of the Abingdon Club, she came to Brighton during the last war. Although not a high ranking player she was a charming opponent and loved the game. She was much missed at the Brighton Club when she was no longer able to play.

Mr. ROBERT W. McCREATH

A cricketer and golfer of no mean ability, Mr. R. W. McCreath was widely known in the croquet world, having been president of the New Zealand Croquet Council for ten years and having taken part in overseas tours with New Zealand teams.

He was the founder of the Otago Building Society and took a leading part in the activities of the Methodist Church.

Mrs. A. M. TUDOR

By the death of Mrs. Tudor on Nov. 11th, 1959, the Parkstone Club has lost one of their oldest members and a good friend. With a handicap of 9 and coached by her sister, the late Miss M. K. Haslam, she played a sporting game and was a credit to her class. She always enjoyed her croquet and it was with much regret to all when she was unable to continue to play through failing health.

A Counterblast to Accepted Practice

THE SPLITTE SHOT

Contrary to the inference of the title, this is a serious thesis put forward in an attempt to improve the accuracy of croquet players. Its only drawback is, that whilst this theory was conceived during the playing season, it has only been worked out in detail during the non-playing season, and consequently, certain details may in practice prove to be inaccurate. Nevertheless, if only to stimulate some constructive thought on this subject, let us state our case.

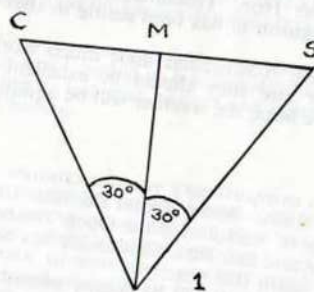
From the time of his croquet birth until he has been finally weaned from his instructor's care (if indeed he has been fortunate enough to have one) the novice is taught the golden rule of split shots—one might almost say the first commandment of croquet—"Bisect the angle." Accepted blindly and without question since its first utterance, how does this dogma stand up under scientific analysis?

Here we strike a difficulty, since the laboratory testing of croquet strokes is an advantage which unhappily is still denied us. An analysis of split shots made by a mallet actuated by homo sapiens would hardly prove (or disprove) anything, owing to the multiplicity of factors which can cause a mallet to twist, even by a hundredth of an inch from its intended direction of aim. It should not, however, be beyond the wit of man to devise a machine which will dispense croquet strokes of a uniform and consistent pattern at the drop of a mallet, one might say.

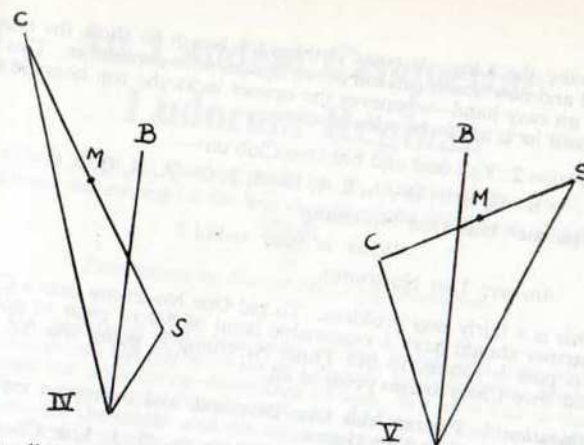
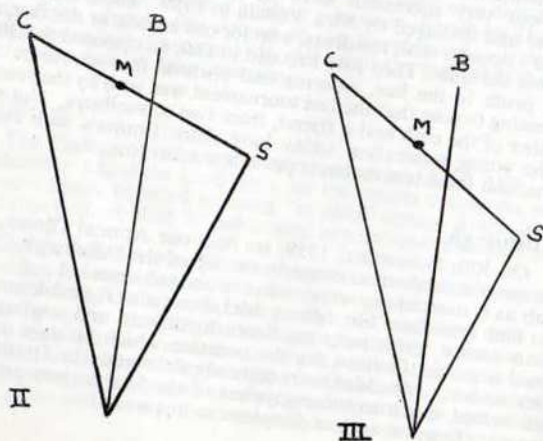
Assuming such a machine were in existence, a machine which could not only maintain a mallet in a consistent direction throughout the swing, but could also be adjusted to produce different degrees of follow-through, what would be the result of our researches?

Accepted practice must surely break-down under analysis in that it does not take into account the distance each ball has to travel. It is at this point that we should state a new "golden rule" for split shots. Instead of "Bisect the angle," it becomes "Bisect the line joining the ultimate destination of each ball." This point is our new line of aim.

If we take the case of a split shot where each ball has to travel the same distance, it will be seen that the old and the new theory produce the same point of aim.



Here, C is the destination of the croqueted ball, S that of the striker's ball, and M is the middle point of the line CS, and this point of aim is the same as bisecting the angle. But what happens when the striker's ball is not intended to travel as far as the croqueted ball? In the following examples, B indicates the old point of aim (bisecting the angle) and M indicates the new point of aim (midway between C and S).



In all the examples given, the angle of split is the same.

It will be seen that the difference becomes considerable as the distance the striker's ball must travel diminishes. At this point no doubt diehards of the old school of thought are exclaiming triumphantly, "I have made split shots like these successfully for years by bisecting the angle." Therefore this theory is sheer nonsense. But have they? This does not imply that they have not made split shots accurately, but that perhaps they have not always bisected the angle. That subconsciously in fact they have realised that the old rule does not always (indeed, hardly ever) apply, and have automatically adjusted their way of thinking to compensate for what in theory should be right but what in practice proves not to be so. They have no doubt been devotees of the "new rule" without ever having thought out what that rule was.

Can we now find some proof that the "new rule" has more to commend it than the old? In the more extreme example, No. IV, it can logically be argued that the absence of follow-through necessary for this stroke allows the striker's ball to be pushed out at a wider angle by the opposition of the croqueted ball. If the shot were played with follow-through, aiming at the same point, the prolonged contact between mallet and ball would encourage the striker's ball to follow more closely the line of aim. This theory is supported by the fact that in a pass-roll the line of aim is very much nearer the path of the striker's ball than of the croqueted ball (Example V).

How did our present false ideas come about? It is probable that the originator of the "angle" rule first experimented with Example I and unfortunately came to the conclusion that one should bisect the angle. A natural one perhaps, but a mistake that has caused much heart-searching amongst all of us who have been perplexed by the indifference of our strokes. Let us all experiment this season by bisecting the line joining the destinations of the two balls, and hope that we shall no longer be perplexed. It should, however, be borne in mind that there is as yet no practical proof in support of this theory!

J.U.U.S.

BRIDGE

by E. P. C. Cotter, British International

Here are the answers to our Christmas competition. For the convenience of readers I am repeating the problems.

Question 1: Your partner North bids One Spade. You hold S—A, K, Q, 9, 4; H—10, 8, 6, 5, 3; D—A, C—K, J. What do you bid?

Answer: Three Diamonds.

This hand clearly calls for a force—the point is, what are you to force in? To bid Three Hearts is most misleading—I would say that it is about the worst possible bid. We arrive at the bid of Three Diamonds by a process of elimination. This bid is the "force of control". At least it shows partner where your strength lies, not where it does not.

North held S—J, 10, 8, 7, 5, 3; H—; D—Q, 8; C—A, Q, 10, 8, 6.

If South bid Three Hearts and North replies Three Spades, South can only say Four Spades. There the bidding ends—an inglorious result with a grand slam on ice! But if South bids Three Diamonds and over Three Spades raises to Four Spades, now North can bid Five Clubs which South raises to Six Clubs.

showing the King. It costs nothing for North to show the heart void and now South can bid Seven Spades with confidence. This is not an easy hand—whenever the opener lacks the top honours in his suit he is apt to be self-conscious.

Question 2: You deal and bid One Club on:—

S—Q, 10 3; H—A, 8, 4; D—5, 2; C—A, K, Q, 9, 6.

If partner bids One No-trump

What is your re-bid ?

Answer: Two No-trump.

This is a fairly easy problem. To bid One No-trump over a Club, partner should have a reasonable hand of 8/9 or even 10 points. To pass is supine, to bid Three No-trump is going too far. To bid Two Clubs has no point at all.

Question 3: Partner bids One Diamond, and over your reply of One Spade rebids Two Hearts.

You hold S—J, 10, 9, 5, 3; H—10, 5; D—Q, J, 5, 4; C—A, 4.

What do you now bid ?

Answer: Four Diamonds.

This is also not a difficult decision, partner must be given Jump Preference. To bid only Three Diamonds would bring the bidding to an end, while to bid Two No-trumps ought to show at least A, J, 10 in Clubs.

Question 4: East deals and bids One Spade, you pass, and West bids Two Hearts. Your partner bids Two No-trumps and East says Four Hearts. After two passes partner bids Four Spades and East doubles.

You hold S—8, 6, 5, 4, 2; H—9, 7, 6, 3; D—A, 8, 2; C—4.

What do you bid ?

Answer: Six Diamonds.

Your partner has a powerful minor two-suiter and is asking you to pick the suit you prefer. You have the Ace of Diamonds which he does not know about and a singleton to develop his other suit if so needed. As you would have to bid Five Diamonds on a Yarborough you should bid Six Diamonds on this holding.

Question 5: East bids One Heart, you bid Four Spades and all pass. West leads the H2.

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

S—A, K, J, 8, 7, 4, 3.
H—9, 7.
D—8.
C—A, Q, 2.

You ruff the third round of Hearts with the S2.

What should you play to tricks four and five ? Why ?

Answer: This is a hand I played some time ago. My method of play was to enter dummy with the DA and play the S5, finessing the Jack in my hand. I shall never forget East's look of indignation ! He held Qxx in Spades, and almost accused me of peeping. I had to explain to him as I am explaining to you, that this method of play gave me two chances instead of one. If the SJ loses to the Queen, then I enter dummy with the 10 and finesse the Club. Of course, this play loses if West holds the SK and either a singleton or doubleton SQ. But if you think it out, it is the best percentage play.

Question 6: You are playing Three No-trumps against the lead of the DJ.

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

You win the lead in your own hand with DK.

What should you play to tricks two and three ? Why ?

Answer: You have eight top tricks, and the ninth can be developed without difficulty from the Club suit. You should lead C3 and play the Ace from dummy. For there to be any problem there must now be four Clubs in one hand. You play back the C2. If both honours are in East's hand he must play one or else your J will win, and then the play of the Ten or Knave will set up the ninth trick. If on the other hand West holds both honours, he will take your Jack with the King or Queen but your Ten will be made good as you lead towards the dummy.

The competition proved more difficult this time. Problems 1 and 2 took a heavy toll of competitors.

The winner, so often a runner-up, was R. V. N. Wiggins with L. Kirk-Greene second.

[Copyright

Notes from the Clubs

Brighton

The Club opens on Saturday, April 16th, and we are glad to report that we have two or three new members joining us and we hope for more.

Part of the legacy left us by the late Mrs. Franc is being used to erect a new shelter in place of the one on No. 5 court. It will be larger than our other shelters and will have glass all round giving unrestricted views of neighbouring courts. A considerable amount of money is also being spent in repairing all the huts which in most cases are in poor shape.

We regret having to raise entry fees for the Spring tournament. Quite a substantial part of our income comes from our tournaments, and with a 75% increase in the C.A. Levy, we feel that this addition must inevitably be borne by competitors.

At our annual meeting in October, a vote of thanks was given to Mr. Roper on his retirement from the Treasurership of the Club. Pending confirmation at the annual general meeting in March of his appointment as Hon. Treasurer, Mr. W. G. Moore, of 6 Peacock Lane, Brighton 6, has been acting in that capacity during the winter.

Our groundsman, Adams, has done much work on the courts during the winter and they should be excellent for the coming season's play. We hope the weather will be equally good !

Cheltenham

1959 was an extraordinary year for croquet. Those, who like fast courts, got them. Many found the heat too much for play.

The number of visitors for the Open Tournament was larger than for many years, and Mrs. Chittenden has accepted the invitation to manage again this year.

Dr. and Mrs. Yoxall will be greatly missed during their three year tour of duty in America.

Changes are being made in the administration of the Club. Mr. Thompson, who was so successful in raising money, and so skilled in effecting repairs, has retired. Fortunately for the Club, Captain Adye has taken on the duties of Treasurer in addition to his arduous task as Tournament Secretary. Colonel Daniels feels he has reached the age, when he should give up acting as Secretary, and the job has been taken on by Mr. T. G. S. Colls.

Four very successful Golf Croquet Tournaments were organised and managed by Mrs. Yoxall, in 1959. These tournaments are very popular with residents, who for one reason or another, cannot join the club. They also brought in £60, as opposed to £30 last year, profit to the bar, catering and visitors' fees accounts. It is interesting to note that the last tournament was won by the youngest member of the club and a friend, from two schoolboys. Not many of the young generation today have Aunt Emma's with croquet lawns, and these tournaments provide a substitute.

Edinburgh

On 30th November, 1959, we held our Annual Dinner. This was quite an important event in the life of the Edinburgh Croquet Club as it marked our entry into our second decade !

Our President, Mr. Moray McLaren (who is well-known here as an author, principally on Scottish subjects and angling) composed a special Oration for the occasion which he duly delivered after dinner. Mr. McLaren certainly delivered the Oration very well indeed, much to the enjoyment of the 52 members and guests present. (Extracts appear elsewhere in this issue.)

We are very pleased indeed to welcome another registered club in Scotland, and look forward to a long and happy association with the newly formed Glasgow Croquet Club.

The lawns in Edinburgh open for play on Saturday, 9th April, and a club tournament has been arranged for the early part of the season.

Compton (Eastbourne)

Thanks to the generosity of a member, who has paid for extra labour, fertilisers and sand, and also for timber to strengthen the surrounding banks, our lawns look exceptionally well and by the time this is in print, we trust we shall have proved that they are in fact excellent.

Our annual tournament is a week earlier than usual. We hope we shall see at it all our old friends and some new competitors too, now that we no longer clash with Wimbledon.

We very much regret that we have had to increase our entrance fees owing to the C.A. increasing the levy. We appreciate that in an ordinary knock-out event half the entrants get only one game and 10s. may seem a lot to pay for this. In an event in which there are eight competitors, each on the average gets 1½ games, and the average cost is just over 5s. 8d. a game, which may still seem a lot.

It is instructive to analyse how the 10s. is used. The C.A. take 3s. 6d. to start with; then 2s. 0d. goes to the prize fund. This is the minimum laid down by the C.A. if a club wishes to qualify for an official tournament subsidy. That leaves 4s. 6d. for the club. Out of this it has to pay for advertising the event in *Croquet*, for postage and stationery, extra wages for the ground staff, hire of equipment, etc. By the time a club has paid all these expenses it is lucky if it is left with two shillings a game—a not exorbitant green fee.

Our hope of making a worthwhile profit lies in the bar and catering. This is possible because the food is chiefly given and the waitresses are volunteers. So please support us by having lunch and tea and a drink or two in the club.

Roehampton

A croquet committee meeting was held at 35 Fairacres, by kind invitation of Col. and Mrs. C. C. Adams, on Saturday, 19th February, J. B. Gilbert (Chairman) presiding.

Club competitions were considered for the season, and with slight alterations are on similar lines to last year's club events. Miss D. A. Lintern (Captain) reported the fixtures arranged, and as in former years, a Golf Croquet day is to take place on Saturday, 30th April.

If the weather permits, it is hoped to open the lawns for play on Saturday, 9th April, and if, as is anticipated they are in the same excellent condition as last year, players can indeed look forward to many enjoyable games.

Hurlingham

The lawn on the cricket field has been kept in play throughout the winter and as many as six players at a time have been seen occupying it on a bright weekend morning. The Tingeys who must be accustomed to somewhat warmer conditions are among those who have been keeping their hand in. The January meeting of the croquet sub-committee saw the resignation of Ian Baillieu from the chairmanship, a consequence of his translation to Australia. He has been abundantly active as a chairman, full of ideas and innovations and he will be much missed from our counsels.

It was decided at our meeting to run the big Handicap Singles event next August on the "X.Y." principle, and at a pinch use some of the Roehampton lawns during the mornings, although Brack who is resuming managing for us this year says this will not be necessary. We are also holding a croquet dinner on Thursday, August 4th, during the course of the tournament. Those who attended our last dinner in 1958 still recall the outstanding quality of the speeches on that occasion.

Parkstone

The Parkstone croquet season opens on April 18th. The groundsman has done good work on the courts during the winter and we all look forward to being "in play" again. There is every indication that we shall be welcoming new croquet members to the Club.

Classes will be arranged for beginners and for any member who wishes for assistance with their croquet problems.

The dates of the Open Tournaments are a week later than usual in each case, i.e. June 20th and September 12th, when we shall hope to see old friends and newcomers at both tournaments.

With the Club activities arranged for the season, good company, good courts and, we hope, another good summer as last year, we should all be able to enjoy our croquet in the coming months.

Ad Laudem Croquettæ Ludorum Reginae

(Extracts from an Oration made on St. Andrew's Day, 1959, to celebrate the ending of the first decade of the Edinburgh Croquet Club)

Pronounced by Moray McLaren (President)

I do not think any could deny us that in our first nine years we have shown the full plant life of Croquet, that game that knows amongst her votaries no distinction of age. We have had in our number octogenarian Senators of the College of Justice whose ardour with the mallet and the ball has been no less than that of the nubile and nimble young ladies whose presence has sometimes enlivened our sward. Between the octogenarians and the young maidens at Lauriston, however, there stand the solid ranks of solid middle-age.

At least I used to call it middle-age until Sir Compton Mackenzie once pointed out to me in a broadcast debate upon "the Queen of Games" that there is no such thing as middle-age. Only youth and age. I think he is right. Almost everyone one can think of is either young or old—or of no age at all, no matter how many years they may have spent in this our earthly exile.

Indeed we have with us tonight human examples to illustrate this point. There is Sir Andrew Murray, our honorary President and benefactor of sodality whom I am very happy to welcome amongst us. Sir Andrew, who is late Lord Provost of Edinburgh, late Admiral of the Firth of Forth, is not late in any other way. He is not lately young, nor lately old. He is perpetually in the present and unchanging—immutable. I really do not know how long it is since I have had the privilege of knowing Sir Andrew. He seems always to have been a part of Edinburgh and therefore a part of me.

With the figure and vigour of a boy, the face of a young man, he yet flies upon his head the Admiral's pennant of white. But it is not the pennant of age. I think he flew it when he was a stripling at Heriot's. As old as Edinburgh, he is yet as young as Edinburgh. This is a quality, no doubt, that he was born with. But I think croquet may have buttressed it. Had it not been for Sir Andrew Murray we would not have had Lauriston. Had we not had Lauriston, I doubt if we should have been here tonight—at least in such style and in such numbers. For this our thanks to him is boundless. But croquet has partly repaid our debt to him in making him timeless.

It is the same with the other guests whom I see around me, and whom I welcome here. Under the beneficent spell of the goddess Croquet, whom we are met to honour, they too are ageless—neither old nor young. They were born with the gift of perpetual youth—perhaps perpetual old age.

But my business here tonight is not to talk about my friends, nor even to admire the admirable appearance of our guests, but to sing the praises of the Queen of Games. *Malleos pilasque cano*. And for the villainous Latinity of that pilfered and adapted statement, I make no apologies to those more learned than myself here present.

It is common amongst post-prandial croquet-praisers to begin their speeches with a display of apparent erudition about the origin and history of our game; but it isn't erudition at all. Anyone can mug it up in the few columns devoted to croquet in any encyclopaedia or in the fascinating but admittedly sparse literature on the subject available in public libraries. Our business tonight is to praise croquet as she is *now*.

I begin this pleasant task with a generous statement, a really big-hearted admission. Standing here on St. Andrew's Night in the heart of the Capital of Scotland, I, your President, and in the presence of the President of all British croquet, who is also a Scotsman, I say that croquet as she is today, and as she has been for seventy years, is unquestionably an English game—English of the English.

Yes, I know all the arguments that you can bring against this admission. They play croquet and play it well in the Antipodes. Only a year or two ago, players from New Zealand travelled the "thick of the world" to display their skill on our Lauriston lawns. They play croquet and play it keenly in South Africa. They play it in the East Indies and in the West. Throughout the Dominions of the Crown and in what were the Dominions, they play croquet. Somehow, some people even now on this the last night of November are playing it—somewhere. (continued on page 13)

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1959

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
1958.	£ s. d.	1958.	£ s. d.
To Medals	14	By Subscriptions—	
" Prizes at Meetings—	36	462 Ordinary Members at £1 10s. 0d.	683 0 0
Rochampton	7	2 Ordinary Members at £1 0s. 0d.	2 0 0
Hurlingham	36	12 Ordinary Members at 15s. 0d.	1 10 0
Eastbourne	79	1 Ordinary Member at 10s. 0d.	1 0 0
		2 Life Members at £21 0s. 0d.	42 0 0
Expenses at Meetings—			
Rochampton	15	Donations	745 10 0
Hurlingham	46	" Affiliation fees, Overseas Clubs	1 7 0
Eastbourne	154	" Entry Fees—	11 9 6
Rochampton Associates fees	49	Rochampton	87 14 0
Engraving and carriage of Trophies	47	Hurlingham	23 19 0
		Eastbourne	100 16 6
Magazine—			
Printing and Posting	494	Levy and Tribute	222 9 6
Reporter's Salary and Honorarium	120	" Year Book	191 2 3
		Laws	8 4 2
Less Sales	19	Leads	42 12 2
Advertisements	105	Croquet Entry Forms	2 13 0
Printing—Year Books	480	Dividends and Interest, Less tax—	54 5 0
Laws	104	British Gas 4%	13 17 11
		London County Consolidated 3½%	9 8 6
Secretary's Salary	307	Funding Stock 3% 1966-68	6 11 4
Office Rent, Rates, Cleaning, Light and Heat	11	War Stock 3½%	10 17 4
Hire of Rooms	11	Omnium Investment Co. Ltd. Deferred Stock	24 18 3
Repairs and renewals of furniture	25	Rochampton County Clubs Debentures	6 12 9
Office Stationery and Duplicating	23	P.O.S.B. Interest	37 10 7
Insurance, Trophies and Office Contents	3	Bank Deposit Interest	
Postage	27	Rent Received—Southampton Row	
Removal Expenses	17		
Audit and Accountancy	38		
Legal Fees re New Lease	5		
Travelling and Sundry Expenses	10		
Corporation Duty	5		
Grants—Compton Club	1		
C.C.P.R.	1		
National Playing Fields	16		
Excess of Income over Expenditure	45		
	1,516		£1,335 19 10

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1959

LIABILITIES		ASSETS	
1958.	£ s. d.	1958.	£ s. d.
ACCUMULATED FUNDS—		OFFICE FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT—	
As at 1st January, 1959	3,340	At cost as per last Balance Sheet	107 10 6
Add—	45	Added in year	62 9 3
Profit on sale of investments	281 9 10		169 19 9
	3,385	TROPHIES—	
NEW ZEALAND TEST TEAM ENTERTAINMENT FUND	102	At valuation per last Balance Sheet	520 19 6
DOMINION TOUR FUND	74	SUNDRY DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS	42 15 11
SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED IN ADVANCE	19	INVESTMENTS AT COST—	
SUNDRY CREDITORS, Expenses outstanding	107	£585 0s. 0d. British Gas 4% Guaranteed Stock 1969-72	490 8 0
		£750 0s. 0d. Funding Stock 3% 1966-68	648 17 9
		£483 9s. 9d. London County Consolidated 3½% 1966-68	430 10 0
		£493 8s. 0d. War Stock 3½%	300 9 0
		£200 0s. 0d. Omnium Investment Co. Ltd. Deferred Stock	289 0 11
		£200 0s. 0d. Rochampton County Club Ordinary Shares	10 0 0
		500 Rochampton County Club Debentures	440 9 0
		Market Value 31.12.59 £3,202	2,790 13 2
		CASH AT BANK	461 0 3
		Current Account	350 0 0
		Deposit Account	17 8 5
		In Hand	828 8 8
			£4,352 17 0

We have received all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit. In our opinion proper books of account have been kept. We have examined the Balance Sheet and amended Income and Expenditure Accounts and find them to be correct and in agreement with the books. In our opinion and to the best of our information and the explanations given to us the Balance Sheet gives a true and fair view of the Association's affairs at 31st December, 1959, and the Income and Expenditure Account gives a true and fair view of the excess of income for the year ended on that date.

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

BEGGIE, ROBINSON & CO., Chartered Accountants

Ad Laudem Croquettae Ludorum Reginae—continued

Nor is it confined to what once was the British Empire. Some of you may remember a charming young Franco-Scottish lady who described to us two years ago the pleasures of playing it in the valley of the Loire. Croquet has returned to France. News reaches us of its occasional spread elsewhere in Europe. There must, there surely must, be a croquet lawn in the supremely civilised country of Austria—the land of Haydn, Mozart and Schubert. What an entrancing string quartet Schubert would have composed upon a game of croquet. Perhaps he did. His manuscripts are always turning up in the oddest way. Maybe as a companion to the Trout Quintet we shall yet have the Croquet Quartet. I think I hear its music as I speak.

And the new world plays croquet too. There are fine players in Canada and even finer in the United States. North America is highly croquet-conscious. And were it not for the rival attractions of revolution and of bull-fighting, the South Americans too would surely be devoted to this game in which the passions have so large a play. It is everywhere. I have heard of it even in the wildest parts of Aberdeenshire. And next year . . . yes, ladies and gentlemen, I have the pleasure of announcing that next year it is going to come to Glasgow. Then truly croquet will have conquered.

But, ladies and gentlemen, even when it shall have reached Glasgow, it shall remain an English game. In its present form, English it is in its style, manner, and in its ambience obviously English. It is representative, as is nothing else of which I can think, of the best in England.

It takes a long time to play, and is taking longer and longer. This is the sign of a good English thing. Some of us in the Celtic lands are apt to be impatient with the Saxon for his slow-mindedness. It can be an irritating quality, but it can yield rich fruits. It yields them in croquet. The English know how to squeeze the last drop out of pleasure. They squeeze the last drop out of the pleasures of croquet. In this way they are a lesson to us.

Now I say this to you quite seriously, ladies and gentlemen, we in Scotland, indeed all who play croquet all over the world, owe the very existence of our game in its established form to the English seriousness about games. Had it not been for some intensely serious Victorian English people in the 1880's and '90's, just think what would have happened. I do not suggest for one moment that the game would not have survived. It would have but in what a form!

It would have lived on as a sport for giggling girls and senile footlers on vicarage lawns or whatever corresponds to vicarage lawns today. We would have had two or more pegs, sixteen or more hoops with one in the centre hung with bells and ribbons. We would have still been enduring the spectacle of people putting a foot on their own ball when they took croquet. These and other horrors (familiar to us in the pages of bound volumes of past *Punches*) would still be with us.

Instead, in the 'eighties and 'nineties of last century, a great cleansing wind swept over the croquet lawns of England. It was the wind of the English seriousness about games. In its gust there was blown away all those bells and ribbons and giggling and multiplying hoops and pegs and the vile heresy of foot-croquet. In their place there arose a game largely similar to that which we play today. It was English seriousness that brought this about.

One thinks of English croquet as existing in a land where it is always afternoon. And an afternoon, I may add, of infinitely reliable weather. We have our wonderful Midsummer croquet eves at Lauriston when we can play until midnight. But, alas! our Scottish June days, though long, are not reliable in the manner which we have somehow grown to associate with English croquet. To think of English croquet is to think of temperate, beautiful, sunny afternoons that came into being by themselves with no mornings before them, and no evenings; still more, no nights to end them.

Croquet, while knowing as little distinction of class as she does of age, is the least vulgar of games. I think if I were to praise her too vociferously it would be improper. She is the Queen of Games. We have been privileged to proclaim Her Majesty in Scotland. That is all.

There is another thing that would not have been proper; that would have been praise of our Society. That was not my subject. Nor, Ladies and Gentlemen, have I ventured to mention by name or to thank any of you who have made this decenary occasion possible. I think you understand why. We are all grateful to each other for having made the Edinburgh Croquet Club and for having kept it alive and flourishing. I am grateful to you all for (amongst other things) having listened to this long and mannered Oration. Let us leave it at that.

No, not quite at that. The title by which we speak of Croquet provokes in me yet one last thought. If Croquet is the Queen of Games, who or what is the King? Perhaps there isn't one. Perhaps she is monarch not only in her own right but without consort. Yes, I am sure of that. She reigns alone.

She reigns along. I give you then in this glass our Virgin Queen—*Croquetta Ludorum Regina!*

Council Meeting Minutes

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held at 4 Southampton Row, on Thursday, 19th November, 1959.

Present

Miss D. A. Lintern (Chairman), Col. C. C. Adams, I. C. Baillieu, Rev. B. V.F. Brackenbury, Col. J. G. Clarke, Major J. H. Dibley, E. P. Duffield, G. V. Evans, Mrs. P. E. Heley, Rev. Canon R. Creed Meredith, H. C. S. Perry, M. B. Reckitt, Mrs. E. Reeve, J. W. Solomon, Lt.-Comdr. G. W. Style, S. S. Townsend, Mrs. I. H. Turketine, Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins and Mrs. V. G. Gasson (Secretary).

Apologies for absence

D. E. Buckland, Mrs. H. F. Chittenden, Rev. G. F. H. Elvey, W. Longman, Brig. J. S. Omond, Dr. G. L. Ormerod, Brig. A. E. Stokes Roberts.

Minutes

Before confirming the Minutes the Chairman read a letter from Canon Creed Meredith pointing out that in Lt.-Comdr. Style's Resolution the word "stated" should have been inserted instead of "asked" and "were" should follow at the end instead of "should be". This was agreed and amended accordingly.

Canon Creed Meredith also asked that after the Statement concerning his first Motion there should be added the words "But it was agreed that Canon Creed Meredith might ascertain the view of associates about applying this suggestion to games in which Law 44 was suspended." After discussion, it was decided that the words should not be added to the Minutes.

The Minutes were then confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

Arising out of the Minutes

Mr. Baillieu suggested that the wording of Standing Order 1 should be amended as follows:—

"Unless otherwise decided by the Council the following ordinary meetings shall be held on the following dates:—

- Third Thursday in October.
- First and third Thursdays in November.
- Second Thursday in December.
- First Thursday in each month from January to April inclusive.

After the Annual General Meeting in May, unless the Council decides otherwise.

A meeting during the months of June to September inclusive at a date to be selected by the Chairman.

Other meetings, if required, on dates to be decided by the Chairman, or in his absence, the Vice-Chairman.

The proposal was seconded by Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins and carried unanimously. Dr. Wiggins then, with the permission of the Council, withdrew his Motion put forward at the last meeting.

Questions

Mr. Reckitt asked if any steps were being taken to implement Cmdr. Style's Resolution on finance and was told that there was a meeting of the Finance Committee to be held on 26th November.

Mr. Duffield asked if the change of venue of meetings as agreed at the Council Meeting held on 15th October, covered Committee meetings and was told that it did not. Committee meetings were to be held at the Croquet Offices at the Hurlingham Club.

Report of Tournament Committee

This Report was adopted subject to the following amendments:

It was proposed by Mr. Solomon and seconded by Col. Adams that the minimum number to play in the President's Cup be five and that these five would then play each other three times. This was agreed.

Mr. Reckitt said that despite the matter having been agreed by the Tournament Committee he was not satisfied that the Devonshire Park level events should remain at the 1959 classifications. He wished to revert to the 1958 classifications, and particularly for the "B" class to begin at 3½. Members pointed out that the discrepancy of bisques would then be from -3 to +3 in the "A" class. Mr. Brackenbury said that the classifications were only altered to bring the Devonshire Park events into line with other tournaments and because the management thought that this would best please the competitors. Mr. Solomon said that the aim in fixing demarcations should not be to please the competitors but to get equal numbers of players of about the same standard in each class. The Chairman proposed and Mr. Perry seconded that the matter be referred to the next Council meeting when some figures could be produced. This was agreed.

Unofficial Tournaments

The Council considered the question of unofficial Tournaments and, after discussion, Mr. Reckitt tabled the following Motion for consideration at the next meeting:—

"That if a Club desires to have an unofficial Tournament included in the Calendar of Fixtures:

1. It shall have already entered into an engagement to hold an official Tournament in that season.
2. That it shall submit the names of the Officers it is proposing to approach to manage and referee the Tournament.
3. That it will undertake that if any variations from the Laws of Association Croquet are desired by the Committee responsible for the Tournament, permission will be applied for to the Council for any such variation to be allowed."

Motion by Mr. Brackenbury

"That the principle on which the Handicap Co-ordination Committee is now constituted to be re-examined and alternative possibilities be considered." Mr. Brackenbury in proposing this Motion said that all he wanted at the present time was that the Council should agree that the system of handicapping should be re-examined, and that the Council should appoint a small sub-committee to deal with the possibilities. He then outlined the present arrangement, which had its origin pre-war when there was a paid official Handicapper. Then it was decided that the Handicap Co-ordination Committee should consist of the Chairman of the Council, the Vice-Chairman, the Chairman of the Tournament Committee and the Treasurer. It was assumed that these Officers went to many Tournaments and saw the play of associates in many parts of the country. Nowadays all this had changed and the *ex officio* officers do not have the opportunity of going around very much and had not therefore the necessary knowledge to enable them to carry out their task.

Mr. Brackenbury wished to stress that his remarks were in no way personal to the present committee. He knew that they did their work most conscientiously, but they had to deal with factual evidence only, whereas Handicappers and Managers at Tournaments could be called the "eyes" of the committee and in his opinion, more attention should be paid to their recommendations. A recommendation from an experienced Manager should be accepted.

The Chairman, speaking also as the Chairman of the Handicapping Co-ordination Committee, said that the committee had always in mind the Council's instructions that they should be reasonably conservative in dealing with suggested reductions in handicaps. Most handicappers simply stated facts, i.e. the reductions proposed, and gave no reasons for their recommendations, and it would be a very great help if, in future, reasons could be given.

After further discussion, it was agreed that a special committee should be appointed to consider the question of future handicapping. The members should be: The Chairman, Mr. Brackenbury, Major Dibley, Mr. Duffield and Mr. Reckitt.

The Triangular Test Tour

Mr. Reckitt said that he knew it was a long time before the Test Team was required, and that no-one could say, at present, whether they would be able to join it or not, but he would like to

get enough assurance now that in all probability a worth while team would be available. He would suggest sending the letters out in May.

Cmdr. Style said he would like the paragraph relating to financial assistance to be worded in some such terms as "A certain sum of money is being put at the disposal of the Team, but, if any who apply to be considered feel that they are able to forego financial help, the Council will be very glad to hear of it."

Col. Adams expressed the Council's thanks to the committee for all the work already done for the Tour and proposed that they be given authority to continue with the plans, and that the wording suggested by Cmdr. Style should be agreed. This was seconded by Cmdr. Style and was carried.

Surrey Cup Tie

Mr. Evans submitted some patterns of ties for Surrey Cup competitors and a choice was made.

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held at 4 Southampton Row, on Thursday, 10th December, 1959.

Present

Miss D. A. Lintern (Chairman), Col. C. C. Adams, Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury, Mrs. H. F. Chittenden, Col. J. G. Clarke, Major J. H. Dibley, E. P. Duffield, Rev. G. F. H. Elvey, G. V. Evans, Mrs. P. E. Heley, Canon R. Creed Meredith, Brig. J. S. Omond, Dr. G. L. Ormerod, H. C. S. Perry, M. B. Reckitt, Mrs. E. Rotherham, J. W. Solomon, Lt.-Cmdr. G. W. Style, Mrs. I. H. Turketine, Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins.

Apologies for absence

I. C. Baillieu, D. E. Buckland, W. Longman, Mrs. E. Reeve, Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts, S. S. Townsend, Mrs. V. C. Gasson.

Minutes

The minutes were agreed with the following amendments:— Add apologies from Mrs. Rotherham and Col. Clarke. Insert the words "no longer" before the words "a paid official Handicapper" on page 2 of the minutes and the words "for certain" before "at present" in the second line of that part of the minutes referring to the Triangular Test Tour.

Arising out of Minutes

The classification of events at Devonshire Park was discussed. The Chairman produced figures of each event over the past two years and Mr. Solomon finally proposed and Canon Creed Meredith seconded that there be no change in the demarcation. This was agreed.

Correspondence

A letter was read from Mr. Buckland resigning the Treasurer-ship. The matter was fully discussed and the general feeling was that Mr. Buckland had made a lot of money for the Association and had most excellently carried out all the decisions affecting finance made by the Council. It was, of course, a pity that he could not often attend meetings, especially the Annual General Meeting, but, in the future, he might be less occupied. Canon Creed Meredith proposed and it was agreed that a letter be sent to Mr. Buckland expressing gratitude for his past valuable services and for his willingness to retain office until the next Annual General Meeting, also expressing the hope that he might reconsider his resignation at that time and continue as Treasurer.

Questions

Mr. Evans asked whether any action had been taken on the letter from Mr. de la Nougerede about moving the ball when taking off. Canon Creed Meredith proposed and Mr. Evans seconded that the attention of the Laws Committee should be drawn to this. This was agreed. Mr. Brackenbury proposed that the letter from Miss Roe printed in the December magazine should go before the Publicity Committee. Mr. Perry asked why a circular letter was not sent to the Clubs in September reminding them to send in dates for their Tournaments in October. He was told by Mrs. Apps in November, 1958, that this should be done, but it had not been. Miss Lintern said that it must have been overlooked. Dr. Ormerod asked a question on including names of losers in the semi-finals in prize lists, but a decision was postponed until a later meeting.

Notices of Motion

Motion by Mr. Longman: "That Standing Orders of the Council provide as follows: That all Reports of Committees requiring action by the Council shall be submitted in writing and (a) be circulated in advance to all members of the Council or (b) as a matter of emergency be laid on the table before each member of the Council. In the case of (b) the report be dealt with under Standing Order 8 (6)".

Election of Candidates

There were no candidates for election.

Report of the Finance and General Purpose Committee

Mr. Duffield in presenting the report said that Cmdr. Style's motion at the Annual General Meeting had been in very general terms and he had suggested that the finances of the Association should, if possible, be improved to the extent that much better support could be given to any teams playing abroad. The whole matter had been thoroughly considered and the committee proposed:

(a) Engraving and Carriage of Trophies

Some members thought that winners should not be asked to pay for engraving their cups, whilst others thought that winners would be pleased to help the C.A. in this way. The Chairman said that now the cups are at the office it makes it much easier for competitors to have their cups presented to them and to take away if they so wished. Cmdr. Style moved that competitors be invited to pay for the engraving. This was carried.

(b) Affiliation of Overseas Associations and Clubs

Rule XIX shall be amended so that Associations and Councils shall pay an annual fee of two guineas, but that the fee for Clubs should remain at one guinea as at present. This was agreed.

(c) Levy

Mr. Duffield said that more than half the associates entered in no Tournaments and accordingly, it was better that additional income should be sought from those who play in Tournaments, rather than a general raising of subscriptions. It was proposed by Canon Creed Meredith and seconded by Mrs. Heley that 1/6 should be added to the levy for each event. This was agreed.

(d) Publicity Campaign

The recommendation of the committee for a publicity campaign was fully discussed. Mr. Duffield explained that the proposal was a long term one in the widest sense. The committee felt that while many people were mildly interested in the game they knew nothing of the C.A., and a publicity campaign expertly designed to increase membership would surely be a help to the Association. He felt happy about the proposals because of the improved financial position of our investments. The C.C.P.R. to which the Association belonged, would be a help with the propaganda. Mr. Reckitt said he was very much against such a measure of panic. It was no good getting members where there were no clubs, and some clubs had already too many members for their number of lawns. He did not favour using the services of an advertising agency and thought that the only way was to do it through the Clubs, perhaps by giving a bonus per head for new members or for starting new clubs. The Chairman said that she had taken expert advice and had been told that £1,000 would be much too small an amount to be of any use for professional advertising. Canon Creed Meredith thought it would be more useful if it could be made known that the C.A. would encourage small new clubs with financial aid. Cmdr. Style said that after hearing all the discussion, he thought it best to help established clubs.

Mr. Solomon expressed surprise that the publicity meeting he had attended was the first since 1956. He considered that Brig. Stokes-Roberts had done a great deal, but he had not consulted his committee, and the approach to publicity had been misguided in his own view. Television and newspapers were too large a medium and did no good: propaganda should not be through national means but through clubs. The C.A. must get new members and provide new clubs, if possible by persuading local authorities to provide lawns as they did bowling greens. He suggested starting with, say, £30 to help clubs to advertise by posters in hotels and outside their own premises and suggested that Roehampton was an ideal place for such posters. If this was a success more could be spent next year. In reply to the discussion Mr. Duffield said this was no panic action and it was not suggested that £1,000 should be used at once. Canon Creed Meredith proposed and Mr. Solomon seconded "that a sum of money should be devoted to a publicity campaign designed to attract the attention of a considerably body of people who, whilst interested in the game,

were unaware of the existence of the C.A. or its Registered Clubs." This was carried.

(e) Proposed deletions from future C.A. Handbook

It was decided that the "Gold Medals and Caskets" (pp. 27 and 28) be retained up to and including the year 1935. Following upon precedent in all records of winners of events other than Championship Events, the entries shall be deleted down to the name of the senior survivor.

The Council held the view that re-drafting the Laws was not altering them, so Rule 14 does not apply. It was agreed that Regulations should be printed with the Handbook in future. Mr. Reckitt proposed and Cmdr. Style seconded that five or six of the Regulations should be printed in the April journal. This was carried. As amended the Report was adopted.

The Chairman said that with Council's permission she wished to take item 12 of the Agenda next, in case some members had to leave early.

Re-draft of Laws

The Chairman said that Mr. Baillieu's commitments were such that he would not be able to give any time after about the end of January, so she proposed at the meeting on January 7th to start considering the re-draft and to call a special meeting for January 21st to continue and finish it if possible. She proposed to ask the Council to take as read Part 1 (setting out of court, etc.). Drafts of other parts would be sent to all members as soon as possible after Christmas, and she hoped that members of Council would make a special effort to attend the two meetings in view of their importance. The re-draft would have to be adopted by two-thirds majority at a later date.

Report of the Publicity Committee

Mrs. Turketine in presenting this Report said that Dr. Ormerod was writing a book to be published in "Know the Game" series and that Mr. Solomon had been asked to write a foreword. The committee considered re-publishing "Twelve Hints to Long Bisquers" and Mrs. Turketine said she hoped to have an estimate of cost very soon. She was trying to get croquet events published in as many places as possible. Mrs. Chittenden said that the Brighton Club was considering putting advertisements of tournaments in the Brighton Guide to Events, 1961. Mr. Perry said Compton was doing the same at Eastbourne.

Major Dibley proposed and Mr. Duffield seconded that the Report be accepted and this was carried.

Report of sub-committee on the re-constitution of the Handicapping Co-ordination Committee

Canon Creed Meredith moved the adoption of the Report with the re-drafting of paragraph 3 to read "would expect to attend". Mr. Duffield considered that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman should be *ex officio* members. Major Dibley seconded the adoption of the Report and this was carried.

The Chairman asked that nominations be sent to the C.A. office by March 1st, 1960.

Report of the Apps Memorial Fund

Mrs. Turketine said the committee had given a lot of thought to this report and she hoped the Council would agree to accept it, as she felt that they had considered all sides of the game. The Chairman thanked all those members of Council who had sent helpful suggestions. Canon Creed Meredith proposed and Brig. Omond seconded that the report be adopted and this was carried with one alteration suggested by Mr. Perry that after the word "registered" in the sixth line of the first paragraph of the report, the word "croquet" should be added.

It was agreed that the Handicap Co-ordinating Committee should select the winner of the Apps Bowl.

Motion by Mr. Reckitt

This motion on unofficial tournaments was proposed by Mr. Reckitt and seconded by Mr. Duffield and carried.

Motion by Mr. Solomon

Mr. Solomon asked leave to withdraw his motion and this was granted.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY THE COUNCIL TO CONSIDER THE MEMORIAL TO MRS. APPS

The Committee have, on behalf of the Council, accepted with appreciation a Silver Bowl, which Capt. Reid-Walker has kindly offered to give in memory of Mrs. App's (to be known as the App's Bowl), and propose that this Bowl be awarded each year to the most improved player (taking into account both Club and Tournament play), who is a member of a registered Club and is also an associate, to be held for one year.

Clubs may make recommendations for this award, but the final selection should be in the hands of either the Selection Committee for the invitation events, or the Handicap Co-ordinating Committee, as the Council may decide.

The Committee also propose that an electric clock suitably inscribed, should be placed in the committee room of the C.A. Office at Hurlingham.

The Committee further propose that the balance of the fund subscribed—probably £100—should be invested. They suggest that the interest from the investment (augmented if necessary by the C.A.), should provide an annual gift of £5 to be known as the App's Gift—to assist a Club which the Tournament Committee decides deserves special help.

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held at 4 Southampton Row on 7th January, 1960.

Present

Miss D. A. Lintern (Chairman), Col. C. C. Adams, I. C. Baillieu, Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury, Col. J. G. Clarke, Major J. H. Dibley, E. P. Duffield, G. V. Evans, Brig. J. S. Omond, Dr. G. L. Ormerod, H. C. S. Perry, M. B. Reckitt, Mrs. E. Reeve, Lt.-Cmdr. G. W. Style, Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts, Mrs. I. H. Turketine, J. M. Rivington, Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins, Mrs. V. C. Gasson (Secretary).

Apologies for absence

D. E. Buckland, Mrs. H. F. Chittenden, Rev. G. F. H. Elvey, Mrs. P. E. Heley, W. Longman, Rev. Canon R. Creed Meredith, Mrs. E. Rotherham, J. W. Solomon, S. S. Townsend.

The Chairman opened the meeting by wishing everyone a happy New Year. She welcomed Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts back after his long illness and Mr. Rivington who was attending to help with the re-draft of the Laws.

Minutes

It was pointed out that under the Publicity Report on the book Dr. Ormerod was writing, the words "to be published" should read "designed to be published". This was amended accordingly. Mr. Duffield, Chairman of the Finance Committee, in reply to queries made it clear that deletions in the Handbook would not affect Championship or Invitation Events. It was also agreed that all queries, including that of Mr. de la Nougerede about moving the ball, should be referred to the sub-committee re-drafting the Laws. The minutes were then confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

Arising out of the Minutes

Miss Lintern read a letter from Mrs. Baden-Fuller (Mrs. App's daughter) expressing much appreciation of the Council's proposals to commemorate the work done by Mrs. App's for the Association.

Mr. Reckitt amplified his suggestion of printing Regulations in Croquet saying they should be Nos. 13, 16 (b), 23, 24 and 26. He proposed and Cmdr. Style seconded that these should appear in the April issue. This was agreed.

Correspondence

The Secretary read a letter from Mrs. Wills (New Zealand) expressing appreciation of the cable sent to her on leaving England.

Re-draft of the Laws

After a long exposition by Mr. Baillieu and Mr. Rivington and lengthy discussion, Mr. Baillieu proposed the following Resolution, seconded by Mr. Perry:—

"That the Council approve in principle the re-draft of the Laws as outlined in the Frontispiece, together with Part 1 and 2 (A) initialled by the Chairman." This was unanimously carried.

On account of the annual Tournament in New Zealand starting on 18th January, Mr. Reckitt proposed and Mrs. Reeve seconded, "That a letter be sent immediately to Mrs. Bryan in New Zealand, signed by the Chairman, replying to the points made by New Zealand and indicating the suggested amendments." This was agreed.

Minutes of a special meeting of the Council held at 4 Southampton Row, on Thursday, 21st January, 1960, to discuss the re-draft of Laws.

Present

Miss D. A. Lintern (Chairman), I. C. Baillieu, Col. J. G. Clarke, Major J. H. Dibley, E. P. Duffield, Rev. Canon R. Creed Meredith, Brig. J. S. Omond, H. C. S. Perry, M. B. Reckitt, Mrs. E. Reeve, J. M. Rivington, J. W. Solomon, Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts, Lt.-Cmdr. G. W. Style, Mrs. I. H. Turketine, Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins, Mrs. V. C. Gasson (Secretary).

Apologies for Absence

Col. C. C. Adams, Mrs. H. F. Chittenden, Mrs. P. E. Heley, Rev. G. F. H. Elvey, G. V. Evans, W. Longman, Dr. G. L. Ormerod, Mrs. E. Rotherham, S. S. Townsend, Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury.

Before reading the Laws, Mr. Baillieu spoke of future procedure. He suggested that for some months there should be a Laws Amendment Book kept in the Office. This would be an inter-leaved copy of the re-drafted Laws and any associate wishing to suggest an amendment could do so in pencil on the blank page opposite the point in question. Alternatively, associates could send their suggestions to the Secretary. This was agreed.

The Council considered the remainder of Part 2 and also Part 3 of the Laws together with a Memorandum by Mr. Baillieu on Part 5. Subject to corrections made on a draft signed by the Chairman these Parts were approved.

At the close of the meeting, Mr. Reckitt said that as he had been sceptical about the Laws being revised at all and was, perhaps, Mr. Baillieu's strongest critic all the way through, he would like to be the one to say how very well Mr. Baillieu had done the work and what a great debt the Association owed to him. The Chairman speaking for other members of Council endorsed all that Mr. Reckitt had said and coupled Mr. Rivington's name with Mr. Baillieu's. A great deal had already been accomplished and they all felt sure that they could continue to rely on Mr. Baillieu's help to bring the work to completion.

In conclusion the Chairman expressed the Council's best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Baillieu and their hope that it would not be too long before they returned to England.

ALL-ENGLAND HANDICAP

1959 Winner—N. F. Blackwood (5½)

Committee and Secretary.—The Tournament Committee and Secretary of the Croquet Association.
Manager, Referee and Handicapper.—Miss D. A. Lintern.

Competitors must be members of the C.A. or members of a Registered Croquet Club. A member of the C.A. not being a member of a Registered Club must arrange to play at a Registered Club. A Competitor may not play in more than one Registered Club's Competition.

Preliminary Stage.—Club competitions to be finished by the 13th July. Clubs entering 16 to 31 competitors will be entitled to have two representatives in the Final Stage.

Final Stages.—The Club representatives will be drawn on the Bagnall-Wild System and will meet in London during the period extending over August 9th to 11th.

Qualification to hold a competition.—No Club with an entry of less than four competitors is eligible to be represented. In any match of the final stages a competitor shall play on the C.A. handicap that he would have been playing at in an Official Tournament.

Entry Fees.—Entry fee for each competitor 3s., to be paid to the Club Secretary. 1s. of the Entry Fee will be retained by the Competitor's Club, and 2s. will be sent to the Secretary, C.A., by the Club Secretary.

The results of Club Competitions must be sent to the Secretary, C.A., to reach her not later than 18th July.
Matches of single games throughout.

Prizes.—Winner and Runner-up: The Tingey Trophies; others in the last eight, Bronze medals. Winner's Club holds the New Zealand Plaque. Holder: Southwick.

THE PEEL MEMORIALS

will be played for at the
ROEHAMPTON CLUB on MONDAY, MAY 9th, and five following days

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the Croquet Association.

Manager and Handicapper.—V. A. de la Nougerede.
Referee.—Miss D. A. Lintern.
Secretary.—The Secretary, C.A., The Hurlingham Club, London, S.W.6.

EVENTS

Open to Associates only

- 1.—PEEL MEMORIAL SILVER CHALLENGE BOWL. Handicap Singles for Men. Entrance Fee, 11s. This Event will be played under the "Two Life" system. Holder: G. N. B. Huskinson (5½).
- 2.—PEEL MEMORIAL SILVER CHALLENGE BOWL. Handicap Singles for Women. Entrance Fee, 11s. This Event will be played under the "Two Life" system. Holder: Miss K. D. Hickson (12).
- 3.—HANDICAP DOUBLES (combined handicaps two or over). THE LADY MURRAY MEMORIAL SILVER CHALLENGE CUPS. Entries must be made in pairs. Entrance Fee, 11s. each person. Holders: Miss D. A. Lintern and Mrs. F. Stanley-Smith (9).

CONDITIONS

Hoops 3½in. wide. Jaques' "Eclipse" balls will be used. At least five courts will be provided.

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

The Committee reserve the right to refuse any entry without assigning a reason and to decide any question that may arise. Flat-soled footwear must be worn.

ENTRIES

Entries on official forms accompanied by the entrance fees for Events 1 and 2 must reach the Secretary, C.A., not later than the first post on Wednesday, May 4th, and for Event 3 by noon on Tuesday, May 10th. Entries will be limited.

PLAY

Play will begin at 10 a.m. daily unless otherwise notified. Competitors must report themselves to the Manager on arrival. Any competitor who is not present or is otherwise unable to play when called upon to do so, will be liable to be scratched.

DRAW

The Draw for Events 1 and 2 will take place at the Croquet Association Offices, The Hurlingham Club, S.W.6, on Wednesday, May 4th, at 11 a.m.

BUDLEIGH SALTERTON

Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club

A CROQUET TOURNAMENT

(Unofficial)

will be held in

THE CLUB GROUNDS on MONDAY, 9th MAY, 1960, and following days

(The Laws and Regulations of the C.A. will apply)
Manager and Handicapper.—Miss A. E. Mills.
Referee of the Tournament.—J. G. Warwick.
Tournament Committee.—Mrs. E. Rotherham (Chairman), Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave, A. J. Cooper, Major G. F. Stone, Miss A. E. Mills and Dr. R. B. N. Smart.
Tournament Secretary.—Major G. F. Stone, Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, Budleigh Salterton (Tel.: 548).

EVENTS

- 1.—AN AMERICAN TOURNAMENT (Handicap Singles). Competitors will be arranged in blocks according to handicap and the number of Entries received. It is hoped to arrange four blocks and guarantee each Player a minimum of five games. Winners of blocks will play off semi-final and final. The Winner to hold the Godfrey Turner Challenge Cup, and the Winner of the longest Handicap block to hold the L. G. Walters Long Handicap Challenge Trophy.
Note.—The C and D Blocks will play Variation "H" which will not apply to Semi-Final and Final. Variation "H"—Each player is entitled to use his own handicap less four bisques. Entrance Fee, 12s. 6d.

- 2.—HANDICAP DOUBLES (Knock-out). Combined Handicaps not to be less than 8 bisques. **Note.**—All Games start at the 3rd hoop. Entrance Fee, 5s. each player.
An Extra Event will be arranged if time and Entries permit.

ENTRIES (on Official Entry Forms Please)

Entries for Event 1 must reach the Secretary not later than first post Wednesday, May 4th.

Entries for Event 2 must reach the Secretary by 10 a.m. Tuesday, May 10th, and the Draw will take place at 2 p.m. that day.

At lunch time, Coffee and Sandwiches, but not lunches will be available at the Club House.

Tea, a Licensed Bar, and Bridge Rooms will be available as usual. Normal conditions of play. Eight courts will be available.

The usual Official Tournament will be held on Monday, July 4th, 1960, and days following. (See June Croquet).

BRIGHTON

ANNUAL SUMMER CROQUET TOURNAMENT

VICTORIA ROAD, SOUTHWICK

MONDAY, MAY 16th, and five following days

Committee.—The Croquet Committee of the Club.
Manager, Referee and Handicapper.—Miss D. D. Steel.
Secretary.—Miss M. J. Daldy, 10 Lansdowne Road, Hove 3, Sussex.

EVENTS

- 1.—OPEN SINGLES. "THE ABBEY" CHALLENGE CUP. Presented by W. H. Abbey, Esq. Entrance Fee, 11s. 6d. Draw and Process. Law 44.
- 2.—HANDICAP SINGLES. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d.
- 3.—HANDICAP SINGLES. "X.Y." Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d.
- 4.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. each player. Combined handicap not less than 2.
All games to start at No. 3 hoop in Event No. 4. Competitors may enter for 3 out of 4 Events. Event "Y" will be a shortened game. Extra Event time permitting.

ENTRIES

Entries, on official forms please, with Entry Fees for Events 1, 2 and 3 must reach the Hon. Secretary by the first post on Thursday, May 12th, those for Event 4 may be made on the ground up to 2 p.m., Tuesday, May 17th.

Non-Associates (except members of the S.C.C. and L.T. Club) pay a tribute of 15s. to the C.A. (7s. 6d. if they enter in 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 Events 1, 2 and 3 will take place at Southwick on Thursday, May 12th, at 2.30 p.m. Event 4 on Tuesday, May 17th, 2.30 p.m.

PLAY

Play will commence at 10 a.m.
Players coming from a distance requiring leave should notify it on their Entry Form. No leave will be granted later than 12 noon Monday, unless the exigencies of the Draw permit.

PRIZES

According to Entries.

Standard Setting and Jaques' "Eclipse" Balls will be used. Flat-soled footwear must be worn. Competitors will be made Hon. Members of the Club during the Tournament.

Ten Courts will be available.
Light Luncheons and Teas will be obtainable.
Motor Bus Service from BRIGHTON every 10 minutes. Train Service to Southwick Station.

Free parking for Cars on the Ground.
Entry Fees have been raised to meet the increase in the C.A. Levy.

THE INTER-COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP CUP

will be played for at the
HURLINGHAM CLUB on TUESDAY, MAY 24th, and during the week

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the Croquet Association.

Manager.—Mrs. M. L. Thom.

Referee.—Mrs. E. Reeve.

Secretary.—The Secretary, C.A., The Hurlingham Club, London, S.W.6.

Holder.—Middlesex

CONDITIONS

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

(a) Birth in the County, or

(b) Present residence in the County of two years standing, or

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

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

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

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

3. All qualifications must be accurately defined when the names of the teams are submitted.

4. Each County shall appoint a duly qualified Captain.

5. The Collector of a team shall send to the Secretary, C.A., before May 1st a list of the names of not more than eight players, from which the playing team of three pairs for any match must be selected, and the name of the Captain. In a match the players may be combined to form pairs in any manner that the Captain thinks fit, but the pairs must be arranged in the order of the joint number of bisques, the lowest amount corresponding to the "A" pair, the highest to the "C" pair. The constitution of the team must be given to the Manager before any match. If in any match only two pairs from a team should be available for play, these pairs must be matched against the "A" and "B" pairs of the opposing team.

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

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

8. Flat-soled footwear must be worn. Play will begin at 10 a.m. daily.

9. Entries must reach the Secretary, C.A., by **May 1st, 1960.**

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

11. Law 44 partially suspended.

No Entrance Fee.

Hoops 3½ in. wide and Jaques' "Eclipse" balls will be used. Nine courts will be provided.

THE MEN'S and WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS

will be played at the
ROEHAMPTON CLUB on MONDAY, MAY 30th, and following days

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the Croquet Association.

Manager.—E. A. Roper.

Referee.—Mrs. E. Reeve.

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

Secretary.—The Secretary, C.A., The Hurlingham Club, S.W.6.

EVENTS

Open to Associates only

1.—**THE MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP.** Entrance Fee, 13s. Matches best of three games. Prizes: The winner holds for the year the Gold Challenge Casket presented by the late Viscount Doneraile, and a Challenge Trophy presented by the late Sir Francis Colchester-Wemyss, K.B.E., and the late Col. C. E. Wilson, and will receive a medal. Holder: J. W. Solomon.

2.—**THE WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP.** Entrance Fee, 13s. Matches best of three games. Prizes: The winner holds for the year the Gold Challenge Casket presented by the late Viscount Doneraile, a Silver Challenge Bowl presented by "The Ladies' Field", the Gold Challenge Badge and Gold Locket, and will receive a medal. Holder: Mrs. E. Rotherham.

3.—**THE MIXED DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP.** Entrance Fee, 13s. each person. Matches of single games. Prizes: A pair of Silver Challenge Cups presented by the All-England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club. Holders: Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins and Mrs. E. Rotherham.

4.—**THE "DU PRE" CUP.** Open to competitors in Events 1 and 2 who have not qualified for the third round. Matches of single games throughout. Entrance Fee, 7s. 6d. Level play. Prize: A Challenge Cup presented by the late Lt.-Col. W. B. Du Pre. Holder: V. A. de la Nougerede.

5.—**HANDICAP SINGLES.** Entrance Fee, 7s. 6d. Open to competitors in Events 1 and 2 at the discretion of the Manager. Matches of single games.

CONDITIONS

Hoops 3½ in. wide. Jaques' "Eclipse" balls will be used. Five courts will be provided.

No leave can be granted until after the Draw.

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

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

Flat-soled footwear must be worn.

ENTRIES

The Entries, accompanied by the Entrance Fees for Events 1 and 2 must be sent to the Secretary, C.A., Hurlingham Club, S.W.6, so as to reach her not later than the first post on **Wednesday, May 25th**, and for Event 3 by noon on **Tuesday, May 31st**. Entries for Events 3, 4 and 5 can be received only on the ground. Competitors must give with their entries the address at which messages will reach them during the Tournament.

DRAW

The Draw for Events 1 and 2 will take place at the Hurlingham Club, at 11 a.m., on **Wednesday, May 25th**, and for Events 3, 4 and 5, as will be announced on the ground.

PLAY

Play will begin at 10 a.m. daily unless otherwise notified. Any competitor who is not present, or is otherwise unable to play when called upon to do so, will be liable to be scratched. The semi-finals and finals will be so arranged that play in them will extend over the afternoons of Friday and Saturday.

RYDE

FORTY-SECOND ANNUAL OPEN CROQUET TOURNAMENT

will be held on

MONDAY, MAY 30th, 1960, and following days at the Club Ground, Play Street Lane, Ryde, I.O.W.

Committee.—The Croquet Committee of the Club.

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

Referee.—Rev. Canon R. Creed Meredith.

Hon. Secretary.—Miss K. A. Wade, 10 Partlands Avenue, Ryde, I.O.W. (Tel.: Ryde 2512).

EVENTS

1.—**ISLE OF WIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP. OPEN SINGLES.** The Challenge Trophy. Present holder: D. J. V. Hamilton-Miller. Draw and Process. Entrance Fee, 11s.

2.—**LEVEL SINGLES (CLASS B).** The Chapman Cup. Open to players of 5 bisques and over. Entrance Fee, 10s. Final best of three games (time permitting). Present holder: F. E. Corke.

3.—**HANDICAP SINGLES (Class D).** The Hutton Cup. Open to players of 12 bisques or more. Shortened game, commencing at No. 5 hoop. Entrance Fee, 9s. Present holder: Mrs. G. P. Fitter.

4.—**HANDICAP SINGLES ("X.Y.").** "X" The Dibley Cup. Present holder: G. Birch. "Y" The Benest Cup. First time played for in this event. Entrance Fee, 11s.

5.—**HANDICAP DOUBLES.** The Birch Cups. Restricted to combined handicap of 2 and over. Shortened game, commencing at No. 5 hoop. Entrance Fee, 9s. each player. Present holders: Dr. and Mrs. G. L. Ormerod.

Should time permit there will be an Extra Event.

PRIZES

Two for each Event if sufficient entries.

ENTRIES

For Events 1 to 4 together with Fees and C.A. Tribute of 15s., where payable, must reach the Hon. Secretary by first post on **Thursday, 26th May, 1960.** Entries for Doubles, Event 5, close on the ground at noon on **Tuesday, 31st May.**

DRAW

The Draw for Events 1 to 4 will take place at the Club Pavilion at 3 p.m. on **Thursday, 26th May.** For Doubles at 2 p.m. on **Tuesday, 31st May.**

PLAY

Will commence at 10 a.m. each day. Players not present when called on to play will be liable to be scratched.

GENERAL

Six Lawns provided. Standard setting. Luncheon and Teas provided in the Pavilion.

A Motor Bus from the Pier sets down close to the Ground.

Flat-soled footwear must be worn.

Hotels.—Spencer's Inn, Yelf's Hotel (both in Union Street), Osborne Hotel, The Esplanade. Guest House (specially recommended).—Mrs. Lovell, Lixmount Guest House, 9 Pellhurst Road, Ryde, I.O.W. (Tel.: Ryde 3286).

THE CLUB TEAM CUP

(Handicap)

Presented by William Longman, Esq.

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the Croquet Association.

Manager.—Miss D. A. Lintern.

Secretary.—The Secretary, C.A., The Hurlingham Club, S.W.6.

Holder: Colchester

Competitors *must* be members of the C.A. and of the Club for which they play. No individual may play for more than one Club during the Competition.

The teams shall normally consist of 4 players who will play 2 Doubles and 3 Singles. By mutual consent, however, the teams in any match may consist of 6 players. In this case the match will include as a minimum 3 Doubles which must be completed and 2 Singles.

Handicaps. This Competition is to be played under C.A. handicap. The gross handicap of any team of four players must be at least 16 bisques or 24 bisques for a team of 6 players. The gross handicap of any pair in a team must be at least 8 bisques. Every competitor must have a C.A. handicap of at least 1½ bisques.

To be played under the same general arrangements and conditions as held for the All-England Handicap in so far as they apply. Competing Clubs will play on mutually agreed grounds.

Full results of matches must be sent by the winning teams to the Secretary, C.A.

There are no entry fees.

Entries must reach the Secretary, C.A., by the **1st May.**

COMPTON, EASTBOURNE

ANNUAL OPEN TOURNAMENT

MONDAY, JUNE 13th, to SATURDAY, JUNE 18th

The five lawns of the Compton Club at the Saffrons will be used. Entrance, Compton Place Road

Manager.—Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury.

Handicapper.—R. V. N. Wiggins.

Referee.—H. C. S. Perry.

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the Compton Croquet Club.

EVENTS

1.—**OPEN SINGLES (Draw and Process).** Challenge Cup. Holder: Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins. Entrance Fee, 12s.

2.—**HANDICAP SINGLES. X.Y.** Challenge Cup. Holder: Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins. Entrance Fee, 12s. 6d.

3.—**LIMITED HANDICAP SINGLES.** Open to all who have not entered for Event 1. It will be played on the "Full Bisques" system of handicapping. Entrance Fee, 10s. 6d.

4.—**HANDICAP DOUBLES.** Open to pairs with a combined handicap of not less than 4 bisques. Entrance Fee, 10s. per player.

An Extra Event will be arranged if possible.

CONDITIONS AND INFORMATION

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

Two prizes will be given in each event. Entrance Fees include C.A. levy.

Lunch and Tea will be available at the Club and there will be a Licensed Bar.

Entries to be sent to H. C. S. Perry, Hockington House, Willingdon, Eastbourne. Tel.: Hampden Park 656. Those for Events 1 to 3 will not be accepted after first post on **Wednesday, June 8th.** Entries for Event 4 will be received up to noon on **Tuesday, June 14th.**

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

The Draw for Events 1 to 3 will take place at Compton Croquet Club at 10.30 a.m. on **Wednesday, June 8th.**

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

It is regretted that the Entrance Fees have had to be raised. This is to meet the increased levy exacted by the C.A.

NOTTINGHAM

CROQUET CLUB

Highfields University Boulevard

ANNUAL TOURNAMENT

Will be played during the week commencing Monday
JUNE 13th, 1960

(Under the Laws and Regulations of the Croquet Association)

President.—G. N. B. Huskinson, Esq.

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

Chairman of Committee.—Mrs. A. S. Greaves, 5 Oundle Drive, Wollaton Park, Nottingham (Tel.: 77143).

Hon. Tournament Secretary.—G. N. Bright, 15 St. Jude's Avenue, Mapperley, Nottingham (Tel.: 61965 and 55806).

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

The Tournament will include the following

EVENTS

1.—"ROBIN HOOD" GOLD CUP HANDICAP CHALLENGE TROPHY. Entrance Fee, 11s. Presented by the All England Croquet Association for Associates only.

2.—OPEN SINGLES (Draw and Process). Variation B of Law 44—Entrance Fee, 11s. 6d. CHALLENGE BOWL presented by the Nottingham Croquet Club. Single Games. The final of this event will be the best of three games, time permitting. Regulation 13 (a and b) will be applied if considered necessary or advisable.

3.—HANDICAP SINGLES. 5 bisques and over. Single Games, Law 44 suspended. Entrance Fee, 10s. 6d. CHALLENGE BOWL presented by the late L. L. Bright.

4.—HANDICAP SINGLES (Unrestricted). Entrance Fee, 11s. Winner of "X"—CHALLENGE TROPHY presented by Mrs. J. W. Naake. Winner of "Y"—CHALLENGE TROPHY presented by the late Mrs. Reynolds-Hole.

5.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Single Games. Entrance Fee, 9s. each player. Unrestricted except that no two players with joint handicap of less than 1 may play together. TWIN CHALLENGE TROPHIES presented by the late Mrs. Hitchin.

(All Entry Fees include C.A. Levy Charges).

First and Second Prizes will be given in each Event.

Entries for Events, 1, 2, 3 and 4 should reach the Hon. Tournament Secretary, not later than **Saturday, June 11th**, accompanied by a cheque. Entry Forms for the Doubles Event may be deferred until **Tuesday, June 14th**.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

PARKSTONE (East Dorset)

CROQUET TOURNAMENT

MONDAY, JUNE 20th-25th, 1960
(Under the Laws and Regulations of the C.A.)

Committee.—Croquet Committee of the Parkstone Club.

Manager and Handicapper.—V. A. de la Nougerede.

Referee.—The Rev. Canon R. Creed Meredith.

Hon. Secretary.—Mrs. M. McMordie, L.T. and Croquet Club, Salters Road, Parkstone, Poole.

EVENTS

1.—OPEN SINGLES (Draw and Process). Entrance Fee, 12s. Dorset Salver.

2.—LEVEL SINGLES. Law 44 suspended. For players of 2½-6 bisques inclusive. Entrance Fee, 10s. Deshon Cup.

3.—HANDICAP SINGLES. For players of 6½ bisques and over. Entrance Fee, 10s. Cope Cup.

Competitors may not enter for more than one of Events 1, 2 and 3.

4.—HANDICAP SINGLES. "X.Y." Unrestricted. Entrance Fee, 10s. 6d. Bishops Cup and Evans Rose Bowl.

5.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Combined handicaps not to be less than 2. Entrance Fee, 10s. each player.

CONDITIONS

Entries for Events 1, 2, 3 and 4, must reach the Hon. Secretary, by midday **Thursday, 16th June**. The Draw will take place at the Club on that date. Event 5 will close at midday, **Tuesday, 21st June**.

Five or six courts will be provided and Jaques' "Eclipse" balls will be used. Standard 3½ in. hoops.

Play will commence at 10 a.m. or earlier if necessary and players must be prepared to play until 7 p.m.

Lunch and Tea provided by the Club at moderate prices.

Flat-soled shoes must be worn.

LEAMINGTON SPA

AN OPEN TOURNAMENT

will be held on the

CLUB GROUND on **MONDAY, JUNE 27th, 1960, and the five following days**

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

Referee.—To be appointed.

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

EVENTS

1.—OPEN SINGLES. "Two Life" System. The Midland Challenge Cup. Entrance Fee, 11s. 6d. (If less than six entries, this will be played as an American.)

2.—HANDICAP SINGLES. 3½ bisques and over. Challenge Cup. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d.

Players may only enter for one of the above.

3.—HANDICAP SINGLES (X.Y.). Open to all. Challenge Cup. Entrance Fee, 11s. 6d.

4.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Unrestricted. Challenge Silver Salvagers. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. per player.

Two prizes will be given for each event.

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

CONDITIONS

Entries, with Entrance Fees, must reach the Hon. Secretary, by the first post on **Thursday, June 23rd**. Entries for Event 4 may be made on the ground, up to 2.30 p.m., on **Tuesday, June 28th**.

Draws for Events 1, 2 and 3 will take place in the Club House at 2.30 p.m. on Thursday, June 23rd.

Five courts provided. Equipment by Jaques.

Competitors required at 10 a.m. on Monday, will be notified.

All other competitors should be on the ground by 11.30 a.m.

Play will begin at 10 a.m. unless otherwise ordered.

Flat-soled footwear must be worn.

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

DIRECTORY OF CLUBS

A.E.R.E. Croquet Club—Secretary, Mr. D. Pepper, Chem.Eng.Div., Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell, Didcot, Berks.

All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club—Church Road, Wimbledon, S.W.19.

Argideen Vale L.T. and Croquet Club—Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Barrett, Mount Prospect, Bandon, Co. Cork.

Barnes Sports Club—Hon. Secretary (Croquet Section), Mrs. M. E. Bernard, Lonsdale Road, Barnes, S.W.13.

Barnstaple—Hon. Secretary, Mrs. F. M. Hurley, Buena Vista, Barbican Lane, Barnstaple, Devon.

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

Benfleet—Captain, Mrs. Charles Calgrove, 32 Perry Road, South Benfleet, Essex.

Bentley (Brentwood)—Hon. Secretary, F. Stanley-Smith, Hatch House, Pilgrims Hatch, Brentwood.

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

Bowdon—Hon. Secretary, F. H. Bruges, 21 Burlington Road, Altrincham, Cheshire.

Bristol Croquet Club—Hon. Secretary, Miss K. M. S. Ault, 10 Westbury Park, Bristol 6.

British Rayon Research Croquet Club—Hon. Secretary, E. M. Holroyd, 9 Lawrence Road, Hazel Grove, Stockport, Cheshire.

Budleigh Salterton—Hon. Secretary, L. G. Walters, Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, Budleigh Salterton.

Cambridge Municipal Parks Croquet—Mrs. P. E. Heley, 40 Newton Road, Cambridge.

Cassiobury (Watford)—Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Owen, 109 Cassiobury Park Avenue, Watford, Herts.

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

Cheltenham—Hon. Secretary, Cheltenham Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham.

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

Compton (Eastbourne)—Hon. Secretary, C. J. Speer, 36c Upporton Gardens, Eastbourne, Sussex.

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

Dulwich Croquet Club—Hon. Secretary, Mrs. R. L. Lydall, 17 Woodbourne Avenue, Streatham.

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

Edinburgh Croquet Club (Lauriston Castle)—Hon. Secretary, Mrs. R. V. Hall, Rock House, Calton Hill, Edinburgh 7.

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

Folkestone L.T. and Croquet Club—Hon. Secretary, Mrs. T. D. Key, The Prince's Hotel, Bouverie Road West, Folkestone.

Glasgow Croquet Club—Hon. Secretary, Mrs. R. MacA. Brown, 15 Clincarthill Road, Rutherglen, Glasgow.

Heathfield (Lyford Road, London, S.W.18)—Hon. Secretary, Mrs. M. Francis, White Cottage, 68 Lyford Road, London, S.W.18.

Hunstanton—Hon. Secretary, Mrs. J. A. Clarke, 49 Northgate, Hunstanton.

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

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

Lampeter—Hon. Secretary, D. Tansill, St. David's College, Lampeter, Cardiganshire.

Littlehampton Croquet Club—Hon. Secretary, Miss Hale, Elmer, St. Winifred's Road, Littlehampton.

National Institute for Research in Dairying—Hon. Secretary, Dr. M. E. Gregory, Shinfield, Nr. Reading.

Northern Lawn Tennis Club (Croquet Section) Didsbury, nr. Manchester—Hon. Secretary, Palatine Road, West Didsbury, Manchester 20.

Norwich—Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Edmund Reeve, Flat 2, Sandringham Court, Ipswich Road, Norwich.

Nottingham Croquet Club—Tournament Secretary, G. N. Bright, 15 St. Jude's Avenue, Mapperley, Nottingham.

Oxford University Croquet and Lawn Tennis Club—Hon. Secretary (Croquet Section), Mrs. S. H. Harvey, 13 St. Margaret's Road, Oxford.

Parsons Green Sports and Social Club—Hon. Secretary, Croquet Section, Broomhouse Lane, London, S.W.6.

Peterhouse Croquet Club—Hon. Secretary, Brian Astle, Peterhouse, Cambridge.

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, Comdr. J. Radford, R.D., R.N.R.(retd.), Leaholme, Appley Road, 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.

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

Southsea—Hon. Secretary, Miss E. M. Watson, 51 Salisbury Road, Southsea.

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

Sussex County (Brighton) Croquet Club—Hon. Croquet Secretary, Miss M. J. Daldy, 10 Lansdowne Road, Hove 3, Sussex.

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

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

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