19

But that is going a great deal too far. The newer theorists, in their wild hunt for originality, are much too ready to pooh-pooh those ancient rules of play, which, although perhaps nei-ther literally correct nor scientifically accurate, are yet generally based upon a very true conception of the game. In boldly stating that the elub should be awung, and not hit, at the ball, the old writers meant nothing different from what w#"MI believe to-day, but they couched their advice in the dog-matic form most likely to drive it home. It is noticeable, for instance, that Mr. Horace Hutchison, one of the stout-est advocates of the "swing, don't bit"

It is noticeable, for inscance, one-Mr. Horace Hutchison, one of the stout-est advocates of the "swing, don't hit" theory, warns his disciples against the "hammer-hurling heresy," which results from an exaggerated and over literal interpretation of the advice to make the stroke a swing. He points out that the motion of the club should never approach to that of the hammer, which the athlete is about to send hurting through the air; in other words, the stroke must be in the na-ture of a swing, but it must not be purely a swing. It is much more dangerous, however, to let it become purely a hit. For one thing, the Golf club, though not quite the "mstrument singularly ill-adapted for the purpose" of striking the ball, which it has been dubbed, is certainly not formed for hitting. Let anyone test this for himself by sus-pending a golf ball on a string a foot or so from the ground, and striking at

anyone test this for himself by sus-pending a golf ball on a string a foot or so from the ground, and striking at it with his driver; he will be surprised how seldom he hits it clean. The truth is that it is not at all a simple thing to strike a golf ball clean with a slim-shafted club, and it needs the mechani-cal accuracy of the swing to make the stroke a reliable one. There is only one thing in statistics

stroke a relative one. There is only one thing in, athletics with which the stroke of the golf club can fairly be compared, and that is the motion of the bowler's arm in cricket. The ball is not thrown; it is slung from a revolving arm. But no one would pretend that the motion of the bowler's arm is a suffer suffer. arm is a pure swing.

arm is a pute swing. I do not wish to say either that it is not possible to make the stroke a "hit," because I have seen it done. Cricketers, who are taking up golf for the first time, commonly "hit" the ball with great success in using their iron clubs—and are unable to touch the ball at all with their wooden ones. I was

the mass time, country in the internal with great success in using their iron clubs—and are unable to touch the ball at all with their wooden ones. I was witness in one case of the first attempts at the Royal and Ancient game made by a number of Highland shinty play-ers. They drove a fine ball with the wooden clubs, long and straight, and the stroke they employed was almost a pure hit; indeed, so little did it par-take of the ordinary golfers' swing that they usually stood some distance behind the ball, and took two or three quek steps forward, in order to gain additional impetus for the stroke. It is, therefore, impossible to lay down an absolute rule that the ball must not be hit, but, on the other hand, there is no doubt that in the case of the best players the features of the swing predominate. Nor is it difficult to see why this should be so. When the club is swinging at full stretch in an accustomed circle, it ought only to need the eye being kept upon the ball to ensure the accuracy of the blow. In the case of a hit, there is no such me-chanical safeguard, and the factor of aim becomes of much greater impor-tance. Similarly, when the head of the club is moving in a fair approximation to a true circle, the possibility of it swinging across the line, and imparting an undesirable spin to the ball, is great-ly diminished. The temptation to hit, in the case

The temptation to hit, in the case of most players, arises from the ever-present desire to get more distance out of the stroke, and the assumption that more force is obtained by hitting the ball. There is, however, a fatal flaw in the logic of this—it does not follow that because more force is exerted, more force is obtained. Doubtless it is pos-sible to bring a larger amount of mus-cular power into play by departing from the simplicity of the pure swing, but it is at the expense of some part of the force which the mere action of gravity imparts to the descending club. Moreover, it is not the ball which is struck with the greatest force which necessarily travels the greatest dis-tance. The action of the loft of the elub in imparting a backward spin is requisite to ensure the farthest carry. But in the case of a bit the action of this is much less thorough. The temptation to hit, in the case

For, consider the way in which the

club is moving. In the case of a swing it is moving as nearly as possible in a circle at the full stretch of the golfer's it is moving as nearly as possible in a circle at the full stretch of the golfer's arm. Any departure from this motion, such as is inevitable when the stroke is more in the nature of a hit, tends to shorten the radius of this circle, and consequently to sharpen the curre at the point where the club meets the ball. The immediate consequence of this is that the club head, during the brief interval of time while club and ball are in contact, is less able to in-sinuate itself under the ball than in the case of the more open curve, and so the amount of back spin which it produces is not so great.

CHESS.

All communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor, "The Weekly Graphic and New Zealand Mail," Auckland.

Answers to Correspondents,

- H. N.—The question is being continually asked, but owing to the endless number and variety of combination that are possible over the board, it is impossible to give more than an approximate theoretical and practical approximate theoretical and practical comparison of the relative powers of the men. Staunton's "Handbook" gives the approximate mathematical value as follows:--Taking the pawn as the unit, the knight is worth 3.05; the bishop, 3.50; the rook, 5.48; and the queen, 9.94.
- the queen, 3.94. KuNG.—As you rightly observe, many players do not make good use of their king in end play. However, after considerable experience and study in pawn endings, the player will realise that the power of the king is stronger than that of a knight or a bishop. DEVINENT There is no nesticular.
- than that of a knight of a bishop. BEGINNER.—There is no particular opening by which you could obtain a superior position; indeed, if a royal road were possible for White, having first move, to force Black, by a series of moves, into an inferior position, the game of chess would no longer be the noble pastime that it has been considered since its introduction into eivilised countries. civilised countries.

Solution to Position No. 4.

K-R2, K-R2; K-R3, K-Kt2; Kt-Kt3, K-R2; K-B4, K-Kt3; K-Kt4, K-R2; K-R5; K-Kt2; K-Kt5, K-R2; K-B6, K-Kt5; K-Kt6, K-R; K-B7, K-R2; rook mates.



Key move: R x P. Position No. 6. End Game Study. Black.



White to play and win. Forsyth Notation: k7; P7; 1P1p4; 7p; 2P3p1; 6K1; 8; 8. c

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A fine consultation game, played during

Mr. F. J. Lee's visit	to Ireland.
"Petroff	Defence."
White,	Black.
Soffe and Peake. Pas	nell and Les.
1. P-K4	P-K4
Ét-KB3	Kt-KB3
8. P-Q4	Kt x P
4. Kt x P	Kt-KB3
5. P-QB2	Kt-B3
6. B-03	P-03
7. Kt x Kt (a)	PIEt
8. Castles	B-K2
9. P-RB4 (b)	P-04
10. Kt-Q2	P-B4
11. Kt-B3	PIP
12. Kt z P	Castles
14. K-R	P-B4

Kt-B6	Q-B3
. Kitz Bich	Q'ı Kt
B-Q2	Kt-K5
Q-B2	F-84
QR-K (c)	B-Kt3
P-B4 (d)	F O5 (e)
P-QR3 (f)	R-B3
P-0Kt4	R R3
K-Kı	O-R5
P-R3	R-K(3
R z Kt	OIRP
R-B2	Prk
BrP	12-04
BIR '	B x KtP (e)
Resigns.	

Notes.

(a) Kt B3 is better. It is seldom good to exchange in this manner.
(b) A move that greatly weakens White's position. B-K3 is probably as good as anything.
(c) R-B3, with the object of playing QR-KB and B-K is more attractive.
(d) B-K3 for the purpose of B-X Kt, followed by Q-KB2, would have given White a more level game.
(e) Rick has now a fine position, with

(e) Black has now a fine position, with a powerful passed pawn. (f) There is no time for this pawn play. R-K2 and B-K are almost neces-sary.

(g) The ending is played in a masterly manner.

Concerning An Ancient Opening.

1.	P-K4	P-K4
2.	KLKB3	Kt-QB3
		7

3. B-B4 B-B4

In practice, 3 . . . Kt-KB3 yields good results, but is the sacrifice of a pawn in the "Two Knights Defence" theoretics?'s come is theoretically sound?

> 4. P-B3 Kt-KB3

A move often played, but not good. Black's most logical reply is P-Q3

5. P-Q4	PxP.
6. P x P	B-Kt5 el
Kt-B3	•

This move, occurring in Greco, has been quite abandoned—why, I cannot say. It has considerable worth. The sacrifice of a pawn leads to a very lively attack, and makes an extremely interesting game.

game. In 1895, at the Hastings International Tourney, Steinitz played a memorable game that was accounted the finest in the contest. His adversary, M. de Bar-deleben, replied 7 . . . P.Q4 (we shall see later that 7 . . . Kix KP is equally disadvantageous), and the con-tinuation was S Px P, KKtx P; 9 Castles, B-K3. . The game showed that the defence adopted by Bardeleben was not good. For a long time it was thought that Black got a good game by

	7. Kt x KP
8. Castles	8. BxKt

If now 9 PxB, then P-Q4, etc. But M. Moller, of Stockholm, had the ingenious idea of continuing

9. P-05!

and the defence becomes very difficult Black.

for Black. Next week I will give a summary of arrived at. after a Next week I will give a summary or the conclusions arrived at, after a lengthy and minute analysis of this in-teresting opening, by D. Janowski, M. Teichmann, Herren Falindrich, and Victor Tietz.

BRIDGE.

Defensive Spades,

Some few weeks back I gave, at the re-quest of my renders, some of the pros and cons in favour of and against an original cons in favour of and against an original spade. I must confess I used to be a very strong and firm supporter of a de-fensive spade make, but lately I have had my confidence a good deal shaken, and an beginning to think that though one must frequently go down when leav-ing it on a really rotten hand instead of declaring spades original, yet in the long run one wina in the aggregate number of points. Quite lately I had the two following hands dealt me:--I. Hearts: Nine, seven. Diamonds: Six. Clubs: Nine, eight, six, four. two.

Diamonds: Six. Clubs: Nine, eight, six, four, two. Spades: Knave, nine, eight, six, two, a defensive spade call if ever there was one. The score was love all in the second game, and, contrary to my usual cus-tom, I passed. My partner called hearts. A led king of diamonds, and my partner wut downput downHearts; Ace, king, queen, knave, ton Diamonds: Knave, nine, three.

Diamonus: huste, _____ Clubs: King, queen. Spades: Queen, seven.

A led ace of diamonds the second trick, and I trumped with the seven of hearts, and I da small club, which A took with the ace, and (wrongly) led ten of spades; B won with the king, and played the ace back. A failed, and B played another, on which I put the eight, Dummy ovar-trumping with the ten, and, leading an-other diamond, I made my nine of hearts, and we scored 24 below and 80 above, a total of 104. If I had made spades we should have made one club, one heart, and three spades, and lost 4 below and 4 above, a halance of 112 in favour of leaving it in this case, to say nothing of the fact that from 24 in our next deal we won the game and rubber. ٠ . . we won the game and rubber.

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I took up:

Hearts: Six. Diamonds: Ten, seven, six. Clubs: Nine, seven.

Spades: Knave, ten, seven, six, four

Spaces: Anive, ten, seven, see, tout three, two. I passed, Dummy called no trumps. A club was led, and Dummy put down: Hearts: Ace, ten, seven. Diamonds: Ace, queen, nine, three,

two.

Now. I am not arguing from results;

tically won by these "passes." Now, I am not arguing from results; here are many instances showing that leaving it on such hands was attended with disastrous results, and tricks and games were lost on an expensive call by dummy even with a good hand. But what I want to point out is the fact that in two games only I was 246 points to the good, and that balance will stand a loss of 20 tricks in no trumps, 30 tricks in hearts, 40 tricks in diamonds, or 60 in clubs before it is dissipated, to my leav-ing it, the value of which may be put down at 300 points at least, and with the beta on the rubber as 500. Therefore, I shall go on with that balance in hand, and if I occasionally lose one or two tricks in hearts or no trumps, when I pass on a rotten hand, I might for a long time consider that I am well to the good. Of course, such strong calls from dummy are an exception, but it must be remembered that if you hold a knave only, there are 15 other court cards to be divided among three, and your part-ner may have your share as well as his, own. I, therefore, was prepared to risk an occasional loss for the cluance of doing much better.

much better. Of course, I am always assuming that your partner is a player, and not a per-son who calls hearts on a pass with queen and three small ones, and a guarded king in another suit; or no trumps also on a pass, with no guards in the red suits. If I were blessed with such a partner I should become more of a spade caller than the greatest advocate of the defensive game, but I am thankful to say that I don't play with mony who are so un-wise. Of course, I am not saying that the above two hands prove anything, for they are extraordinary hands in their way, but from the statistics which ap-peared in an American puper some months back, it certainly scenes to me, provided that those stutistics are cor-rect, that in the long run one wins in points. On the other hand, it must be probably playing with a number of part-ners. And of these partners, those with whom you go down will certainly not bless you—in fact, they will probably do ther.

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It is asid that a new supply of radium has been discovered by Portugal by Thomas H. V. Hower, a member of the American Institute of Mechanical Eugl-American Institute of Mechanical Edge-neers, A certain stream, the name of which is not disclosed, was reputed to have therapeutic properties. Mr. Bower followed the stream to its source, and discovered that it ran over a bod of uranium phosphate.