

the visit of the English hockey team to Wairarapa. It is just possible that Wairarapa may visit Auckland this year, as they are the Northern team who have played Auckland on their southern tour some three or four years ago, when the match ended in a draw.

Football clubs are now preparing for the forthcoming season. There does not promise to be any marked improvement shown in the play this season. The following teams will meet for various seasons in their respective competitions:—Senior: Greytown, Carterton, Red Star, Gladstone, and Lower Valley, the latter being doubtful. Junior: Red Star, Dalefield, Liberal, and Lower Valley. Third-class: Red Star, Masterton, Dalefield, Carterton. The following senior captains have been elected: Carterton, C. Groube; Red Star, A. How. The ex-footballer and New Zealand rep. footballer, Edgar Wrigley, is making a great name for himself as a footballer in England. He plays for the Huddersfield Club in the English League, and is a senior competitor, and during the past season scored more points than any other player in the competition. He also gained representative honours for the second year, which took him to the professional ranks, and a resourceful player in the professional clubs. Wrigley now owns a hotel in Huddersfield, and does not intend returning to New Zealand for some years.

If funds permit the Wairarapa senior football reps. will probably go on tour this season, and may include Auckland in their itinerary. A visit was expected by Wairarapa this season, but it fell through, however, the Northern Union may travel South as far as Wairarapa this season.

New players who will don the jersey in Wairarapa this season include Frog Rough (last year's Manawatu rep), Hamilton (a Wellington forward), Douglas (a Feilding back), J. Duggan, a West Coast rep, and formerly of Wairarapa rep., Armstrong (a Dunedin forward).

At a meeting of the stewards of the Masterton Racing Club on Saturday it was decided to apply for the dates December 25 and 26 for their summer meeting, and March 19 and 20 for their autumn meeting. The club have not previously held a meeting in summer, October being their month formerly.

The following were the principal winning owners at the recent meeting of the Wairarapa Racing Club:—Middleton and Mellrose, £185; F. C. Fisher, £100; H. Goodman, £200; E. Hughes, £275; A. Lislike, £65; J. Orr, £65; M. Lavery, £60; W. H. Overton, £50; B. Hookway, £50; K. G. McKenzie, £20; W. M. Bailey, £27 10/.

The Wairarapa race, the Herald, has been thrown out of work, and will not race again this season. She has not been very successful on the track during the past season, not having had the best of luck.

The Wairarapa horses, Mataari and Merrie Rose, will be taken to Palmerston North to compete in the Longburn Handicap at 2 1/2 miles on Saturday, the 10th of this month. Both horses have got in this event on light weights, Merrie Rose having been allotted 6.8 and Mataari 6.9.

YACHTING.

North Shore Yacht Club.

The North Shore Yacht Club held an interesting race on Saturday afternoon, the event being a re-race of Class II. There was a very "fuky" breeze from about north-north-east blowing during the progress of the race, at times being a fairly strong breeze, then dropping, and then increasing, but never throughout the race was it what one could call even a fairly even wind. Mr. S. White, one of the enthusiasts of the club, was the officer of the race, and as usual, carried out his duties in a most painstaking manner, his time-keeping being most accurate. The entries and handicaps were:—Eulalie scratch; Rhona 2m; Peri 2m; Alexa 2m; Pandora 2m; Eucalypt 2m; Eucalypt 1m. Course: From off Victoria wharf, Devonport, round first buoy round North Head, thence round mark buoy off Hobson Bay, thence round hulk Dehance off Shoal Bay, thence round hulk Dehance off Shoal Bay, finishing at starting-line; twice round. Distance, 13 miles.

A fairly even start was effected at 2.35 p.m., the breeze being very light at the time from about north-north-east. Alexa was first away, followed by Rhona, the latter a long way to leeward, Pandora, Peri, and Tangaroa, there only being a few seconds between the boats. Eulalie was engaged in another race, and did not start, and encountered a difficulty in the race, for her keel at Waikanae during the Easter holidays, was also an absentee. After the start, the yachts led across to the southern shore, but Tangaroa was the first to go about, in order to escape the strong ebb tide, and getting the advantage of Peri, looked as if she was going to work up into a good position. The man in charge, however, made a mistake by coming about a bit sooner than he should have done with the result that the yacht "broke off" a lot, and lost a great deal of ground thereby. The wind was of the most tantalising character all the time down, and the yachts rounded the North Head in the following order:—Alexa, Rhona, Peri, Tangaroa, and Pandora. At the stage of the race the wind increased somewhat, and as the yachts returned after rounding the buoy round the North Head, and coming along with a favourable breeze, Tangaroa had worked up into third place, whilst Peri was relegated to the position of "the stern-chaser." Before the wind, Alexa made the pace very strong, and also did Tangaroa, and the latter's boat would have done much better if she had lowered her leading jib, a fact which her crew were pretty slow in seeing that the breeze just suited Rhona, and she picked up a lot on the last round, Pandora, and Tangaroa hanging close together, and

The first round, passing the starting-line, Rhona was first, and well to windward, Peri being a few seconds behind, Alexa having lost a lot on the boat down the harbor, being 3 minutes behind. Rhona, in the second round the breeze was very uneven, but Rhona maintained her lead, with Peri next, followed by Alexa, Pandora, and Tangaroa, in that order. The latter being 3 minutes behind. Rhona, in the breeze then freshening again. Rounding the mark off Hobson Bay, there was only a little more than a minute's difference between Rhona and Peri, about 25 seconds between Pandora and Alexa, whilst Tangaroa had picked up about 3 minutes lost on the first round. The finishing times were—Rhona, 5h 30m 25s; Peri, 5h 31m 25s; Pandora, 5h 30m 58s; Alexa, 5h 31m 55s; Tangaroa, 5h 30m 25s. On corrected time, the result is:—Rhona, 1; Peri, 2; Pandora, 3; Tangaroa, 4; Alexa, 5.

Victoria Cruising Club.

The Victoria Cruising Club held class races on Saturday afternoon, which proved very interesting, especially as some of the finishes were extremely close. The wind was from the north, and about north-north-east, during the races. The following are the details:—

Class I.—Entries and handicaps: Sadie 2m, Cyrona 2m, Calypso 2 1/2m, Emerald 2 1/2m, Gladys 2m, Marni 2m, Eucalypt 2m. Course was from north side of flagstaff, off Freeman's Bay, round mark off Hobson-street wharf, round hulk Dehance, round mark off Chelsea, back round the Dehance, thence round mark off Hobson-street wharf, finishing north side of flagstaff. The finishing times were: Sadie, 4h 40m 14s; Emerald, 4h 37m 08s; Marni, 4h 38m 46s; Gladys, 4h 39m 33s. The corrected times place Sadie first, Marni second, and Emerald third.

Class II.—Entries and handicaps: Miro scratch, Eulalie 2m, Eona 3m, Valdora 3m, Rose 1 1/2m, Konihi 1 1/2m. Course: Same as Class I. Miro was away first, and led the others all over the course. The finishing times were: Miro, 4h 25m 32s; Eulalie, 4h 27m 35s; Valdora, 4h 33m 41s; Eona, 4h 35m 17s; Konihi, 4h 39m 41s; Rose, 4h 42m 28s. The corrected times place Konihi first, Eulalie second, and Valdora third.

Class III.—Entries and handicaps: Venus scratch, Mowal scratch, Hetty 1 1/2m, Iola 3m, Hilda 3m, Acaia 4m. Course: From north side of flagstaff, round mark off Hobson-street wharf, round Dehance, round mark off Chelsea, round Dehance, round mark off Hobson-street wharf, finishing north side of flagstaff. The finishing times were: Acaia, 4h 23m 13s; Mowal, 4h 26m 07s; Venus, 4h 27m 35s; Hetty, 4h 37m 42s; Hilda, 4h 37m 58s; Iola, 4h 42m 14s. On time allowance, Acaia is first, Mowal second, and Venus third.

Class IV.—Entries and handicaps: Sceptre scratch, Mistral scratch, Decima 1m, Marc 4m, Belle 4m, Coulee 4m. Course: The same as Class III. This was an excellent start, all the competing boats crossing the line practically together. The finishing times were: Sceptre, 4h 24m 46s; Mistral, 4h 25m 42s; Decima, 4h 32m; Marc, 4h 32m 36s; Belle, 4h 34m 38s; Coulee, 4h 45m 4s. On corrected times, Sceptre is first, Mistral second, and Marc third.

GOLF.

Auckland.

Saturday was a most glorious day, much to every golfer's delight, because we all felt it only needed to get people out to the course in numbers to really see the place for them all to be surprised and pleased. Usually the train we return by arrives back to town by six or so, but on Saturday, as bad luck would have it, the train was late, which, truth to say, very rarely happens. I have already described the course and its surroundings in these columns, and, judging by the expressions of delight we heard on every side, we have not exaggerated its beauties. There were over 300 guests present, all of whom seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves. So the new links at Middlemore Park had a most auspicious opening.

Mr Wilfred Colbeck and Mr Bruce were untiring in their efforts to make things go smoothly, which they certainly did.

An approaching and putting contest was held. Each foursome that entered for this, the man approached from the long distance, and alternate shots were then played till the ball was holed. From the shorter distance the lady approached, and so on. Miss Martin and Mr Duthie (Dunedin) and Miss Armstrong (South) and W. Thorn Jackson tied with six. After the foursomes were played, the tin was played off. Amidst great excitement the players again tied four times. In the end, Miss Martin and Mr. Duthie won and received much applause.

The mixed foursomes were played over 9 holes, and resulted in Miss Goddes and Mr Lambert winning, with a score of 57 minus 15—42; Miss Buckland and Mr McCormick, 54—10—44; Miss G. Gorrie and

S. Upton, 52—44—47; Miss Buller and Dr. Gordon, 56—104—173; Miss E. Pierce and G. Pierce, 58—10—48; Mr and Mrs E. Horton, 63—13—60; Miss S. Payton and Kirker, 60—9—50; Mr and Mrs. H. Clark, 65—12—51; Mrs Edmonds and Lawrence, 68—7—51; Miss Browning and Bloomfield, 67—13—51; Miss Bruce and Kingswell, 66—13—52; Miss H. Bloomfield and Dargaville, 66—11—54; Miss Draper and Ruddock, 62—13—54; Mrs. Elliott and Dr. De Guier, 71—16—55; Mrs Ferguson and H. Horton, 69—13—55; Miss Suttees and Dutton, 70—14—55; Miss Duthie and Carrick, 67—11—56.

Auckland Golf Club.

The annual meeting of the Auckland Golf Club was held in the Chamber of Commerce on Saturday, Dr. Hope Lewis being in the chair. There was a big attendance of members, and a most enthusiastic meeting ensued. Of course, as we all know, the Club has undertaken a big contract, moving the links so far out of town, and so has been going through a strenuous time, combating the opposition of those members who always look at the dark side of everything, and have predicted a huge failure, and so on. That the committee have done wisely is amply proved, and now the "doubtful ones" are coming over. The thanks of the whole club are due to the few faithful ones who worked hard, and moreover put their hands into their pockets, and have given the new club a real good start. Mr. Colbeck advocated the extension of the dressing room accommodation. The idea was strongly taken up, and numbers of members offered to take up debentures to defray the cost. So this very needful work is to be done at once. The ladies' dressing room is at present very comfortable, there being more room than in the old golf house. But it is only a matter of time before more space will be needed. So far the comfort of the ladies has been well thought of by the men.

The election of members resulted as follows:—President, Sir John Logan Campbell; vice-presidents, Messrs. Seymour Thorne George, J. Kirker, and H. Horton; captain, Mr. H. C. Clark; hon. sec. and treasurer, Mr. W. W. Bruce; committee, Messrs. W. B. Colbeck, Thornton, Jackson, J. B. Macfarlane, H. Gillilan, Jun., and Dr. Bamford; auditor, Mr. F. R. Fraser. The popular secretary, Mr. W. W. Bruce, was especially honoured by being made a life member of the Club.

The Waitemata Club.

The opening of the season on the Club links has been postponed till next Saturday on account of the recent heavy rains.

Ladies' Golf Club.

The first medal for the season was played on Monday, the 4th inst. The new rule came into force: "No player shall be given a handicap. All handicaps must be 'earned.' Until a player has a handicap, she must play from scratch."

Mrs. Street (president) has presented a beautiful silver clock to be played for by the ladies. The conditions are rather stiff, one qualifying round to be played in conjunction with monthly medal, on May 2nd. First eight to play off match play (handicap).

Mrs. W. R. Bloomfield (Captain) is presenting a prize for a match to start the third Monday in May—four rounds of medal play, the best three to be counted.

The Provincial Championship will start on the 4th July.

New Plymouth.

Mr J. Harold, of Wangamui, beat Mr Lewis (Wanganui) in the Tararaki championship by 3 up and 2 to play in an 18-hole.

The Bogey Handicap (18 holes).—Gillies, handicap 4, 2 up; Miles, 11, 1 up; Meek, 11, all square.

Medal Handicap (18 holes).—Daniell, 91—18, 73; Muir, 88—12, 76; Elliott, 94—18, 76.

Driving.—Coghill, 185yds, 1; Lewis, 188yds, 2; O'Callaghan, 185yds, 3.

Approaching (possible points, 9).—A. Bowley, 3, 1.

Putting.—Coghill, Hanson, Muir and O'Callaghan returned 10, and the play-off was won by Muir.

The play-off of Monday's tie was won by O'Callaghan.

Miscellaneous.

At the Christchurch Golf Club's Easter tournament B. B. Wood, champion of Christchurch, won the amateur championship of Canterbury with a score of 158. His first round of 82 was indifferent, but in his second he compassed the course in 74—a record. H. E. Wright and H. C. Smith tied as runners-up with 161 each. K. Duncan, the only Wellington representative, took 89 and 84—173—for the two rounds. Burns, of Auckland, returned a good card of 77 in the morning.

The Miramar Club has lengthened its course considerably by adapting the rough country in the vicinity of several holes and including another green—making twelve holes altogether. The new course will be about 4600 yards long.

The well-known golfer and sportsman, Spencer Gollan, visited Kensington Links (Australia) during a recent week, and indulged in some quiet practice with East. Although he was out of practice, his first two rounds were 76 and 77, which proved too good for the professional. In the third game, however, East won comfortably.

Golf links have been opened at Aradia, Paradise. This sounds tempting, and as it is a real fact it should be of interest to golfers and those who would like to try their hands at the game when holiday-making. Paradise, it is hardly necessary to mention, is in this instance at the head of Lake Wakatipu and this latest attraction to the district will doubtless be appreciated. Holiday-makers and tourists occasionally find time hang a little heavily on their hands, even in this ideal spot. In future they will be able to take their clubs and engage in a game on the links. There are nine holes, and the round is about two miles, just sufficient for gentle exercise.

The report and balance-sheet of the Australian Golf Club for the past twelve months shows a very successful year's working. The member's roll has increased considerably, and now totals 505 members.

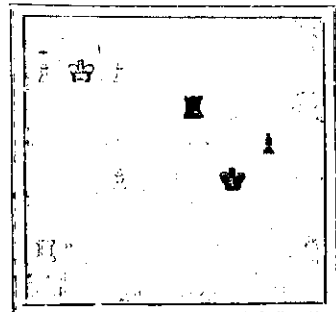
If the ball is the governing factor in the evolution of the golf club, it is also becoming more clear every year that it is creating a revolution in the ideas hitherto accepted of course construction. The cry everywhere, even on the old and classic courses, is for more bunkers to be added to those which have long existed so as to make the game more interesting as well as more difficult with the new ball. At Montrose, for example, a scheme is in preparation by the town council and the club to add fifteen new bunkers and to extend five of the present bunkers for next season's play there. At Carnoustie, on the other hand, an effort is to be made to add another eighteen-hole course. Here the holiday golf in the summer and autumn is nearly as important as it is at St. Andrews and North Berwick, and to accommodate the crowd of visitors another relief course is wanted. At present there is an eighteen-hole course and a nine-hole round of nine holes, and the proposal is being discussed by the town council and the green committee to enlarge the short course to a full round.

CHESS.

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

Position No. 35.

(Game—Ending.) (Black.)



(White.)

White to move and win. Forsyth Notation:—8; PNF5; 4r3; 0p1; 21x2; 9; R7; 8.