

afraid of racing at the ball, and good on the side off; inclined to miss-hit, and not too sure on shooting at goal; wants to study more combination; will make a tip-top three in time.

F. Potts: Like the others, a regular galloper; one of the only two men I saw using the Pattialia smash; will never play a free game till he discards the hideous breaker's saddle he patronises; such huge pads prevent a man from turning on his hips to strike hard, and with the necessary swing; will develop with practice and knowledge of combination.

WAINGARO.

L. Allen: Well mounted, and rides off well; uncertain strikes, and apt to dwell on the ball and wait for it to settle; should cultivate "crooking," and the near side drive and back-stroke will do better if he learns when to attack as a scorer; sticks too much to the hard and fast rule of business.

H. Wilson: A good number two, and a scoring one; rides well, has judgment, and can shoot fairly well.

T. Wilson: Like his brother, but a little more of a bulldog; both really dangerous men on their best form.

A. Upton: An invaluable 4; rides hard and fearlessly, and has a dashing style of play; would find the near side back-stroke most useful; drives well on stick side; a fine back.

OHAUPO.

Jos. Graham: A clever and fearless rider; short of practice; miss-hits too much; shapes like a coming player.

Gordon Urquhart: Has a fair idea of the game, though lacking in knowledge of combination; never very sure of his shot; wants more practice; rides hard.

Wm. Taylor: A dashing horseman, but lacking the essential idea—knows nothing of combination, and cannot shoot straight. A hard, but erratic hitter. Will improve.

F. Potts: Clumsily mounted on ponies that looked over standard height. No idea of combination; rides hard; very safe when defending. Knows one good stroke which it would pay him to use more frequently. Will improve with experience.

THAMES VALLEY.

A. L. Yule: Does not ride off too well; knows something of scoring, but wants more shooting practice. Like all his team, five minutes' goal hitting at every practice would do him a world of good. Only plays on the stick side. The forward drive on the near side of the pony would be a valuable addition.

H. R. Bush: A hard rider, somewhat erratic in his play, but to be depended on in a close thing. Rides well, and hits well defending. Wants more goal-hitting practice.

A. Hubbard: A fair three, but short of attacking power. Sound in defence and occasionally brilliant. Has only two strokes, both on the stick side. Should practice shooting at goal.

C. Meredith: A sound and sometimes dashing 4. Very cool, and always there in urgent situations. Should learn the near side back stroke. Wants shooting practice.

HAMILTON B.

J. M. McCarthy: A beginner. Will play better with age. Wants a lot of practice and a lot of coaching. Is game, and rides hard. Will develop with time.

W. Peach: A beginner. Rides well, but poorly mounted. Will improve with coaching and practice.

S. G. Worsp: Well mounted, and a fine rider. Like the others, in his first season. Gives promise of being a brilliant player.

W. J. McNeil: First season man, and a good one. Hits well, and rides hard. When a couple more seasons have passed over him he will be a good player. Wants better ponies and a lot of coaching on combination.

TE AWAMUTU B.

J. Teasdale: First season. Wants practice, and coaching in combination. A hard rider, who will make a player later on.

A. Taylor: First season. Has no combination, and is short of practice. Wants good coaching and practice to become an ideal number two.

G. Teasdale: First season. Gives promise of developing. Badly mounted. Will do better later on, with more experience and knowledge.

J. M. Kay: First season. Shapes well. Is a hard rider. Wants coaching in strokes and combination. Will make a brilliant player with age.

Very few (if any) of the above players used the near-side back stroke, one of the most telling hits in polo. Only three or four players tried O'Rourke's wristy near-side forward drive, and few knew anything of the Pattialia smash, the deadliest of all the back strokes. In fact, throughout the tournament one only saw the stick side used as a general rule. Players should bear in mind that superlative form can only be attained by excellent play all round, and on both sides of the pony.

THE POLO SPORTS.

Polo Ball Race.—F. Taylor, 1; C. Atcheson, 2.

Hurdle Race, 1 mile, over four hurdles 3ft. high.—C. Atcheson's Lily, 12.7 (C. Crowther), 1; W. J. Taylor's Scamp, 12.7 (J. Graham), 2; C. Potts' Madcap, 12.7 (Owner), 3. Also started: Headache, 12.7; Piko, 12.7; Barb Wire, 12.0. Won comfortably in 2m. 9 2-5s.

Bending Competition.—A. Hubbard's Silt (Owner), 1; H. C. Cotter's Moireen (Owner), 2.

Polo Cup, 4 furlongs.—H. C. Tonks' Hyla, 11.7 (Owner), 1; F. Taylor's Ringia, 12.7 (Owner), 2; S. G. Worsp's Hedwig, 11.0 (Owner), 3. Won with ridiculous ease in the fast time of 55 1-5s.

Ladies' Bracelet.—Mrs. H. C. Clarke's Pepper (Clarke), 1; Mrs. D. Kay's Blank (O. Kay), 2; F. Taylor's Ringia (Owner), 3. A fine race. Won by a length, half a length between second and third.

Ground Race, 300 yards.—H. C. Tonks' Hyla, 11.7 (Owner), 1; H. C. Tonks' Quiver, 11.7 (Gorrie), 2; H. Cotter's Peggy, 10.7 (Owner), 3. Won very easily after Quiver had most unaccountably compounded.

Polo Pony Test, 200 yards.—C. Crowther's Target (Owner), 1; C. Cotter's Moireen (Owner), 2.

Donkey Race.—Heartbreak was last of a field of five, and therefore took the stakes.

Potato Race.—W. J. Taylor's Mairee (Owner), 1; J. Graham's Heartbreak (Owner), 2; F. Hubbard's Silt (Owner), 3.

Consolation Race, 3 furlongs.—S. G. Worsp's Redwing (Owner), 1; W. J. Taylor's Scamp (Owner), 2; H. C. Tonks' Quiver (Gorrie), 3. Won by a head. Airey, on Fairy, got a bad smash-up through the mare falling with him.

The next Polo Tournament will be held at Cambridge.

VOLUNTEER NOTES.

(By Rifleman.)

Shootists will find the conditions for the Farquhar Cup competition in General Orders. A diagram of the targets is also given.

It is possible that with the steady increase in aeroplane development, war will be no more.—Major J. N. C. Kennedy, R.E. The strength of infantry companies has been raised from 60 to 84 all ranks. This means that the Battalion will be 672 strong, instead of 504 as formerly.

The Defence Forces are notified that large numbers for B.M. 11 is to be the same as last year, and grouping practices will be a feature. Headquarters are having instruction books printed, and these will be forwarded at an early date.

The first man-of-war occurrence is recorded in the latest General Orders. A Southern captain of Engineers has had his commission cancelled in accordance with paragraph 55 of the General Regulations, which has reference to failure to qualify for capture. It is extremely doubtful whether another similar incident is on record in the Dominion.

Nearly four pages in General Orders are devoted to the conditions governing the competition for the Empire Day Challenge Cup, worth 100 guineas, presented by Lieut.-Col. Schumann, of Johannesburg, and to be held for an Empire Day, or the first Saturday in August, with the stakes of £100 in money, and 41 silver medals. The second prize is £50 in money, and 41 bronze medals, and the third £25 and 41 bronze medals.

No. 2 Company, C.A.V. (late Panosny Naval) will, on Friday, April 22nd, be celebrating their 25th anniversary in the Federal Club Rooms, Wellesley-street. A great reunion of old and present members is to take place. Old members who would like to be present on this occasion are requested to send in their names and addresses to the secretary, S. M. Clark, c/o the Drill Hall, so that they can be supplied with invitations.

In addition to winning the Battalion Efficiency Shield, the Gordon Rifles have done particularly well during the past twelve months. They won the Territorial Rifle Cup for field firing, and Messrs Jones Bros., of Newton, presented the Company with a very handsome rose bowl for competition. The Company has recruited well during the year, and the marked improvement is due in a great measure to the enthusiasm of the officer commanding, Captain Kay.

Some delay has been experienced in the compilation of the results of the New Zealand field artillery shooting competition for the Rhodes Cup, owing to the fact that the A Battery (Auckland) was unable to

complete its firing during the training season, it being impossible to do so in the face of the prohibition of the Defence Minister on the subject of Sunday shooting, as soon as it can be conveniently arranged, the Battery will fire its final series, and the results of the competition will be announced immediately after.

Details as to the competition for the Efficiency Shield, so brilliantly won by the Auckland Engineers, under Capt. L. M. Shea, show that the winners scored 555 points, Canterbury 553 points, Otago 506 points, and West Coast 484 points. Runners-up lost 15 points by only holding one parade a day. The Aucklanders scored 93 points for discipline, 90 for attendance at training camps, 94 marks were gained by the field engineer section, 90 by the telegraph section, and 75 for signalling.

In his report on the cavalry operations of last year on Salisbury Plain, just issued by the War Office, Lieut. General Sir Douglas Haig attributes "great importance to young officers being encouraged to play polo, and would urge that they should be helped to do so in every way possible. "These pursuits have a very real value as training for war, and it is particularly desirable that officers with private means should be encouraged to spend their money in this way, rather than in buying expensive motor cars and similar luxuries, which have a precisely opposite tendency."

The Auckland District, under Lord Kitchener's scheme, which is to be dovetailed in with the new territorial disposition of the Forces, will be divided into seven "areas," as Lord Kitchener designates them. They will probably be known here as "sub-districts," such title being more suited to our present system of nomenclature, and the centres will no doubt be Whangarei for the North, Helmsville for the West, Hamilton for the Waikato, the Bay of Plenty, the Rangitikei for the South and Auckland for the central part of the District, Auckland also being the headquarters. The question of appointing instructors has not yet been gone into. They say that the District has been besieged with hundreds of applications from men who want to serve their country taking recruits into shape.

It is most unfortunate that nothing can be done to put the Territorials on a sound basis. There is an urgent need for "marking time," but the general feeling of "don't-know-where-you-are-ness" is very bad for the men at this critical period in the annals of our citizen soldiers. A prominent officer feels that the long-looked-for regulations are likely to make an earlier appearance than was expected. They can't come too soon, because some of the men are already showing signs of uneasiness on account of the new military affairs. There is a notification in General Orders of the appointment of the following officers as a board to frame the regulations: Colonel H. D. Tison (President), Lieut.-Colonel B. W. C. Chester, and Major E. W. Lancelotti, and they are ordered to assemble at headquarters on the 21st of this month.

No. 1 Battalion ("Countess of Ranfurly's Own") can't get their clothes. It will be remembered that the new uniforms were ordered from Home. These only arrived, and according to the usual custom, the certificate of exemption from paying duty was handed to the people who are at the custom in Auckland. Then the red tape began to fly. It was discovered by some lynx-eyed official that the volunteers ceased to exist on the last day of February, and this was held to render the red tape invalid. The volunteer was allowed to remove half the shipment, and the other two cases still remain impounded down the wharf to satisfy the requirements of the Customs people—the duty on this class of goods is 74.3 per cent in the region of forty per cent. Truly, red tape gets people into some queer tangles at times!

Results of the company competition, which has been proceeding in No. 1 Battalion ("Countess of Ranfurly's Own") for the past six months, have just been announced by the Judges—the Battalion Officers. The Company (the Gordon Rifles) secure the shield worth 74.3 per cent, every one in the district will congratulate Capt. Kay and his men on their win. Details of the scoring are: A Company, Capt. Kay (Gordon Rifles), 69.7; B Company, Capt. Atkinson (No. 1 Native), 69.7; C Company, Capt. Richardson (No. 2 Native), 67.1; D Company, Capt. Stevenson (No. 3 Native), 65.2; E Company, Capt. H. B. (Gordon Rifles), 63.0; F Company, Capt. Pluge (Newfound), 60th; and the newly formed H Company, Capt. Melville (Highland Rifles), 7th. In the Rifle section, which comprised the competition, the highest points scored were: Squad E, Company, 71; company, B Company, 79; guard, A Company, 25; battalion, B Company, 43; bugling, H Company, 10; signalling, C, D, and E Companies, equal; bayonet firing, B Company, 95; bugling, B Company, 28; skirmishing, B and E Companies, equal, with 80; protection at rest, E Company, 80; protection on the march, B Company, 80; promptitude, J Company, 44; close order, B Company, 80; steadiness, B, D, and E Companies, equal, 44; attendance, B Company, 140. It will be noticed that the winning company came top in several out of the fifteen subjects. A Company lost a lot of marks by not attending the Motuhia Camp.

Petone Navals Win Challenge Shield.

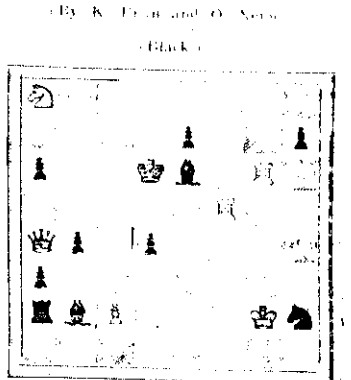
A preliminary report on the Garrison Artillery efficiency examinations has just been issued. Petone Navals win, and carry off the challenge shield for the fourth time, with a percentage of 91.1 marks; Wellington Navals, 88.9, second Canterbury, No. 1, 87.9, third; Otago No. 2, 86.8, fourth; Auckland No. 2, 86.5, fifth; Otago No. 1, 85.7, Canterbury No. 2, 84; Westport No. 1, 82.7; Auckland No. 1, 81.4; Auckland No. 3, 76.

The report stated that the training was not progressive, and therefore not thorough.

CHESS.

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

Position No. 37.



White to mate in three moves.
Kt 7. 4e2p. 2Kt1R1. 5R2. Qp1p
P7. Rf13Kk1. 8.

Lasker and Schlechter.

The quality of unexpectedness characterized this match, as it did the Lasker-Tarrasch contest, but with very contrary results. In the latter, Lasker's victory was in no wise held to be a foregone conclusion, and interest in the contest at first at white heat gradually cooled down to a dull red glow as Tarrasch's helplessness became more and more apparent. In the case of the great match just concluded, the most ardent admirers of the Austrian player may have whittled, in their enthusiastic anticipations, Lasker's victory down to a fine point, but the best testimony to the quality of Schlechter's performance is that one foresaw that Lasker might escape defeat by the narrowest of narrow margins. So deep is the wizardry ascribed to the present champion, it is probable that even to Schlechter himself the question that presented itself to him at the outset was rather by how little he would lose than how near he might get to winning. Great as Schlechter's powers undoubtedly are, it is questionable whether the possibility of victory seriously occurred to him when he entered on the contest. Certainly, if any betting on the result were indulged in beforehand, the odds against Schlechter must have been very long indeed. Hence, while interest in the match at first was not particularly keen, as play progressed it rose to a pitch that has made of this encounter one of the most memorable in the annals of chess.

It is curious that only in the final game of each of the two series in which the struggle was divided was a definite conclusion reached. On the resumption of play in Berlin, after Schlechter's victory in the fifth game at Vienna, Lasker is reported to have thus expressed himself upon his chances:—

In the last St. Petersburg tournament Schlechter always played recklessly for a win, but in the present championship match he has changed his tactics completely. He aims now rather at the certain draw than at the dubious win. According to the position, I ought to have won the last game (the fifth), but time difficulties led me to make an ill-considered move, which, against a master of Schlechter's calibre, naturally involved the loss of the game. Win the match? I am entering upon the struggle here with the greatest hopes, but the result must, of course, be fairly uncertain, in view of the few games remaining to be played and the not inconsiderable start which Schlechter has now obtained.

The "Lokal-Anzeiger" gives us the following notion of the tension that prevailed during the tenth and final game of the match:—

Both players had complete control of themselves and of the situation. . . . But it would appear that in living be-