

SPORTS AND PASTIMES.

BOWLING.

MUCKLAND (GRAFTON) CLUB.

This old-established club had another large gathering on Saturday, when the following games were played:—

No. 1 Rink: Spreckley, Allen, Prime, Ledingham (skip), 23, v. Coleman, Brown, Crawford, Haslett (skip), 20.

No. 2 Rink: Squirrel, Corner, Dingle, Towsey (skip), 31, v. Beere, Leser, Hosking, Dr. Hooper (skip), 15.

No. 3 Rink: J. L. Scott, Dr. King, Miller, Rhodes (skip), 23, v. Carnie, Green, Campbell, James (skip), 15.

No. 4 Rink: Michael, Morton, Hegman, Carlaw (skip), 25, v. Geddes, Thorne, Moritzson, Lawson (skip), 1.

No. 5 Rink: H. Lambert, Trudgeon, Myers, Handcock (skip), 32, v. Harris, Elliott, Patterson, Mahoney (skip), 10.

No. 6 Rink: Woodhead, Wells, Deniston, Culpan (skip), 18, v. W. S. Jones, Phillips, Brigham, Butts (skip), 16.

No. 7 Rink: Lewis, Pike, Rev. Scott-West, Lambert (skip), 25, v. Lea, Melroy, Shackelford, Winks (skip), 24.

No. 8 Rink: Watson, Bell, Kingswell, Ross (skip), 22, v. Noonan, Shaw, Smart, McFarlane (skip), 12.

PONSONBY.

The Ponsonby Bowling Club met on Saturday as usual, when the following games were played:—

No. 1 Rink: R. Tudehope, S. McDermott, J. Court, C. G. Brookes (skip), 18, v. C. Westpahl, J. H. Hudson, T. Peacock, C. Blomfield (skip), 19.

No. 2 Rink: D. Stewart, — Henley, A. J. Hurdall, W. J. Rees (skip), 18, v. W. E. Hutchinson, R. M. Watt, A. Sutherland, J. Edmiston (skip), 24.

The following teams picked to represent the Club in the Pennant Matches were drawn to practice:—

No. 3 Rink: W. McCutcheon, J. Hutchinson, J. Kirker, H. W. Brookes (skip), 35, v. A. Brookes, A. Littler, J. Coe, A. Stewart (skip), 13.

No. 4 Rink: J. Blades, J. Swales, A. S. Russell, R. Ballantyne (skip), 18, v. (scratch team) J. Stichbury, J. Buchanan, E. T. Hart, D. B. McDonald (skip), 17.

NEWMARKET CLUB.

A good game was played on the Newmarket green, the scoring being as follows:—

A. Holmes, W. Morgan, C. G. Laurie, G. H. Laurie (skip), 15, v. W. Caston, A. Anderson, W. Southwell, J. S. Kilgour (skip), 24.

The following two rinks have been selected to represent Newmarket in the forthcoming Pennant Matches:—

C. G. Laurie, A. Holmes, D. Anderson, G. H. Laurie (skip), and H. Kent, A. Anderson, W. Southwell, J. S. Kilgour (skip).

REMUERA CLUB.

The following matches were played:—

No. 1 Rink: King, Hurton, Macky, Heriot (skip), 21, v. Noakes, Stevenson, Ching, McLean (skip), 15.

No. 2 Rink: Wright, Hull, Court, Laxon (skip), 28, v. Maxfield, Beatty, Cattanaach, Hardie (skip), 12.

No. 3 Rink: Bruce, Brown, Dingwall, Holden (skip), 18, v. Heron, Wingate, Rutledge, George Court (skip), 14.

No. 4 Rink: Dr. Erson, Sanderson, Fallon, Sibbald (skip), 17, v. Col. Dowell, Gamble, Thomas Finlayson, Rose (skip), 24.

DEVONPORT.

The scores and players on Saturday were:—

No. 1 Rink: Captain Syms, W. Croser, A. Lelievre, T. Stewart (skip), 13, v. Captain Best, J. A. Walker, E. Durton, J. W. Harrison (skip), 23.

No. 2 Rink: J. Harvey, A. Dawes, J. Wilson, M. McCallum (skip), 14, v. M. Nicol, G. Holt, R. A. Browne, R. Engleton (skip), 24.

No. 3 Rink: G. Brooks, C. H. Smith, A. Carey, J. Escott (skip), 15, v. J. A. Shand, F. S. Malcolm, J. Dore, J. Dinsdale (skip), 18.

TENNIS.

Although an extremely hot day, a considerable number of persons assembled at 'Waterlen,' Blenheim, last Saturday, when the Misses McCallum had a tennis party, using their lawn for the first time this season. It was in capital order, and many enjoyable sets were played. The guests grouped themselves on the verandah and balcony, after partaking of the many delicacies provided for after-

noon tea, and watched the players. It was much pleasanter to sit in the shade and criticise than to play, for the sudden rise in temperature—from frosts two days before to 80 degrees in the shade—was decidedly enervating. Some of the guests were:—Mrs Richard McCallum, Mrs J. Hutcheson, Mrs Carey, Miss McLauchlan, Miss M. McLauchlan, Miss Edith Ball, Miss Kate Ball, Miss Minnie Fulton, the Rev. Mr Robb, and Messrs R. McCallum, Mirams, C. Fulton, Stubbs, W. Carey, Mabin, J. Hutcheson, J. Clark, etc., etc.

Mr Greensill's court at Brooklyn. Picton, was opened on Wednesday with a glorious day and the court in perfect condition. Some capital sets were played, though only two gentlemen were present, but the ladies enjoyed their sets immensely. Among those there were the Misses Western (3), White (Wairau Valley), Philipotts (3), Harries, Davidson, R. Greensill, Howard, Hay, Mesdames J. Greensill, Howard, H. Howard, and Allen, Miss Ethel Greensill had a lovely tea set out on tables on the lawn which everybody enjoyed.

The 'Brook' Tennis Club, Nelson, opened on Saturday, a large number of people being present. Some capital games were indulged in.

The Inglewood Lawn Tennis Club was opened for the season by the President, D. Valentine, on Thursday, November 18th.

The Hawera Lawn Tennis Club opened its season on Saturday, November 20th, in Bayly's Park.

CROQUET.

The Auckland Croquet Club was well represented, and several interesting games were played. Mrs J. A. Haslett dispensed afternoon tea.

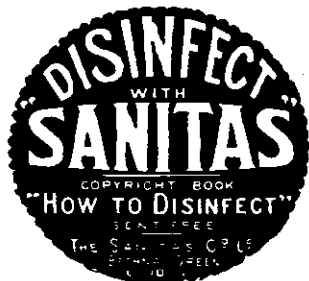
GOLF.

There was a large attendance of ladies at the Miramar Golf Links on Wednesday afternoon, to witness the playing off of the tie for the Boyle medal, between Miss Gerty Rose and Miss Cooper, which resulted in a win for Miss Cooper, with the excellent score of 126, without taking into account a handicap of 9 to which she was entitled, Miss Rose being 137. Miss Cooper's win was a very popular one, as she has played very consistently throughout the various competitions, and is one of the most promising of the club's players.

During the afternoon an approaching and putting competition also took place at the links for prizes presented by Miss Brandon, the putting competition resulting in a win for Mrs Todd, and the approaching competition being won by Miss Cooper.

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THE MODERN WOMAN.

'Well, Mary,' asked the Modern Husband, 'what have you been doing today?'

The Modern Woman was taking off her bonnet.

'Everything,' she answered. 'I've had such a busy day, you can't imagine. At nine this morning we had a reading at Mrs X's—such a beautiful reading. Mrs X read us a paper on the "Architecture of the Probable Capital of Mars." I do wish you could have heard it, dear—and after that Professor W. gave us a little talk on the "Microscopic Insects of Central Africa." It was so interesting.'

'It must have been.'

'Then at eleven there was a meeting of the "New Century Religious Club," and at 11.30 a meeting of the Ways and Means Committee of the "Society for the Reformation of Murderers."'

'Yes.'

'And at noon I lunched with Mrs Z.'

'Yes.'

'And in the afternoon we went to the spring theatricals of the "Woman's Garrick Club." And then, coming home, I saw such a lovely child playing in the street in front of our house. Such a dear little boy; I quite wanted to kiss him. I wonder whose child he is.'

'Did he have yellow hair?' asked the Modern Man.

'Yes.'

'And blue eyes?'

'Beautiful blue eyes.'

'And an old tattered cotton blouse?'

'Oh, a horrid one!'

'Then I know whose child he is.'

'Well?'

'He's ours.'

FOREIGNERS IN CHINA.

There are over 10,000 Europeans and Americans resident in China. The English head the list with 4,000; the Americans number 1,255; Germans, 882; French, 875; Portuguese, 805; Spaniards, 461; Norwegians, 375; Russians, 116; Italians, 108; etc. There are 668 Japanese. Twenty-two ports are open to foreign residence—that is to say, Europeans are allowed to acquire conditional title to certain lands, on which they live, govern themselves and have special privileges in judicial matters. These ports are Menetz, Lung Chow, Pakhoi, King Chow, Lappa, Canton, Kowloon, Swatow, Amoy, Fuchan, Winchow, Ningpo, Shanghai, Chinkiang, Wuh, Kiukiang, Hankow, Ichang, Chungking, Chefoo, Tientsin and Nuchwang. It is to be noticed that Peking does not appear on this list, although the Embassies and legations are established there. The Chinese who find themselves under foreign jurisdiction appear more than contented with the situation, because although taxes are high they are fixed. Two hundred thousand natives live in the European settlements of Shanghai. Besides the foreign residents of China, a large number live in ports that have been ceded to other nations. For instance, Hong Kong comprises in its civil population 4,195 Europeans and Americans. With the troops and sailors, this number is raised to 8,545. Hong Kong is the actual capital of foreign industry in the Far East. More than 3,000 vessels, with a tonnage of nearly 4,000,000, touch there annually. The same spirit which caused the development of Singapore, Colombo, and Hong Kong is to be found in the foreign settlements of the open ports of China.

A KLONDYKE IN SHAKESPEARE'S TIME.

Queen Elizabeth had been twenty years on the throne when great excitement was caused in London 'mining circles' by the arrival of a piece of ore from the barren lands where America and Asia were supposed to meet. The 'gold-finders,' having assayed it, found it to contain gold, 'and that very richly,' and so they promised 'great matters' for whomever would find more of the ore, and sought leases of the lands whence it came, 'that they might draw private advantage from a public good.' In 1577 three ships sailed from 'Black Walle,' and landed the would-be miners in a country where 'all the sands and rocks did so sparkle and glisten that it seemed all gold.' With the English flag at their head they marched through a land of rough, stony mountains, very high, and great quantity of snow thereon, where was nothing 'fit or profitable for the use of man,' and where blew boisterous, icy winds mixed with snow and hail. But spicers abounded, a sure sign of great stores of gold, and 'salvages' leaping, and dancing, and shrieking, and eating ice, 'as pleasantly as we do sugar-candy.' And the 'salvages' viciously

'hurt our captain in the back' with an arrow, so the miners captured two of them, a woman—so ugly that they 'plucked off her back to see if she were cloven-footed'—and a man, who told them that near by were people who wore plates of gold on their foreheads and about their bodies. And great riches showed themselves in the bowels of the barren mountains, and when the sand was washed they plainly saw the gold. And while the miners plied their work the captain sought new mines, the gold-finders made trial of the ore, and the mariners loaded the ships. And there was such abundance of ore that it was thought that it might reasonably satisfy the gold-gluttons of the world. And the three ships came sailing home again, and all England talked of the wealth they had brought from the North Pole, and part of it was put in the Royal Treasury in the Tower of London, with four locks made by the Queen's command to keep it safe from burglars. But somehow a furnace could not get hot enough to bring the work to the desired perfection, and the ore persisted in remaining mere ore, and so the 'gold-gluttons' went hungry.

SALVAGE MONEY.

Owing to the high salvage money obtained by rendering assistance to a disabled ship at sea, many steamers and sailing vessels carry on an irregular sort of 'wrecking business' by always being on the alert for stranded ships. A tramp steamer that could bring a great transatlantic liner into port in a disabled condition would realise more money than its owner would make in a trip across the sea with a full cargo. As an illustration of what salvage money is paid for towing steamers into port, mention can be made of a few conspicuous cases. In 1882 the City of Richmond was towed into Halifax Harbour, and cost her owners 35,000 dollars (£7,000) in salvage money. In the same winter the City of Boston broke her shaft at sea, and her owners were compelled to pay a bill, for towing and other aid, of 46,500 dollars (£9,300.) When the Atlantic Liner Paris broke down off the Irish coast in 1890, she was towed into port at an expense of 30,000 dollars (£6,000). So rich are these prizes that the coast wrecking companies frequently send powerful tugs to sea just after a storm in search of disabled vessels. If a steamer is several days overdue, the tugs may go hundreds of miles off the coast and in this sense the companies extend their labours into new fields, practising wrecking upon the high seas. When the fast Atlantic liner New York made her first voyage from the port of New York, she ran aground off Sandy Hook, and the owners had to pay nearly 100,000dol (£20,000) to float her again. One of the Red D Line steamers stuck on the Brigantine shoals off New Jersey, in 1889, and the wrecking company that pulled her off received 40,000dol (£8,000) for their services. The more recent work of floating the American line-steamers St. Paul from the sand off Long Branch recalls the difficulty of handling one of the great transatlantic liners off a sand bar or mud flat. Both the Chapman and Merritt Wrecking Companies, of New York, combined to float her, and the salvage money, amounting to about 100,000dol (£20,000), was divided among them.

In several lunatic asylums journalism has been introduced among the inmates as a curative measure. One demented person refused food, and as obstinately declined to furnish any reason for his action. In a newspaper article, however, he wrote:—'I desire to be buried as quickly as possible. It is a monstrous scandal that I should be compelled to drag about all over this house a dead and putrefying corpse.' As soon as the bent of his weak-mindedness was discovered he received appropriate treatment and eventually recovered.

A gentleman maintains that swearing wastes vitality. He says:—'The nervous force I would put into half-a-dozen oaths will do me an hour of work. But then I can condone swearing in those with whom it is a result of highly sensitive nerves. In those with whom it is merely bad language, mere vulgar profanity, usually accompanied by a disposition to obscenity, it is unpardonable. The man who wishes to express himself truthfully avoids superlatives of all kinds, and oaths are the worst superlatives it is possible to use. The best educated man is the one who can express himself in the plainest possible language, with the fewest possible epithets or unnecessary words of any kind.'