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of The Croquet Association*



Devonshire Park, Eastbourne

and equipment by Jaques, of course

CALENDAR FIXTURES

1963

- Sept. 2-7—**Hunstanton.** *Hon. Sec.*, Mrs. J. A. Clarke, 49 Northgate, Hunstanton.
- " 2-7—**Southwick.** (Non-official). *Hon. Tourn. Sec.*, Miss H. Parker, 4 Third Avenue, Hove 3.
- " 9-13—**President's Cup (Hurlingham).** *Secretary C.A.*, The Hurlingham Club, S.W.6.
- " 9-13—**Surrey Cup (Cheltenham).** *Secretary C.A.*, The Hurlingham Club, S.W.6.
- " 9-14—**Parkstone.** *Hon. Sec.*, Mrs. M. McMordie, 4 Overbury Road, Parkstone.
- " 19-21—**All England Handicap. Area Finals. Roehampton.** *Secretary C.A.*, The Hurlingham Club, S.W.6.
- " 23-28—**Roehampton.** *Games Secretary*, Roehampton Club, Roehampton Lane, S.W.15. (NOT *Sec. C.A.*)
- " 30—**Devonshire Park. Eastbourne.** *Secretary C.A.*, The Hurlingham Club, S.W.6.
- Oct. 12

PRESIDENT'S CUP

The following players were invited:—

E. P. C. Cotter
H. O. Hicks
A. A. Reed
Mrs. E. Rotherham
J. W. Solomon
Miss E. J. Warwick
J. G. Warwick
Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins

H. O. Hicks was unable to play and A. J. Cooper was invited and accepted.

Reserve: Lt.-Col. D. M. C. Prichard

SURREY CUP

The following were invited:—

I. C. Baillieu
Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish
J. Bolton
A. V. Camroux
P. J. M. Fidler
R. O. Hicks
Lt.-Col. D. M. C. Prichard
D. Strachan

Comdr G. V. G. Beamish was unable to accept and A. D. Karmel was invited and accepted.

CROQUET ASSOCIATION NOTICES

DEVONSHIRE PARK TOURNAMENT

Reasons for Playing

Your Own Enjoyment

- (a) Records over the past 50 years show that early June and early October are the most reliable periods for good weather in the Eastbourne district.
- (b) If you play in this, the last tournament of the year, you seem to shorten the winter by at least a fortnight.
- (c) The events are so arranged that everyone can start play on the Monday or Tuesday and be assured of a minimum of six matches.
- (d) There are special level events, restricted to five different classes of player, and handicap events, in which all classes meet.
- (e) The programme is so arranged that players who can only stay a week or 10 days can take part in events which will be completed in that time.
- (f) It is the only tournament in which, when you are not wanted for a match, you can play a friendly game or practise on the Compton Courts less than $\frac{1}{2}$ mile away.

The Future of Croquet

Unless the tournament is well supported the C.A. will have to give it up.

It is important for Croquet that it, the only tournament of its kind to be played where the general public can watch, should continue because people who see the game played usually become interested in it.

Last year 700 spectators paid for admission and many hundreds attending conferences walked across from the Winter Gardens to watch.

* * *

ENTRIES FOR DEVONSHIRE PARK TOURNAMENT ARE TO REACH THE SECRETARY, C.A., HURLINGHAM CLUB, S.W.6, BY FIRST POST ON SEPTEMBER 19th.

* * *

REFEREES

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

* * *

NEW ASSOCIATES

Capt. and Mrs. W. A. T. Syngé
W. B. Franklin
Mrs. E. Thompson

V. C. GASSON,
Secretary.

NOTES by ROVER

The Open Championships

Congratulations to John Solomon in wresting the Open Championship from Patrick Cotter, thus resuming his pattern of winning the title in alternate years. What a pity that the Final was played in such inclement conditions as to attract only a small gallery. The more so as the first game can aptly be described as the perfect game, as will be seen from the description elsewhere in this number. While missing the youthful presence of three of last year's Eight, Curtis, Lloyd-Pratt and Ormerod, all of whom are some thousands of miles away, it is gratifying to see the form of another of our younger men, Arthur Reed. He made his mark in the Surrey Cup last year, losing only one game, and has fully earned the honour of being selected for the President's Cup. The least known of the Hicks triumvirate had a good week and showed the form of which many know Roger to be capable. We would wish to see more, both of him and Noel, on the lawns.

In the early part of the week the courts were more testing than at any time since the summer of 1955 and some contestants recalled the situation in the Hurlingham tournament of that year where one hoop on an outside lawn seemed virtually unapproachable. One thing our vice-presidents have in common is their predilection for fast lawns and they must often have sighed in recent years for the really testing conditions presented thereby.

Eights Week

September having been for many years the month in which two of the C.A.'s invitation competitions are played, the more recent readers of this journal may be interested to know something of the origin of them.

The President's Cup is so called because it was presented by the holder of the office, Trevor Williams, in 1934, to replace the original trophy which had been won in the previous year by Miss D. D. Steel with a fifth victory. She immediately won the new one, and did so again in 1937. The former cup was given by A. E. Beddow, who himself played in the first competition in 1901, and was formally described as 'The Champion Cup', though to avoid confusion with the much older *Championship* it was often known as 'The Beddow'. Right down to 1938 its contestants were the Best (available) Ten, but after World War II it was decided that the number should be Eight, partly because there were by then far fewer top class players to draw upon, and partly because the newly introduced 'two lifts' tended to produce longer games. The Surrey Cup was initiated in 1955 and is so called because this trophy was originally that played for between the wars in the Open event at the Surrey County Union tournament. Its competitors do not, of course, constitute a 'second Eight', for all former competitors in the President's Cup are excluded from it. There is nothing in the conditions governing these contests to prevent a player being invited to play in the 'President's' who has not, as it were, served his apprenticeship in the 'Surrey'. But nobody so far has enjoyed this distinction.

Criminal Negligence

'When I make double taps I go all hot and cold' said one of our witty undergraduates recently. (It is but fair to say that nobody had ever observed him committing this misdemeanour.) We seem to hear less of—and therefore less about—this distressing habit than was the case not so long ago, when a former editor of the C.A.'s journal described them satirically in a memorable phrase, as "rattling good shots". There are, of course, other practices of this sort which are not strictly double taps at all but if anything still more heinous, namely what is sometimes called 'shepherding' the ball up to the hoop, the player's mallet accompanying the croquet stroke until the desired position is achieved. This habit verges on deliberate cheating, but most 'double taps' are simply careless strokes which can easily be corrected if the player studiously avoids giving an extra push with his mallet after making his first impact. There is a third 'fault' of this kind which is sometimes made in a hoop stroke on very muddy courts, when the player's ball hangs momentarily in the hoop and his mallet catches up with it before the stroke ends. This may be simply bad luck. But too many 'faults' of the sort mentioned earlier in this paragraph may be described as examples of 'criminal negligence'. 'I hit my balls just too hard' said a well-known defaulter of this kind once at Roehampton, on over-running a hoop approach. 'You mean just too often', growled her opponent.

Seeding

It is some years since this vexed subject received an airing in these Notes and it is not the intention of the present writer to dwell again on the many arguments that are advanced in favour of, or against, the practice. The subject did, however, come to mind during the August Hurlingham tournament when one of the powerful Budleigh Salterton contingent who participates regularly in this popular Metropolitan occasion remarked that it was really too bad that for the third year running the draw for the Open Singles had coupled the speaker with another competitor from Budleigh. The implication was that something ought to be done about it. In fact, as some readers may need to be reminded, the Regulations for Official Tournaments prohibit seeding for first-class events but give dispensation for other events to avoid as far as possible an early meeting between competitors from the same club, close relatives, or players who have already been drawn to meet in the first round of another event. Had seeding in fact been permitted and operated for the particular event, the circumstances of which prompted this Note, the Manager would have been faced with some tricky problems, since 5 entrants were from Budleigh and 7 from Hurlingham. Further, the event was a Draw and Process, and to have seeded in such a way that no competitors from the same club met either in the first round of the Draw or the Process would have posed esoteric actuarial problems probably beyond the range of most Managers.

Ballade of Unfulfilled Ambition

I do not wish to croon as well as Bing,
Nor Garboesquely want to be alone.
I've no desire to take a cure at Tring,
Nor lay a most immense foundation stone.
I don't repine for wild oats still unsown;
Let others have their fling, with zest and zeal,
But I've a longing which has grown and grown,
I simply must achieve a triple peel.

I'm told I have a flat and rhythmic swing.
I practise hard and can't be called a drone,
Yet all my patient efforts fail to bring
Me any nearer to the minus throne.
The all-round break I've conquered, and have shown
That I can run my hoops, and yet I feel
The ultimate in croquet is unknown.
I simply must achieve a triple peel.

The poets eulogise the Joyous Spring,
And city dwellers praise a Smokeless Zone,
But I would give, well, almost anything
To overcome the breakdowns I bemoan.
The single and the double don't atone
For failing at the third hoop off the reel.
My pride in execution now has flown.
I simply must achieve a triple peel.

Envoi

O Bobby, Patrick, John, and Hope and Joan,
Who carry on the art of D. D. Steel,
Tell me this secret which is all your own.
I simply must achieve a triple peel.

N.P.

Notes from the Clubs

Hurlingham

The past month has seen the completion of another in the series of our August tournaments and these notes provide an opportunity of thanking Tony Roper for his handling of the week. We hope this is the prelude to many more officiations on his part. Members will also be grateful to Lew Stokes-Roberts who appeared to be everywhere all the time, in addition to competing in three events. A pleasing feature to home spectators was the form of the much improved Nancy Skemp-ton who nearly won her class event. We hope next year to welcome Peter Fidler as a member: the Oxford captain had a very good tournament and will be an acquisition to Hurlingham croquet.

LONGMAN CUP SEMI-FINAL

Cambridge University bt Colchester by 3 games to 2. Played at Colchester, Sunday, August 4th.

D. W. Miller (2) lost to E. A. Whitehead (2) by 8

J. T. Laurenson (3) lost to C. S. Ratcliffe (5½) by 7.

P. D. Hallett (12) bt Mrs E. E. Clark (10) by 7.

Miller and Hallett (14) bt Whithead and E. A. Payne (14) by 13.

Laurenson and B. J. Russ (14) bt Ratcliffe and Mrs Clark (15½) by 3.

Change of Address

Mrs H. F. Chittenden—from "Newlands" to:—"Rostrevor", Seaford, Sussex.

Two

DEVONSHIRE PARK

Match on October 12th

England and Wales v. Scotland and Ireland

Teams

England and Wales	Scotland and Ireland
A. A. Reed	Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish
Mrs. E. Rotherham	E. P. C. Cotter
J. W. Solomon	D. J. V. Hamilton-Miller
Miss E. J. Warwick	L. Kirk-Greene
J. G. Warwick	Capt. H. G. Stoker
Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins	D. Strachan

Questions and Answers

Question: The adversary observes the striker about to play a bisque or half-bisque before he has made all the strokes to which he is entitled. What is the duty of the adversary?

Answer: Law 38(e), the adversary shall forestall play and the striker then proceeds to *finish* his first turn before taking the bisque or half-bisque.

Question: If the adversary fails so to forestall what follows?

Answer: The striker shall be deemed regularly to have begun his *extra turn*, Law 38 (e), thus depriving himself of a stroke or possibly strokes, due to him in his first turn.

ROEHAMPTON LEAGUE

This is an outstanding success. Westminster School and Cottage Labs were not able to take part but the other six clubs are competing and the climax is approaching with three clubs having 5 points each, namely Parsons Green, Beechams and Roehampton Rovers. The result will be published later. Not only have these games been played but the clubs have been playing friendlies with each other and it has produced great keenness.

On the evening of July 18th, a powerful team went to Beechams to play friendly doubles, one of the team partnering a Beechams member. Mr Solomon opposed Mr Cotter and played two exciting games. In the first, Mr Solomon went round to the penultimate and Mr Cotter rose to the occasion with a superb all round break, peeling Mr Solomon through the last two hoops and pegging him and himself out. This left a two-ball game. Mr Cotter's partner, Mr Crowne, being for 2 back and Mr Solomon's partner, Mr Munden, for the 2nd hoop. Eventually the former won. In the second game they played 1 and 3 back. Mr Cotter played a brilliant all round break including a quadruple peel to win in about 20 minutes! Mr Solomon only had one shot! This was superb croquet on a difficult lawn played before a large, enthusiastic audience. Miss Lintern and partner on an adjoining lawn beat Mr Gilbert and his partner. There was considerable manoeuvring as the south boundary was in a hollow! In the walled garden, Major Tingey and partner on a very "sporting" court played very well to beat Mr Camroux and partner by 7, whilst on the adjoining court Mrs Carrington and Mrs Pavia had their difficulties round the humps, their partners being new to the game which was unfinished. We were then entertained royally to supper by the Beechams Club.

These matches do so much to help the smaller clubs. What about the some of our other larger clubs doing some of this and also getting other leagues started? We shall be pleased to help in any way we can, and we challenge next year the winners of any other league to meet our winners. Who will be the first to take this up? D.C.C.

TEST TOUR IN NEW ZEALAND

By PATRICK COTTER

Like the forces of Lars Porsena, the members of the Croquet Test Team came from east and west and south and north. Joan Warwick, the first to leave, went by sea with Mrs Solomon and Mrs Haigh-Smith, and these three had a preliminary tour of Australia. Bryan Lloyd-Pratt, with Humphrey Hicks, caught (just!) a later ship with William Ormerod and his wife and baby. Then John Solomon and his wife with David Curtis flew via the United States, and finally Bobbie Wiggins and I left London Airport two days later via the Far East. Bobbie and I were welcomed at the airport, shown into the V.I.P. lounge and given coffee and other refreshments before take-off. He and I cannot speak too highly of our trip in the Comet and the attention of the B.O.A.C. staff.

When we stepped out of the Friendship at Momona Airport after the 12,000 mile journey, the news that we had a nineteen mile bus ride into the city of Dunedin seemed absurdly funny. Our hotel from outside was rather forbidding, but I was to know it better by its food. The menu in its main course never varied. It offered a choice of mutton, corned beef, and colonial goose. I soon learned that mutton meant mutton from 3 to 15 years old, and that hogget or lamb is the edible variety. The corned beef was not attractive, and I never had the courage to find out what colonial goose really was.

We stayed ten days at Dunedin as we all needed practice. The Montecillo club was put at our disposal, and we are all sincerely grateful for the kindness shown to us here. Every day there was someone to give us morning or afternoon tea. This was a foretaste of the New Zealand hospitality that was to overwhelm us during the tour.

The Saturday after we arrived was the final day of the first Test between Kiwi and Kangaroo at Invercargill, some 140 miles to the south. We motored down for the day to see what we were up against. I had my first experience of New Zealand roads, and found the sense of space and no traffic jams most enjoyable. To our surprise Australia won 6-2 with one game unfinished.

Five days later we went down to the Taenui club to play New Zealand. All were keyed up and anxious to get on with the game, so that we found the opening ceremony a little tedious on this occasion. This club allowed us to use the bowling green. I was fortunate to draw it both for singles and doubles, and it was beautifully fast. We won the Test by 7-2. The Otago Association which staged the Test so efficiently gave us a wonderful farewell party. This was held in the lovely grounds of Glenfalloch and was something to be long remembered. It was quite un-English, and I could imagine it taking place in the Swiss mountains. We saw superb colour slides, heard good singing, and though the invitation was for after dinner, we were given a most attractive meal.

After this we had a weekend of sightseeing at Queenstown, which stands on the fifty mile Lake Wakatipu. Along one side runs the aptly named range of the Remarkables. These mountains, though not really high, give tremendous majesty to the scene, and reflect

that strange mauve aura that so impressed me at Delphi. The scenery here and at Milford can compare with anywhere in the world.

Of our 320 mile trip northwards to Christchurch, about a quarter was over an unsealed road. We arrived at our destination with dust in every pore. As compensation we had views of Mount Cook, monarch of the Southern Alps, from varying distances and angles. Christchurch itself, known as the most English city, recalls the beauty of the Cambridge Backs in the course of the River Avon. A garden city, if ever there was one, Christchurch annually awards a prize for the street with the best display. Royde Street, winner for two successive years, was a most impressive show.

New Zealand cities believe in making their mayors work. We had a civic reception the evening we arrived. A formal lunch the next day was graced by his Worship, and the day after that he opened the Test at Hagley Park. Before a large crowd we beat Australia by 7 matches to 2. The lawns were poor, but the hotel, it is only fair to say, was excellent.

We flew to "sunny" Nelson for a match against the South Island and were entertained lavishly. By this time I had learned my way round and was prepared for the seven appearances of tea daily. Early morning tea was any time from 6 to 7.30. More tea, naturally, at breakfast. Test matches started at 10.0 and one had only just played the opening shots, it seemed, when "morning" tea arrived at 10.15 or 10.30. Lunch was served at 12.30, and as I was having my sweet a little voice at my ear would say, "Will you have your tea now?" At 3.30 "afternoon" tea was almost a religious ceremony. At 5.30-6.30 "tea" made its appearance, that is, Scottish high tea, theoretically the last meal of the day. To combat night starvation, however, supper in the form of tea and cakes was available at 9 pm.

The farewell party at Nelson was terrific. Coloured slides, not too many, opened the proceedings, and these were followed by a girl piano-acordion player, a girl reciter, and a girl contortionist. The final item, a song meant to allay all nostalgia among the visitors was a type of ballad not heard in this country since the Diamond Jubilee.

Our next port of call was Wellington. I was grateful to be spared hotel life by being billeted with some charming people at Lower Hutt. Here at Waimarie we saw Australia beat New Zealand again, though the margin was only 5-4. I left Lower Hutt for Hastings to stay with my friends Arthur and Lena Ross. Lena is a truly wonderful hostess. We drove the twelve miles each day to Napier, where at the Marewa club we beat New Zealand for the second time 7-2. Bobbie and I left Hastings by rail car to travel the 70 miles to Dannevirke. Rail car travel at speeds of 60 m.p.h. on a 3ft 6in gauge with sharp bends demands both courage and agility.

At Dannevirke I was billeted with a charming family. The whole team was keyed up for this second Test against Australia, as we felt it was the vital match. In gorgeous hot weather on fast lawns we won by 8-1, and victory was within our grasp.

Three

Back in the rental car once more I left with John and Anne Solomon for Rotorua and the thermal region. I found geysers disappointing and I see why. Their interest lies in the tremendous forces of nature that they imply rather than in any inherent beauty they possess. For all that I found the Power Project at Wairakei awe-inspiring.

Rotorua did not appeal to us for several reasons. We ran into rain for the first time; we got sick of the continual smell of sulphur; and the hotels selected for us were quite horrific. The one I stayed at had the usual register but had added a column for remarks. How mad can one get? I turned over a couple of pages and found one entry that reflected my feelings. It consisted of the single word UGH! Still, the lawns on which the match against the North Island was played were in a lovely setting.

David Curtis, having collected his Simca which had been shipped out to Wellington, joined us for a weekend at Ohope. Here we rented a cottage on the edge of the bush with surf bathing a mere 150 yards away. We then spent a night at Tauranga, centre of the shark fishing, and as a busman's holiday decided to visit the local croquet club. We tried to remain incognito, but when we got there the members were in full regalia and—you've guessed it—tea was all prepared.

The third Test against New Zealand was at Hamilton and once more we won by 7-2. A curious incident occurred here. The woman sitting at the receipt of custom suddenly found that she was bleeding from the head. She had been shot by an air gun slug. The paper next day read: "Croquet player shot at Test match", which is apt to be misleading!

The final test against Australia was at Whangarei, where we had good lawns, good weather and good hotel accommodation. We won all nine games against a somewhat demoralised Australia, and travelled back to Auckland for the farewell dinner. Here a perfect *filet de boeuf* made up for previous meat courses.

I was confident before we left England that our team was good enough to win. I do not think that any of us played up to our best form, but we were not really extended. I thank all the members of my team for doing their jobs so well, and a special thank you to John Solomon for his support not only as my partner but as my right hand man.

It was nice to hear from an independent official source that we had been considered good ambassadors for Britain, and from Dannevirke that our team's play had inspired more men to join the club for next season.

It was a remarkable tour, and the thanks of all of us go out to the Croquet Association for their great efforts that made this tour possible, and to all players that helped to lighten the financial burden of the trip. Among the things I shall never forget were the scenery at Queenstown and the Bay of Islands, the Maori concerts with their uninhibited singing and the Polynesian tempo so refreshing after swing and twist, the hospitality that was showered upon us everywhere, and above all the kindness and affection of the New Zealand people who welcomed us not only into their homes but into their hearts.

Humour on Court

The very delightful cartoon strip on the opposite page is from the hand of Jill Healing, 16-year-old daughter of Colonel Healing, Treasurer of the Budleigh Salterton club, himself a promising recruit to the game of croquet. Budleigh members and other Associates who were keen to have the cartoon in print but d'd not want it to be a charge on the magazine have generously met the cost. We understand that Ian Baillieu is taking a number of facsimilies with him on his return to Australia. These were produced by Mrs Povey who prepared the cartoon for publication.

HANDICAPS CONFIRMED OR ALTERED BY THE HANDICAP CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE

NOTTINGHAM

Error in August issue—Correction.—Miss E. C. Brumpton 5½ to 5.

CHELTENHAM

✓ Cmdr. G. Borrett 9*
W. J. Sturdy 11.

Before Play

✓ W. H. Thorp 1½ to 1.

After Play

✓ Cmdr. G. Borrett 9 to 7.
✓ Rev. J. E. Andrews 4½ to 3½.
✓ E. Sidwell 4 to 3.
✓ P. J. M. Fidler 1½ to 1.
✓ Lt./Col. D. M. C. Prichard -1 to -1½.
✓ W. H. Thorp 1 to 0.
✓ T. G. S. Colls 1 to 0.
✓ W. Green 11 to 10.
✓ Miss K. M. O. Sessions 4 to 3.

CHAMPIONSHIPS

✓ A. A. Reed 0 to -1½.
✓ R. O. Hicks 0 to -½.

HURLINGHAM CLUB

✓ N. M. Baldwin 6½ to 5½.
✓ R. J. Pickett 6½ to 6.

HURLINGHAM

✓ J. Bolton 2 to 1.
✓ P. J. M. Fidler 1 to -½.
✓ O. A. Kerensky 11 to 10.
✓ Dr F. N. B. Smartt 3 to 1½.
✓ Dr H. J. Penny 2 to 1½.
✓ Mrs L. A. Showan 4 to 3½.
✓ Mrs A. W. Skempton 7 to 4½.
✓ T. F. Jessel 5½ to 4½.
✓ Miss B. Duthie 7½ to 6½.
✓ M. F. Buller 2½ to 2.
✓ Mrs E. A. Roper 7 to 6½.

CHALLENGE AND GILBEY CUPS

During Play

✓ P. D. Hallett 12* to 9.

After Play

✓ P. D. Hallett 9 to 6.
✓ Mrs F. H. N. Davidson 5½ to 5.
✓ M. F. Buller 2 to 1½.
✓ Mrs Davy 7 to 6½.
✓ D. J. V. Hamilton-Miller -1½ to -2.

PERSONAL REQUEST

✓ M. B. Reckitt -½ to 0.

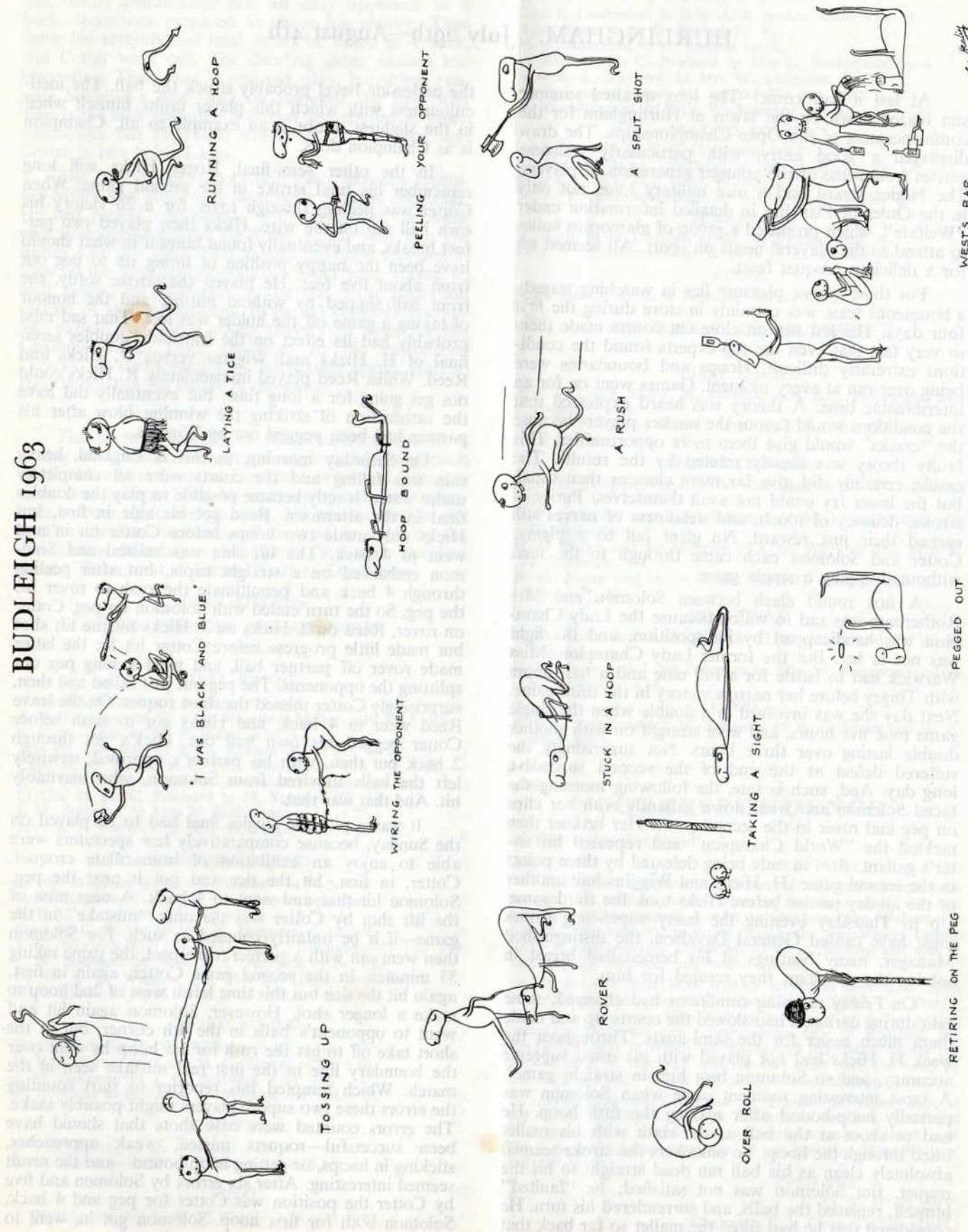
NORWICH RECOMMENDATION

✓ A. A. Reed 0 to -2.

An Appeal for Equipment

Mrs D. C. F. Bowyer of Wick Hill Farm Flat, Selborne, Hants, wishes to obtain a second-hand croquet set. The equipment need not be standard. Her husband used to play croquet between the wars, is now partially disabled, and wishing to maintain outdoor interests is anxious to resume his acquaintance with the game.

BUDLEIGH 1963



THE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

HURLINGHAM. July 29th—August 4th

At last it had come! The long awaited summer sun blazed down on the lawns at Hurlingham for the commencement of the Open Championships. The draw displayed a good entry, with particularly welcome entries from some of the younger generation of players. The Notice Board had a nice military tone, not only in the Order of Play but in detailed information under "Welfare", which promised a group of glamorous ladies to attend to the players' needs on court. All seemed set for a delicious croquet feast.

For those whose pleasure lies in watching tragedy a bounteous feast was certainly in store during the first four days. The hot sun on close cut courts made them so very fast that even the top experts found the conditions extremely difficult. Hoops and boundaries were being over-run at every moment. Games went on for an interminable time. A theory was heard expressed that the conditions would favour the weaker players because the "cracks" would give them more opportunities. This faulty theory was clearly refuted by the results. The cracks certainly did give far more chances than usual, but the lesser fry could not avail themselves. Purity of stroke, delicacy of touch, and steadiness of nerves still earned their just reward. No giant fell to a pigmy; Cotter and Solomon each came through to the final without dropping a single game.

A first round clash between Solomon and Mrs Rotherham was sad to watch because the Lady Champion was handicapped by indisposition, and the fight was not in her. But the former Lady Champion, Miss Warwick had to battle for a full nine and a half hours with Tingey before her narrow victory in the third game. Next day she was involved in a double when the single game took five hours, and went straight on with another double lasting over three hours. Not surprisingly she suffered defeat at the end of the second successive long day. And, such is fate, the following morning she faced Solomon and went down gallantly with her clips on peg and rover in the second game. Her brother then tackled the "World Champion" and repeated his sister's gallant effort in only being defeated by three points in the second game. H. Hicks and Wiggins had another of the all-day tussles before Hicks took the third game. Up to Thursday evening the many super-long games must have caused General Davidson, the distinguished Manager, many beatings of his bemedalled breast in solving the problems they created for him.

On Friday morning conditions had changed; some rain during darkness had slowed the courts up and made them much easier for the semi-finals. Throughout the week H. Hicks had not played with his usual supreme accuracy, and so Solomon beat him in straight games. A most interesting moment came when Solomon was partially hoop-bound after making the fifth hoop. He had to shoot at the ball at the sixth with his mallet tilted through the hoop. To onlookers the stroke seemed absolutely clean as his ball ran dead straight to hit the roquet. But Solomon was not satisfied; he "faulted" himself, replaced the balls, and surrendered his turn. He considered that he had tilted the mallet so far back that

the underside bevel probably struck the ball. The meticulousness with which this player faults himself when in the slightest doubt is an example to all; Champion is as Champion does.

In the other semi-final, Roger Hicks will long remember his final stroke in the second game. When Cotter was peeling through rover for a 26 victory his own ball ran on the wire. Hicks then played two perfect breaks, and eventually found himself in what should have been the happy position of lining up to peg out from about five feet. He played the stroke softly, the front ball slipped by without hitting, and the honour of taking a game off the holder was lost. That sad miss probably had its effect on the fratricide doubles semi-final of H. Hicks and Wiggins versus R. Hicks and Reed. Whilst Reed played immaculately R. Hicks could not get going for a long time, but eventually did have the satisfaction of striking the winning blow after his partner had been pegged out by Wiggins.

On Saturday morning, as this is England, heavy rain was falling and the courts were all completely under water. It only became possible to play the doubles final in the afternoon. Reed got his side in first, but Hicks only made two hoops before Cotter hit in and went to 4 back. The lift shot was missed and Solomon embarked on a straight triple, but after peeling through 4 back and penultimate the rush to rover hit the peg. So the turn ended with Solomon on peg, Cotter on rover, Reed on 2, Hicks on 3. Hicks hit the lift shot but made little progress before Cotter hit in; the latter made rover off partner ball, and tried a long peg out splitting the opponents. The peg out just failed and then, surprisingly Cotter missed the short roquet. On the leave Reed went to 4 back, and Hicks got to sixth before Cotter pegged his own ball out. Hick's got through 2 back but then, with his partner's approval, unwisely left the balls unwired from Solomon, who inevitably hit. And that was that.

It was a pity the singles final had to be played on the Sunday, because comparatively few spectators were able to enjoy an exhibition of immaculate croquet. Cotter, in first, hit the tice and put it near the peg. Solomon hit that and went to 4 back. A near miss of the lift shot by Cotter was the only "mistake" in the game—if it be unfairly counted as such. For Solomon then went out with a perfect triple peel, the game taking 33 minutes. In the second game Cotter, again in first, again hit the tice but this time left it west of 2nd hoop to make a longer shot. However, Solomon again hit and went to opponent's balls in the 4th corner, but in the short take off to get the rush for 1st hoop he went over the boundary line in the first real mistake seen in the match. Which tempted this reporter to start counting the errors these two superb players might possibly make. The errors counted were only shots that should have been successful—roquets missed, weak approaches, sticking in hoops, or getting hoop bound—and the result seemed interesting. After six errors by Solomon and five by Cotter the position was Cotter for peg and 4 back, Solomon both for first hoop. Solomon got in, went to

peg, and pegged out Cotter's blue. From the contact, Cotter got position for 4 back; Solomon joined in 4th corner. Cotter made 4 back, but just missed the long shot. Solomon started a three-ball break until, with a ball beside penultimate and an easy approach to 4 back, spectators prepared to cheer his victory. Then came his seventh and fatal error, he failed at 4 back, and Cotter went out. The deciding game seemed less interesting. There was in and out play, but things running Solomon's way until he achieved the final win. This is the fifth year that Solomon has reigned as Open Champion, but H. Hicks still leads him by two, and Cotter is two behind him.

The final of the Association Plate between Hamilton-Miller and Reed was deservedly won by the latter. He had played consistently well throughout the week and thoroughly upheld the form which won him the Surrey Cup last year. That he and the other representatives of the younger generation should have played so well seems, on reflection, to be the most important feature of this tournament. It should certainly encourage varsity and other young players to enter for the Championships. Their challenge to the established "cracks" is developing with fascinating speed. And in their hands lies the future of the game.

The smooth running of the Championships in a testing week owed much to the single-minded approach of the Manager, General Davidson, who had occasion more than once to bring his military operational experience to bear upon the planning. He was assisted in the ancillary welfare activities of tea and so forth by the ever-willing Mesdames Skempton, Solomon, Sundius Smith, Thom, and of course Barbara Davidson.

OPEN SINGLES

THE CROQUET CHAMPIONSHIP

(25 Entries)

FIRST ROUND

R. O. Hicks bt I. C. Baillieu +9 +3.
A. V. Camroux bt D. J. V. Hamilton-Miller +10 —15 +5.
E. P. C. Cotter bt M. F. Buller +19 +8.
Mrs W. Longman bt A. D. Karmel +2 +2.
Capt. H. G. Stoker bt C. J. E. Dashwood +14 —1 +15.
J. G. Warwick w.o. Brig A. E. Stokes-Roberts opp. scr.
Lt./Col. D. M. C. Prichard bt M. Spencer Ell +2 +12.
J. W. Solomon bt Mrs E. Rotherham +24 +25.
Miss E. J. Warwick bt Maj. R. Tingey —7 +12 +3.

SECOND ROUND

G. W. Williams bt D. W. Miller —4 +5 +9.
R. O. Hicks w.o. Mrs G. W. Solomon opp. scr.
E. P. C. Cotter bt A. V. Camroux +13 +14.
Capt. H. G. Stoker bt Mrs W. Longman +12 +9.
J. G. Warwick bt Lt./Col. D. M. C. Prichard —7 +14 +9.
J. W. Solomon bt Miss E. J. Warwick +24 +3.
Dr W. R. D. Wiggins w.o. Mrs R. Tingey opp. scr.
H. O. Hicks bt A. A. Reed +10 +3.

THIRD ROUND

R. O. Hicks bt G. W. Williams +15 +10.
E. P. C. Cotter bt Capt H. G. Stoker +22 +10.
J. W. Solomon bt J. G. Warwick +14 +8.
H. O. Hicks bt Dr W. R. D. Wiggins +4 —4 +19.

SEMI-FINAL

E. P. C. Cotter bt R. O. Hicks +25 +1.
J. W. Solomon bt H. O. Hicks +23 +13.

FINAL

J. W. Solomon bt E. P. C. Cotter +26 —5 +25.

OPEN SINGLES ASSOCIATION PLATE (14 Entries)

FIRST ROUND

C. J. E. Dashwood bt Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts by 11.
A. A. Reed bt A. D. Karmel by 10.
M. F. Buller bt I. C. Baillieu by 5.
Lt./Col. D. M. C. Prichard bt Mrs E. Rotherham by 4.
Miss E. J. Warwick bt Mrs W. Longman by 10.
A. V. Camroux w.o. M. Spencer Ell opp. ret.
D. W. Miller bt Mrs G. W. Solomon by 10.

SECOND ROUND

A. A. Reed bt C. J. E. Dashwood by 10.
Lt./Col. D. M. C. Prichard bt M. F. Buller by 17.
Miss E. J. Warwick bt D. W. Miller by 10.
D. J. V. Hamilton-Miller bt A. V. Camroux by 6.

SEMI-FINAL

A. A. Reed bt Lt./Col. D. M. C. Prichard by 23.
D. J. V. Hamilton-Miller bt Miss E. J. Warwick by 2.

FINAL

A. A. Reed bt D. J. V. Hamilton-Miller by 16.

THE DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP (10 Pairs)

FIRST ROUND

E. P. C. Cotter and J. W. Solomon w.o. Maj. Tingey and Mrs Tingey opp. scr.
J. G. Warwick and Miss E. Warwick bt Lt./Col. Prichard and Capt. Stoker +8.

SECOND ROUND

Mrs W. Longman and A. V. Camroux bt C. J. Dashwood and D. W. Miller +5.
E. P. C. Cotter and J. W. Solomon bt M. F. Buller and Mrs E. Rotherham +24.
H. O. Hicks and Dr Wiggins bt J. G. Warwick and Miss E. J. Warwick +4.
R. O. Hicks and A. A. Reed bt I. C. Baillieu and A. D. Karmel +22.

SEMI-FINAL

R. O. Hicks and A. A. Reed bt H. O. Hicks and Dr W. R. Wiggins +1.
E. P. Cotter and J. W. Solomon bt Mrs W. Longman and A. V. Camroux +14.

FINAL

E. P. C. Cotter and J. W. Solomon bt R. O. Hicks and A. A. Reed +9.

CORRESPONDENCE

An Echo of Pre-War Days

Sir,

Early this year there passed away a lady entirely unknown outside C.A. official circles, even in the days when she was serving our Association. I refer to the late Miss Walters—to give her her business name by which she was always known to us at headquarters. Unknown to us at the time she was in fact happily married, and had a family.

In pre-war days Miss Walters served as shorthand typist and Assistant Secretary to Lt./Col. Davies. When Col. Davies took on a war post, Miss Walters took over as in fact acting Secretary. We owe her a tremendous debt of gratitude for the faithful way in which she discharged her duties during the darkest days of the war, and for the great care she took of the C.A. property in the Office at 4 Southampton Row.

Writing as the Chairman of Council of those days, I say in all sincerity that it is difficult to see how we could have got by that terrible time, and lived to rebuild the life of the C.A. when peace came, had it not been for Miss Walters' faithful service.

Yours truly

G. F. H. ELVEY.

(Chairman C.A. Council 1939—1948.)

CHELTHENHAM

July 22nd—27th

A visitor competing at this tournament, if he has any knowledge of croquet's origins, will be recalled to the earliest history of the game. For it was in the West Midlands that croquet first emerged as a serious form of contest, under the original impulse of Walter Jones Whitmore, nearly a century ago. It is indeed possible that Cheltenham was the first provincial town to organise a croquet club. At any rate we know that it was the initiative of a lady who had formerly been a player here, who later, living at Maidstone, by promoting a tournament there in 1895, took the first step towards the revival of the game, and thus, indirectly, to the founding of the Croquet Association two years afterwards.

The existing club, in its singularly beautiful setting beneath the Cotswold Hills, will, in two years time, be celebrating the diamond jubilee of its open tournament. Almost every great player of the past has competed here, and several of today's experts have successfully done so, notably Mrs Rotherham, John Solomon and Humphrey Hicks. The club is steadily increasing its membership, and its ten courts are much in demand. They are very well maintained, but the nature of the soil and the turf is such that they are inevitably on the 'heavy' side. Indeed it was possible, on the opening days at any rate, to spot the visiting player by noticing that his take-offs were about five yards too short and that he was constantly confronting himself with highly speculative hoops.

The most interesting game on the first day was that between the only Test Match player of 1963 competing here, and the local secretary, Mr W. H. Thorp—a prolonged contest which would have drawn a larger gallery to its closing stages had not the company been regaling themselves with the refreshment generously provided at the club's cocktail party. Mr Thorp's potentialities were effectively exhibited by his victory on this occasion, as in some subsequent matches. Others to have good wins were two captains of Oxford University, the local Rev J. E. Andrews and the visiting Mr Fidler. Life is real, life is earnest, Longfellow has told us, and (he might also have reminded us) the peg is not its goal, or these young gentlemen would doubtless be scoring victories over their elders up and down the country in the next few years. But shades of the prison house (as another poet declared) begin to close about the growing boy: we are likely to see much less of our younger generation than we should like to do in the near future, alas.

Mr Fidler was another of Mr Thorp's victims, and this very promising young man found Mr Hodges returning to his old form in the Process and fell to him, after having a good victory over Mr Hicks who was not quite at his best. In the final of the Process between Mr Hodges and Lt./Col. Prichard, a remarkably in and out game resulted in a number of 'last shots' being hit, but it was Mr Hodges who 'laughed last'. This meant another game between these two to decide the custody of the very handsome trophy. Mr Hodges had to retire during the play-off, leaving Col. Prichard the winner. This was a fitting result since no one played through the week as steadily and consistently as Col. Prichard.

Mr Sidwell's steady play brought him victory in the 'B' event, as also in the Doubles with Mr Pugh where a very retentive policy in respect of the bisques accruing to the pair paid off. One of the most promising of a number of up and coming players at the club, Cdr. Borrett, duly fulfilled expectations by winning the 'C' event. Another player here with great potentialities is Miss Sessions who reached the final of the big handicap, and if she can play more often she will win a good deal more. But there was no holding Mr Tom Colls during this week playing at a reduced handicap, which, after he had begun playing, it was found the High Court at Hurlingham had refused to confirm; he nevertheless carried all before him. The victory gave special pleasure to everyone, since this popular and entertaining player will in a few weeks' time be departing from these shores. He will be much missed—not only at Cheltenham. Mr Maurice Reckitt, who seemed at first in some need of consolation obtained it by winning the event devoted to the provision of this solatium.

This report has become too long to allow of due thanks to all those deserving of it and the matter must be compressed into a few lines of verse:—

Three things must be good to make tournaments fun,
The Manager—meals—and the weather,
Sometimes we get two, and sometimes we get one,
And it has been alleged we may even get none—
But here we had all three together.

THE CHELTHENHAM CHAMPIONSHIP CHALLENGE CUP

OPEN SINGLES (CLASS "A")

DRAW

(20 Entries)

FIRST ROUND

Miss I. M. Roe bt V. A. de la Nougerede by 12.
T. G. S. Colls bt M. F. Buller by 10.
W. H. Thorp bt Dr H. J. Penny by 9.
H. O. Hicks bt G. E. P. Jackson by 4

SECOND ROUND

Mrs R. Tingey bt H. O. Hodgson by 13.
Lt./Col. D. M. C. Prichard bt N. F. Blackwood by 17.
Rev J. E. Andrews bt M. B. Reckitt by 8.
Miss I. M. Roe bt T. G. S. Colls by 5.
W. H. Thorp bt H. O. Hicks by 3.
C. W. R. Hodges bt E. G. Bantock by 7.
P. J. M. Fidler bt Mrs A. M. Daniels by 10.
Cdr G. V. G. Beamish bt Maj. R. Tingey by 12.

THIRD ROUND

Lt./Col. D. M. C. Prichard bt Mrs R. Tingey by 13.
Rev J. E. Andrews bt Miss I. M. Roe by 7.
W. H. Thorp bt C. W. R. Hodges by 11.
P. J. M. Fidler bt Cdr G. V. G. Beamish by 3.

SEMI-FINAL

Lt./Col. D. M. C. Prichard bt Rev J. E. Andrews by 10.
W. H. Thorp bt P. J. M. Fidler by 12.

FINAL

Lt./Col. D. M. C. Prichard bt W. H. Thorp by 15.

PROCESS

(20 Entries)

FIRST ROUND

Lt./Col. D. M. C. Prichard bt Cdr G. V. G. Beamish by 10.
Mrs A. M. Daniels bt Mrs R. Tingey by 8.
Maj. R. Tingey bt N. F. Blackwood by 10.
P. J. M. Fidler bt H. O. Hodgson by 15.

SECOND ROUND

Miss I. M. Roe bt E. G. Bantock by 15.
Lt./Col. D. M. C. Prichard bt W. H. Thorp by 1.
G. E. P. Jackson bt Rev J. E. Andrews by 13.
T. G. S. Colls bt Mrs A. M. Daniels by 18.
C. W. R. Hodges bt V. A. de la Nougerede by 20.
Dr H. J. Penny bt Maj. R. Tingey by 19.
H. O. Hicks bt M. B. Reckitt by 24.
P. J. M. Fidler bt M. F. Buller by 18.

THIRD ROUND

Lt./Col. D. M. C. Prichard bt Miss I. M. Roe by 25.
G. E. P. Jackson bt T. G. S. Colls by 3.
C. W. R. Hodges bt Dr H. J. Penny by 11.
P. J. M. Fidler bt H. O. Hicks by 6.

SEMI-FINAL

Lt./Col. D. M. C. Prichard bt G. E. P. Jackson by 14.
C. W. R. Hodges bt P. J. M. Fidler by 10.

FINAL

C. W. R. Hodges bt Lt./Col. D. M. C. Prichard by 1

PLAY OFF

Lt./Col. D. M. C. Prichard bt C. W. R. Hodges. Opp. ret.

HANDICAP SINGLES

(41 Entries)

FIRST ROUND

W. Green (11) bt Mrs K. Lowein (12) by 20.
Mrs A. M. Daniels (1) bt Mrs R. A. Hill (6) by 9.
F. H. Pugh (9) bt Miss M. Bryan (10) by 12.
M. F. Buller (2½) bt Miss E. P. Carmouche (7) by 13.
A. Sheppard (6) bt N. F. Blackwood (1½) by 15.
Cdr G. Borrett (*9) w.o. G. R. Mills (5) opp. scr.
Miss M. A. Posford (6) bt Dr T. E. Ryves (4) by 11.
T. G. S. Colls (1) bt V. A. de la Nougerede (—1) by 21.
Mrs D. M. Owen (7) bt Mrs B. de C. Mathews (3½) by 4.

SECOND ROUND

E. G. Bantock (2½) bt Mrs R. H. Burrell (10) by 5.
Rev J. E. Andrews (4½) bt Dr H. J. Penny (2) by 13.
Cdr G. V. G. Beamish (—½) w.o. W. H. Thorp (1) opp. scr.
Miss K. M. O. Sessions (4) bt Maj. R. Tingey (—1½) by 23.
Lt./Col. D. M. C. Prichard (—1) bt Miss M. M. Taylor (7) by 1.
W. Green (11) w.o. P. J. M. Fidler (1½) opp. scr.
Mrs A. M. Daniels (1) bt F. H. Pugh (9) by 13.
M. F. Buller (2½) bt A. A. Sheppard (6) by 6.
Cdr. G. Borrett (*9) bt Miss M. A. Posford (6) by 12.
T. G. S. Colls (1) bt Mrs D. M. Owen (7) by 23.
E. Sidwell (4) bt Miss H. McKean (10) by 12.
Miss R. M. Allen (4) bt Mrs R. Tingey (2) by 8.
Mrs D. M. C. Prichard (7½) bt H. O. Hodgson (2) by 13.
M. B. Reckitt (—½) bt G. A. H. Alexander (7) by 6.
Miss I. M. Roe (1½) bt Miss K. D. Hickson (4) by 10.
F. W. Meredith (5) bt C. W. R. Hodges (—½) by 10.

THIRD ROUND

Rev J. E. Andrews (4½) bt E. G. Bantock (2½) by 17.
Miss K. M. O. Sessions (4) bt Cdr G. V. G. Beamish (—½) by 22.
W. Green (11) bt Lt./Col. D. M. C. Prichard (—1) by 8.
Mrs A. M. Daniels (1) w.o. M. F. Buller (2½) opp. scr.
T. G. S. Colls (1) bt Cdr G. Borrett (*9) by 17.
Miss R. M. Allen (4) bt E. Sidwell (4) by 2.
Mrs D. M. C. Prichard (7½) bt M. B. Reckitt (—½) by 4.
F. W. Meredith (5) bt Miss I. M. Roe (1½) by 14.

FOURTH ROUND

Miss K. M. O. Sessions (4) bt Rev J. E. Andrews (4½) by 3.
Mrs A. M. Daniels (1) bt W. Green (11) by 10.
T. G. S. Colls (1) bt Miss R. M. Allen (4) by 5.
F. W. Meredith (5) bt Mrs D. M. C. Prichard (7½) by 7.

SEMI-FINAL

Miss K. M. O. Sessions (4) bt Mrs A. M. Daniels (1) by 10.
T. G. S. Colls (1) bt F. W. Meredith (5) by 6.

FINAL

T. G. S. Colls (1) bt Miss K. M. O. Sessions (4) by 3.

THE MONEY CHALLENGE SALVER

LEVEL SINGLES (CLASS "B")

(3 or more bisques)

(12 Entries)

FIRST ROUND

E. Sidwell bt Miss M. A. Posford by 25.
Mrs B. de C. Mathews w.o. G. R. Mills opp. scr.
Miss K. D. Hickson bt H. A. Sheppard by 14.
Miss R. M. Allen bt Dr T. E. Ryves by 20.

SECOND ROUND

Mrs R. H. Hill w.o. Cdr D. W. Roe opp. scr.
E. Sidwell bt Mrs B. de C. Mathews by 10.
Miss K. D. Hickson bt Miss R. M. Allen by 18.
Miss K. M. O. Sessions bt F. W. Meredith by 13.

SEMI-FINAL

E. Sidwell bt Mrs R. A. Hill by 25.
Miss K. D. Hickson bt Miss K. M. O. Sessions by 5.

FINAL

E. Sidwell bt Miss K. D. Hickson by 3.

HANDICAP SINGLES (Class "C").

(6½ or more bisques)

(12 Entries)

FIRST ROUND

Mrs D. M. C. Prichard (7½) bt Miss M. Bryan (10) by 6.
W. Green (11) bt Miss M. M. Taylor (7) by 11.
W. J. Sturdy (11) bt Mrs K. Lowein (12) by 11.
F. H. Pugh (9) bt Mrs D. Owen (7) by 7.

SECOND ROUND

Miss E. P. Carmouche (7) bt Mrs R. H. Burrell (10) by 8.
W. Green (11) bt Mrs D. M. C. Prichard (7½) by 25.
W. J. Sturdy (11) bt F. H. Pugh (9) by 17.
Cdr G. Borrett (*9) bt G. A. H. Alexander (7) by 18.

SEMI-FINAL

W. Green (11) bt Miss E. P. Carmouche (7) by 20.
Cdr G. Borrett (*9) bt W. J. Sturdy (11) by 25.

FINAL

Cdr G. Borrett (*9) bt W. Green (11) by 15.

THE BARWELL SALVERS

HANDICAP DOUBLES

(17 Pairs)

FIRST ROUND

T. G. S. Colls and Miss I. M. Roe (2½) bt N. F. Blackwood and M. F. Buller (4) by 9.

SECOND ROUND

H. O. Hodgson and W. Green (13) bt V. A. de la Nougerede and Mrs B. de C. Mathews (2½) by 9.
W. H. Thorp and Miss K. M. O. Sessions (5) bt Maj. R. Tingey and Mrs R. Tingey (½) by 25.
P. J. M. Fidler and Mrs A. M. Daniels (2½) bt Dr H. J. Penny and Miss K. D. Hickson (6) by 6.
T. G. S. Colls and Miss I. M. Roe (2½) bt M. B. Reckitt and Cdr. G. Borrett (8½) by 13.
Cdr G. V. G. Beamish and Mrs R. A. Hill (5½) bt G. A. H. Alexander and Mrs R. H. Burrell (17) by 10.
E. Sidwell and F. H. Pugh (13) bt E. G. Bantock and Dr T. E. Ryves (6½) by 12.
H. A. Sheppard and Mrs K. Lowein (18) bt Mrs D. M. Owen and Miss H. Bryan (17) by 3 on time.
F. W. Meredith and Miss M. M. Taylor (12) bt Lt./Col. and Mrs D. M. C. Prichard (6½) by 18.

THIRD ROUND

W. H. Thorp and Miss K. M. O. Sessions (5) bt H. O. Hodgson and W. Green (13) by 5.
P. J. M. Fidler and Mrs A. M. Daniels (2½) bt T. G. S. Colls and Miss I. M. Roe (2½) by 7.
E. Sidwell and F. H. Pugh (13) bt Cdr G. V. G. Beamish and Mrs R. A. Hill (5½) by 11.
H. A. Sheppard and Mrs K. Lowein 18 bt F. W. Meredith and Miss M. M. Taylor (12) by 4 on time.

SEMI-FINAL

P. J. M. Fidler and Mrs A. M. Daniels (2½) bt W. H. Thorp and Miss K. M. O. Sessions (5) by 8.
E. Sidwell and F. H. Pugh (13) bt H. A. Sheppard and Mrs K. Lowein (18) by 8.

FINAL

E. Sidwell and F. H. Pugh (13) bt P. J. M. Fidler and Mrs A. M. Daniels (2½) by 6.

ROEHAMPTON TOURNAMENT

September 23rd—28th

Readers are asked to note that Event 5 (Handicap Doubles) is for combined handicap *not less than 5*. The notice in the August number showed the conditions as "Combined handicap not less than scratch", and intending competitors should accordingly take note of the correct conditions.

HURLINGHAM

August 5th—14th

A number of features of this year's Hurlingham tournament are deserving of mention. In the first place, in giving a sincere word of thanks to Mr Roper, let us remember the variety of problems which this tournament presents for the Manager with its three doubles events tending to cloy the programme with blocking difficulties. Last year Mr Roper worked in harness with Mr Brackenbury, who after many years of dedicated service decided this year to give up what is freely admitted to being among the most arduous manager-ships in the C.A. calendar. This year the management was vested solely in Mr Roper, although he would be the first to acknowledge the invaluable help of Lew Stokes-Roberts who was always at hand to assist with the duties of the hour. Our warm thanks to them both. They even coped with an extra event which attracted 24 entries and which finished in a light-hearted manner.

Next, the presence of John Bolton in the entries reminded us of the previous occasion when a promising schoolboy appeared at Hurlingham fifteen years ago in the person of John Solomon and drew Miss Elphinstone Stone in the handicap with a margin of some 70 years in age. John Bolton was in action early and made only isolated mistakes in taking the measure of Maurice Reckitt.

Our next comment is less pleasant. Although the main open events attracted virtually the same number of entries as last year and the Younger Cup was a little down, the Longworth Cup, an open event for bisquers of 8 and over, had only 4 competitors compared with 13 last year and 20 the year before. While of last year's 13, 2 have moved up in class, 2 at least were absent on holiday and 2 were indisposed, it is disturbing to find the event cutting up so badly. Is it because the early rounds were advertised to be played at Roehampton (but they were also last year), because the Challenge and Gilbeys follow Hurlingham with perhaps a greater attractiveness for the high bisquers, or that being a level event the 12 to 14 bisquer feels that with one or two good backmarkers (vide Jessel and Pickett last year) they will get short shrift. Perhaps the event might be converted to a Handicap event in future and played on the Full Bisque system.

After the somewhat arid state of the lawns during most of the previous week during which the Championships were held the flooding on the Bank Holiday Saturday had eased matters and the conditions made for fairly quick games. Considering the dreadful winter and the highly uneven weather of recent months, Tom Grey can be congratulated on having the lawns in such quality.

The Hurlingham Cup

There were a number of new faces in this event including three of the younger generation, Bolton, Fidler, and Laurenson. The last-named had a tough draw and might have been advised in any case to have entered for the Turner Cup. Bolton and Fidler had a number of successes between them and the latter reached the final of the Draw where he might well have beaten Hicks if things had gone his way once or twice. Hicks also reached the final of the Process where he beat Cotter who among other things had finished Gerald Williams in a little over half-an-hour in an early round including a triple peel. In the Process final, Hicks beat Cotter who had his first ball round but failed to get going with the other. Fidler did very well to take second place by beating Cotter and so qualified for his Silver Medal. Hicks won this event as long ago as 1928, his first big open win.

The Turner Cup

The greatly improved Dr Smartt was noticed at an early stage as one likely to be in at the end and so it proved, he having had fairly comfortable wins against Winston Cheavin and Dr Penny before reaching the final where he met the steady Captain Buller. Dr Penny himself had three good wins and showed himself still a redoubtable opponent. The final proved to be a closely contested fight and Dr Smartt won by 5 points. As he shared in a doubles victory his first visit to Hurlingham proved to be a fruitful one.

The Younger Cup

A surprise (on paper) in this event was a succession of decisive wins by the outsider of the party, Mrs Skempton. Having demolished Mrs Thom, she proceeded fluently through to the final by beating Lew Stokes-Roberts and Jack Rivington. Here she met Jessel who had been fancied to win the event and had proceeded fairly smoothly through the earlier rounds, although somewhat tested by Miss Duthie in the semi-final. Perhaps overawed in some measure by a sizeable gallery Mrs Skempton came under pressure towards the end of a close final and two mistakes may well have cost her the game. Congratulations, however, to Jessel who last year won the Longworth Cup and may well soon find himself in a higher class.

The Longworth Cup

As already mentioned this event cut up rather badly. Farrington, one of last year's Oxford team, was thought a likely winner but succumbed in the final to Mr Kerensky, a local product who will be much encouraged by this, his first tournament success.

The Mixed Doubles

An unexpected feature of the first round was the defeat of the former holders, the Warwicks, at the hands of Godby and Mrs Solomon. The Warwicks failed to regain the innings on more than one occasion by missing short roquets and were nowhere near the form of which they are capable. This is not to undervalue their opponents' feat which was gained as much by good play on their part as by the shortcomings of the opposition. Wednesday afternoon saw an interesting second round match between Cotter and Miss Lintern, and Bolton and Mrs Rotherham, the latter pair winning after an unavailing salvaging attempt by Patrick. Maurice Reckitt and Mrs Showan occupied the lawns for some seven hours on the same day and prevailed narrowly in the two matches in which they were engaged. They succumbed, however, to the holders, Hicks and Mrs Longman, in a game that finished on a time basis. Godby and Mrs Solomon were unable to maintain their earlier form in the semi-final and lost to Bolton and Mrs Rotherham. In the final, which proved to be a very protracted affair, Bolton and Mrs Rotherham prevailed.

The Candlesticks

Mrs Skempton was playing so confidently in her singles games that she and Miss Warwick, winners in 1961, were thought to have an excellent chance of regaining their title. This, however, was not to be, since Mrs Solomon and Mrs Roper beat them convincingly in the first round. Mrs Roper was in good form and Mrs Solomon was obviously relishing the doubles game, having as already mentioned participated in the Mixed against the Warwicks. We have rarely seen Mrs Roper play to better purpose and she repeated the dose when she and her partner overcame Mrs Rotherham and Lady Ursula Abbey in the semi-final, thus qualifying to meet last year's holders, Mrs Gasson and Miss Duthie, in the final. In this the holders proved the steadier pair and won with a number of points in hand.

The Men's Handicap Doubles

Mr Roper relaxed from his management duties to enter for this event in the company of Patrick Cotter. They proceeded to overcome the formidable partnership of Hicks and Wiggins by the maximum amount and went on to reach the final, there meeting Tingey and Smartt. Here Patrick made a few more mistakes than customarily expected of him but it was only by a last shot of the game by Dr Smartt that he and Tingey prevailed. A little more precision in wiring and the issue could have been reversed.

The Handicap Singles

The last eight from the original entry of 48 produced a worthy quarter-final series of games. In the earlier rounds Baillieu v. Bolton had produced a real humdinger and it was a pity that one of them, Bolton, had to be knocked out at this stage. Mrs Rotherham was up against it against Buller when the latter had a ball round and bisques in hand. However, the lady went round, pegged out the Captain and manoeuvred well to gain the spoils. She had, however, to give best to

Fidler who found the background of 4 bisques to his liking. Coming now to the last eight, the steady and attractive styled Mrs Showan proved too much for a former winner of the event, Miss Hickson, Mrs Skempton overcame Colonel Beamish with something in hand, Karmel went down to Fidler, while Joan Warwick, after a prolonged and dour struggle, just pipped Baillieu. Fidler gave no chance to Joan Warwick in his semi-final and won by the full 26, while Mrs Skempton had an ample margin against Mrs Showan. In the final Mrs Skempton's bisques proved too much for Fidler and her steady play throughout the week has probably merited a significant reduction in handicap.

THE HURLINGHAM CUP

OPEN SINGLES

DRAW

(20 Entries)

FIRST ROUND

Miss E. J. Warwick bt J. T. Laurenson by 15.
Mrs W. Longman bt A. D. Karmel by 16.
E. P. C. Cotter bt E. P. Duffield by 24.
H. O. Hicks bt Maj. R. Tingey by 14..

SECOND ROUND

P. J. N. Fidler bt I. C. Baillieu by 3.
Col. D. W. Beamish bt W. Longman by 15.
Mrs E. Rotherham bt J. G. Warwick by 26.
Mrs W. Longman bt Miss E. J. Warwick by 3.
H. O. Hicks bt E. P. C. Cotter by 15.
Dr W. R. D. Wiggins bt M. Spencer Ell by 14.
J. P. R. Bolton bt M. B. Reckitt by 15.
G. Williams bt Miss D. A. Lintern by 11.

THIRD ROUND

P. J. N. Fidler bt Col. D. W. Beamish by 20.
Mrs E. Rotherham bt Mrs W. Longman by 12.
H. O. Hicks bt Dr W. R. D. Wiggins by 12.
J. P. R. Bolton bt G. Williams by 22.

SEMI-FINAL

P. J. N. Fidler bt Mrs E. Rotherham by 4.
H. O. Hicks bt J. P. R. Bolton by 16.

FINAL

H. O. Hicks bt P. J. N. Fidler by 11.

PLAY OFF FOR SECOND PLACE

P. J. N. Fidler bt E. P. C. Cotter by 6.

PROCESS

(20 Entries)

FIRST ROUND

G. Williams bt W. Longman by 20.
I. C. Baillieu bt J. P. R. Bolton by 4.
Col. D. W. Beamish bt Miss D. A. Lintern by 15.
P. J. N. Fidler bt M. B. Reckitt by 3.

SECOND ROUND

Miss E. J. Warwick bt M. Spencer Ell by 17.
E. P. C. Cotter bt G. Williams by 24.
J. G. Warwick bt Maj. R. Tingey by 11.
Mrs W. Longman bt I. C. Baillieu by 16.
Dr W. R. D. Wiggins bt J. T. Laurenson by 22.
Col. D. W. Beamish bt E. P. Duffield by 15.
H. O. Hicks bt Mrs E. Rotherham by 26.
P. J. N. Fidler bt A. D. Karmel by 7.

THIRD ROUND

E. P. C. Cotter bt Miss E. J. Warwick by 13.
J. G. Warwick bt Mrs W. Longman by 16.
Dr W. R. D. Wiggins bt Col. D. W. Beamish by 2
H. O. Hicks bt P. J. N. Fidler by 16.

SEMI-FINAL

E. P. C. Cotter bt J. G. Warwick by 8.
H. O. Hicks bt Dr W. R. D. Wiggins by 11.

FINAL

H. O. Hicks bt E. P. C. Cotter by 17.

TURNER CUP

(Open Singles)

(One bisque and over)

(18 Entries)

FIRST ROUND

D. J. Wilson-Haffenden bt Miss K. D. Hickson by 10.
Dr H. J. Penny bt Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts by 14.

SECOND ROUND

Mrs V. C. Gasson bt Mrs R. B. N. Smartt by 4.
M. F. Buller bt D. E. Buckland by 20.
Maj. F. Hill-Bernhard w.o. Mrs R. Tingey opp. scr.
D. G. Wilson-Haffenden bt Lady Ursula Abbey by 10.
Dr H. J. Penny bt R. A. Godby by 17.
A. W. Skempton bt Mrs G. W. Solomon by 7.
Mrs L. A. Showan bt Maj. J. R. Abbey by 8.
Dr R. B. N. Smartt bt I. W. Cheavin by 19.

THIRD ROUND

M. F. Buller bt Mrs V. C. Gasson by 19.
Maj. F. Hill-Bernhard bt D. J. Wilson-Haffenden by 1.
Dr H. J. Penny bt A. W. Skempton by 22.
Dr R. B. N. Smartt bt Mrs L. A. Showan by 5.

SEMI-FINAL

M. F. Buller bt Maj. F. Hill-Bernhard by 12.
Dr R. B. N. Smartt bt Dr H. J. Penny by 13.

FINAL

Dr R. B. N. Smartt bt M. F. Buller by 5.

LEVEL SINGLES

YOUNGER CUP

(4½ bisques and over)

(10 Entries)

FIRST ROUND

Mrs A. W. Skempton bt Mrs M. L. Thom by 20.
T. F. H. Jessel bt Mrs E. A. Roper by 20.

SECOND ROUND

J. M. Rivington w.o. G. Victor Evans opp. scr.
Mrs A. W. Skempton bt L. E. W. Stokes-Roberts by 11.
T. F. H. Jessel bt Mrs F. H. N. Davidson by 21.
Miss B. Duthrie bt Gen. F. H. N. Davidson by 9.

SEMI-FINAL

Mrs A. W. Skempton bt J. M. Rivington by 15.
J. F. H. Jessel bt Miss V. Duthie by 10.

FINAL

J. F. H. Jessel bt Mrs A. W. Skempton by 7.

LEVEL SINGLES

LONGWORTH CUP

(8 bisques and over)

(starting at third hoop)

(4 Entries)

SEMI FINAL

R. W. Farrington bt Mrs T. Croal by 11.
O. A. Kerensky bt B. L. P. Caillard by 16.

FINAL

O. A. Kerensky bt R. W. Farrington by 15.

MIXED OPEN DOUBLES

(11 Pairs)

FIRST ROUND

E. P. C. Cotter and Miss D. A. Lintern bt E. P. Duffield and Miss B. Duthie by 6.
J. P. R. Bolton and Mrs E. Rotherham bt J. T. Laurensen and Mrs R. B. N. Smartt by 6 on time.
M. B. Reckitt and Mrs L. A. Showan bt Dr H. J. Penny and Miss K. D. Hickson by 4 on time.

SECOND ROUND

R. A. Godby and Mrs G. W. Solomon bt J. G. Warwick and Miss E. J. Warwick by 21.
J. P. R. Bolton and Mrs E. Rotherham bt E. P. C. Cotter and Miss D. A. Lintern by 12.
M. B. Reckitt and Mrs L. A. Showan bt M. F. Buller and Lady Ursula Abbey by 5.
H. O. Hicks and Mrs W. Longman bt I. C. Baillieu and Mrs M. L. Thom by 14.

SEMI-FINAL

J. P. R. Bolton and Mrs E. Rotherham bt R. A. Godby and Mrs G. W. Solomon by 16 on time.
H. O. Hicks and Mrs W. Longman bt M. B. Reckitt and Mrs L. A. Showan by 11 on time.

FINAL

J. P. R. Bolton and Mrs E. Rotherham bt H. O. Hicks and Mrs W. Longman by 11.

LADIES' HANDICAP DOUBLES
LADIES' FIELD CANDLESTICKS

(7 Pairs)

FIRST ROUND

Mrs E. Rotherham and Lady Ursula Abbey (—1) bt Mrs W. Longman and Mrs R. B. N. Smartt (2) by 2.
Mrs E. A. Roper and Mrs G. W. Solomon (9) bt Miss E. J. Warwick and Mrs A. W. Skempton (5) by 25.
Mrs L. A. Showan and Mrs T. Croal (14) bt Miss D. A. Lintern and Mrs M. L. Thom (4) by 6.

SEMI-FINAL

Mrs E. A. Roper and Mrs G. W. Solomon (9) bt Mrs E. Rotherham and Lady Ursula Abbey (—1) by 11.
Mrs V. C. Gasson and Miss B. Duthie (10) bt Mrs L. A. Showan and Mrs T. Croal (14) by 4 on time.

FINAL

Mrs V. C. Gasson and Miss B. Duthie (10) bt Mrs E. A. Roper and Mrs G. W. Solomon (9) by 10.

MEN'S HANDICAP DOUBLES

(14 Pairs)

FIRST ROUND

I. C. Baillieu and A. W. Skempton (4½) bt M. B. Reckitt and J. P. R. Bolton (½) by 10.
J. G. Warwick and J. M. Rivington (3) bt Maj. F. Hill-Bernhard and J. T. Laurensen (7) by 13.
E. P. C. Cotter and E. A. Roper (—1) bt H. O. Hicks and Dr W. R. D. Wiggins (—6) by 26.
Dr R. B. N. Smartt and Maj. R. Tingey (½) bt R. A. Godby and T. F. H. Jessel (7) by 5.
Brig. Stokes-Roberts and L. E. W. Stokes-Roberts (8½) bt P. J. N. Fidler and D. J. Wilson-Haffenden (5) by 7.
Dr H. J. Penny and A. D. Karmel (1½) bt E. P. Duffield and R. W. Farrington (9½) by 2.

SECOND ROUND

I. C. Baillieu and A. W. Skempton (4½) bt Gen. F. H. N. Davidson and D. E. Buckland (10) by 6.
E. P. C. Cotter and E. A. Roper (—1) bt J. G. Warwick and J. M. Rivington (3) by 7.
Dr R. B. N. Smartt and Maj. R. Tingey (½) bt Brig. Stokes-Roberts and L. E. W. Stokes-Roberts (8½) by 12.
Dr H. J. Penny and A. D. Karmel (1½) bt M. F. Buller and Col. D. W. Beamish (1½) by 11.

Twelve

SEMI-FINAL

E. P. C. Cotter and E. A. Roper (—1) bt I. C. Baillieu and A. W. Skempton (4½) by 5.
Dr R. B. N. Smartt and Maj. R. Tingey (½) bt Dr H. J. Penny and A. D. Karmel (1½) by 15.

FINAL

Dr R. B. N. Smartt and Maj. R. Tingey (½) bt E. P. C. Cotter and E. A. Roper (—1) by 3.

HANDICAP SINGLES
PINCKNEY SIMPSON CUP

(48 Entries)

FIRST ROUND

Mrs F. H. N. Davidson (5½) bt G. Williams (½) by 11.
W. Longman (2) bt Mrs E. A. Roper (7) by 9.
Mrs A. Skempton (7) bt O. A. Kerensky (11) by 8.
D. E. Buckland (2½) bt Lady Ursula Abbey (2) by 4.
Col. D. W. Beamish (—1) bt Dr F. J. Bentley (7) by 4.
Mrs G. W. Solomon (2) bt J. M. Rivington (4½) by 3.
Maj. F. Hill-Bernhard (4) w.o. G. Victor Evans (4½) opp. scr.
Gen. F. H. N. Davidson (7½) w.o. Mrs R. Tingey (2) opp. scr.
A. D. Karmel (—½) bt Mrs R. B. N. Smartt (3) by 17.
Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts (2) bt A. W. Skempton (3½) by 8.
J. G. Warwick (—1½) bt Mrs M. H. Carrington (6½) by 4.
Dr H. J. Penny (2) bt E. P. Duffield (1) by 17.
Maj. R. Tingey (—1½) bt Dr R. B. N. Smartt (3) by 2.
Mrs E. Rotherham (—3) bt M. F. Buller (2½) by 2.
Maj. J. R. Abbey (1½) bt M. B. Reckitt (—½) by 3.
P. J. N. Fidler (1) bt D. J. Wilson-Haffenden (4) by 10.

SECOND ROUND

Mrs L. A. Showan (4) bt J. T. Laurensen (3) by 7.
Mrs W. Longman (—1) bt L. E. W. Stokes-Roberts (6½) by 9.
R. A. Godby (1½) bt I. W. Cheavin (3½) by 6.
Miss K. D. Hickson (4) bt Mrs V. C. Gasson (2½) opp. rtd.
Mrs F. H. N. Davidson (5½) bt W. Longman (2) by 10.
Mrs A. W. Skempton (7) bt D. E. Buckland (2½) by 19.
Col. D. W. Beamish (—1) bt Mrs G. W. Solomon (2) by 11.
Maj. F. Hill-Bernhard (4) bt Gen. F. H. N. Davidson (7½) by 2.
A. D. Karmel (—½) bt Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts (2) by 15.
Dr H. J. Penny (2) bt J. G. Warwick (—1½) by 26.
Mrs E. Rotherham (—3) bt Maj. R. Tingey (—1½) by 13.
P. J. N. Fidler (1) bt Maj. J. R. Abbey (1½) by 26.
Miss V. Duthie (7½) bt Mrs T. Croal (10) by 18.
Miss E. J. Warwick (—2) bt T. F. H. Jessel (5½) by 10.
I. C. Baillieu (1) w.o. Mrs S. M. Adler (2) opp. scr.
J. P. R. Bolton (1) bt R. W. Farrington (8½) by 12.

THIRD ROUND

Mrs L. A. Showan (4) bt Mrs W. Longman (—1) by 11.
Miss K. D. Hickson (4) bt R. A. Godby (1½) by 12.
Mrs A. W. Skempton (7) bt Mrs F. H. N. Davidson (5½) by 17.
Col. D. W. Beamish (—1) bt Maj. F. Hill-Bernhard (4) by 13.
A. D. Karmel (—½) bt Dr H. J. Penny (2) by 26.
P. J. N. Fidler (1) bt Mrs E. Rotherham (—3) by 25.
Miss E. J. Warwick (—2) bt Miss V. Duthie (7½) by 3.
I. C. Baillieu (1) bt J. P. R. Bolton (1) by 3.

FOURTH ROUND

Mrs L. A. Showan (4) bt Miss K. D. Hickson (4) by 17.
Mrs A. W. Skempton (7) bt Col. D. W. Beamish (—1) by 13.
P. J. N. Fidler (1) bt A. D. Karmel (—½) by 20.
Miss E. J. Warwick (—2) bt I. C. Baillieu (1) by 3.

SEMI-FINAL

Mrs A. W. Skempton (7) bt Mrs L. A. Showan (4) by 13.
P. J. N. Fidler (1) bt Miss E. J. Warwick (—2) by 26.

FINAL

Mrs A. W. Skempton (7) bt P. J. N. Fidler (1) by 20.

ROEHAMPTON TOURNAMENT

September 23rd—28th

Readers are asked to note that Event 5 (Handicap Doubles) is for combined handicap *not less than 5*. The notice in the August number showed the conditions as "Combined handicap not less than scratch", and intending competitors should accordingly take note of the correct conditions.

DEVONSHIRE PARK
EASTBOURNE

SOUTH OF ENGLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Fifty-Sixth Annual Open Tournament will start on Monday

September 30th, and continue during the following two weeks.

(Held under the Laws and Regulations of the C.A.)

Committee.—The Entertainment Committee of the County Borough of Eastbourne, and the Tournament Committee of the Council of the C.A.

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

Referee.—Mrs. E. Reeve.

Assistant Referees will be appointed under Reg. 3 (a).

Secretary.—The Secretary, Croquet Association, Hurlingham Club, London, S.W.6.

EVENTS

- 1.—OPEN SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE SOUTH OF ENGLAND. Holder of the Ionides Challenge Trophy: J. G. Warwick. Entrance fee, 15s. 0d.
- 2.—MEN'S SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE SOUTH OF ENGLAND. Holder of the O'Callaghan Gold Challenge Cup: M. B. Reckitt. Entrance fee, 11s. 6d.
- 3.—WOMEN'S SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE SOUTH OF ENGLAND. Holder of the Franc Challenge Trophy: Mrs. E. Rotherham. Entrance fee, 11s. 6d.
- 4.—DEVONSHIRE PARK SALVER. LEVEL SINGLES. Open to competitors handicapped at ½ to 3½ inclusive. Holder: M. F. Buller. Entrance Fee, 11s. 6d.
- 5.—LUARD CUP. LEVEL SINGLES. Open to competitors handicapped at 4 to 7½ inclusive. Holder: Mrs. M. McMordie. Entrance fee, 11s. 6d.
- 6.—TREVOR WILLIAMS CUP. LEVEL SINGLES. Open to competitors handicapped at 8 to 11 inclusive. Holder: Mrs. D. M. C. Prichard. Entrance fee, 11s. 6d.
- 7.—FELIX CUP. LEVEL SINGLES. Open to competitors handicapped at 12 to 16 inclusive. Holder: Mrs. J. Povey. Entrance Fee, 11s. 6d.
- 8.—OPEN DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE SOUTH OF ENGLAND. Winners 1962: Col. D. M. C. Prichard and Mrs. W. Longman. Entrance fee, 11s. 6d. each competitor.
- 9.—RESTRICTED HANDICAP DOUBLES. Winners 1962: D. J. V. Hamilton-Miller and F. H. Curtis. Open to pairs with a combined handicap of not less than 2 bisques. All games start at the third hoop. Time limit 3½ hours. Entrance fee, 11s. 6d. each competitor.
- 10.—HANDICAP SINGLES. The SUSSEX CHALLENGE CUP. Holder: Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave. To be drawn in one block. Entrance fee, 12s. 6d.
- 11.—LIMITED HANDICAP SINGLES "X.Y.". THE SUSSEX UNION CHALLENGE CUP. Restricted to competitors handicapped at 4 bisques or over. Competitors in events 1, 2, 3 or 8, may not enter for this event. Entrance fee, 15s.
- 12.—HANDICAP SINGLES PLATE. Not open to competitors in Event 1. The main object of this event is to make sure that all competitors can have a minimum of six games in the fortnight or, if they are unable to play before Saturday, October 5th, at least 3 games. Competitors will be entered automatically for this event as they become eligible. No entrance fee.

CONDITIONS

- 1.—Competitors may enter for only one of Events 1, 4, 5, 6 and 7.
- 2.—All matches will be of singles games. Event 1 will be decided on the Two Lives System.
- 3.—Events 1, 2, 3 and 8, will be played under the Laws of Advanced Play and Event 4 under the Laws of Semi-advanced Play.
- 4.—Events 6 and 7 will be played under the Laws of Handicap Singles Play omitting Law 38b and 39. In Event 6 each player will receive 8 bisques and in Event 7 will receive 12 bisques.
- 5.—Competitors in Events 1, 4 and 11, will have a game on the first or second day of the tournament.
- 6.—It is intended to complete Events 1 and 8 during the first week.
- 7.—Events 2, 3 and 9 will not start before the second week.
- 8.—Those who cannot start play until Saturday, October 5th, may still compete in Event 10, but must be prepared to play at 10 a.m. on that day.
- 9.—All (except competitors in Event 1), who lose their first match in Event 10 and in the other events for which they have entered will be put down to compete in Event 12.

INFORMATION

ENTRIES.—ENTRIES ACCOMPANIED BY ENTRANCE FEES FOR ALL EVENTS EXCEPT 8 AND 9 MUST REACH THE SECRETARY, THE CROQUET ASSOCIATION, HURLINGHAM CLUB LONDON, S.W.6, BY THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19th. (Do not send Entries to Devonshire Park.) Cheques and Postal Orders should be made payable to the Croquet Association.

Competitors may enter for Events 8 and 9 in the above way, but, if there is still room, entries will be accepted at Devonshire Park by the Secretary up to half-an-hour of the time of the Draw.

Non-Associates must also pay a Tribute of 25s. or 12s. 6d. for one event only; but on their becoming Associates any Tribute paid by them during the current year will be refunded or credited against their subscription.

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

DRAW.—The Draw for all Events except 8 and 9 will take place in the C.A. Offices, Hurlingham Club, London, S.W.6, at 11.45 a.m. on Friday, September 20th. The Draw for Event 8 will take place at Devonshire Park at noon on Tuesday, October 1st, and for Event 9 at Devonshire Park at noon on Saturday, October 5th.

COURTS AND EQUIPMENT, ETC.—Jaques' "Eclipse" balls and hoops 3½in. wide will be used. There will be a number of shelter tents for players and officials.

In addition to the courts at Devonshire Park some use may be made of the Compton Courts.

Entries may be limited if found necessary.

All competitors will be notified by post card the day and time on which they will be required to play.

PLAY.—Play will normally begin at 10 a.m. daily and continue until daylight fails, but the Manager may vary this, if it seems desirable.

All competitors must report to the Manager on arrival.

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

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.—Granting of any leave must depend on the needs of the Tournament.

ADMISSION.—Associates will be admitted free on production of their membership cards. Otherwise admission is 1s.

N.B.—The Match this year will be played on the second Saturday, October 12th. For further details see September magazine.

PRACTICE AND FRIENDLY GAMES

Throughout the Tournament courts will be available for practice and friendly games at the Compton Club unless they are required for Tournament matches. Special green fee 2s. 6d. for a morning or an afternoon.