

LAWN TENNIS.

WELLINGTON.

(By Romulus.)

Results of Last Saturday's Senior Matches.

(By Telegraph—Own Correspondent.)

WELLINGTON, Saturday.

Thorndon defeated Muritai by five rubbers to one (10 sets to 2), 66 games to 37. Last year's champions, though weakened by the absence of Young and Smythe, easily defeated the newest aspirants for senior honours, the second double being the only rubber lost. Swanston v. Nagle, 6-3, 6-1; Peacock v. Wright, 6-2, 6-1; Carter v. Lewis, 6-0, 6-5; Putnam v. Jones, 4-4, 6-3; Swanston and Peacock v. Nagle and Lewis, 6-5, 6-3; Carter and Putnam v. Wright and Jones, 4-6, 2-6.

Victoria College defeated Wellington II. by five rubbers to one (10 sets to 3), 73 games to 46. Eller and Jeffrey failed unexpectedly in their singles, but had their revenge in the double.

Cleghorn (V.C.) again showed excellent form, and on this occasion secured a win. He promises to be one of the most successful players of the season.

Wilson v. Eller, 6-4, 6-5; Beers v. Jeffrey, 6-4, 6-3; Cleghorn v. McLean, 6-2, 6-5; Smith v. Dr. Isaacs, 6-1, 6-0; Wilson and Beers v. Eller and Jeffrey, 3-6, 5-6; Cleghorn and Smith v. McLean and Isaacs, 6-1, 5-6, 6-3.

Brougham Hill defeated Hutt, three rubbers all seven sets to six, 75 games to 61. Cornell and Ward (Hutt) combined splendidly in their double, and put up a very fine performance in defeating Laishley and Hunter, 6-2, 6-3; Laishley v. Hawkins, 4-6, 5-6; H. V. Howe v. Cornell, 4-6, 6-4, 5-6; Hunter v. Ward, 6-4, 6-3; J. A. B. Howe v. Callender, 6-5, 6-4; Laishley and Hunter v. Cornell and Ward, 2-6, 3-6; Howe Bros. v. Hawkins and Callender, 6-5, 6-0.

LADIES' COMPETITION.

Thorndon defeated Victoria College by 5 rubbers to 1 (10 sets to 2), 69 games to 30. Miss Nunneley v. Miss Van Staveren, 6-1, 6-1; Miss Batham v. Miss Scott, 6-3, 6-1; Mrs. Holmes v. Miss McIntosh, 6-0, 6-3; Miss Turton v. Miss Tennant, 5-6, 4-6; Miss Nunneley and Batham v. Misses Van Staveren and Scott, 6-2, 6-2; Mrs. Holmes and Miss Turton v. Misses McIntosh and Tennant, 6-4, 6-1. Brougham Hill defeated Wellington II. by 5 rubbers to 1 (10 sets to 4), 73 games to 47; Miss Morgan v. Miss Atmore, 6-3, 4-6, 6-4; Miss Archer v. Miss Francis, 6-0, 6-3; Mrs. W. E. Howe v. Miss Webb, 3-6, 1-6; Miss Davis v. Miss Kirker, 6-1, 6-3; Misses Morgan and Archer v. Misses Atmore and Webb, 5-6, 6-1, 6-1; Mrs. Howe and Miss Davis v. Misses Francis and Kirker, 6-3, 6-4.

Comments on Opening Matches (22nd October).

MEN'S A GRADE.

Wellington I defeated Hutt by five rubbers to one (ten sets to four, 79 games to 59). The principal features of this match were the Brown-Hawkins and J. S. Wilson-Cornell singles. In the former rubber a very close finish resulted, Brown winning in three sets: 4-6, 6-4, 6-5. Cornell and Wilson also had an exciting match, but the younger player (Cornell), who by the way, was taking part in his first senior match, did the trick in two sets: 6-3, 6-5. Ward (Hutt) showed good form, and took a set from Salmon, besides assisting Cornell to make a creditable showing in the first double against Brown and Salmon, who won: 6-3, 6-5.

Brougham Hill defeated Victoria College by five rubbers to one (11 sets to four, 80 games to 63). Three of the four singles in this match ran into three sets, the other resulting in an easy win for Hunter over Beere: 6-1, 6-2.

Cleghorn and Smith (the latter of whom is Wellington's nominee for the 1910 Rhodes scholarship) made a promising start in this season's matches. In the double they made things interesting for H. V. and J. A. B. Howe, who just won: 6-5, 6-5. Cleghorn also ran the latter a very even three-set match, but, after winning the first at 6-4, was forced to submit to defeat by a similar margin

in the two concluding sets. Smith scored College's only win, defeating Dart (substitute for Laishley): 5-6, 6-2, 6-5.

LADIES' A GRADE.

The principal match was the meeting between Brougham Hill and Victoria College, the former winning by four rubbers to one and one unfinished (nine sets to four, 69 games to 53).

Miss van Staveren, as was the case with D. S. Smith in the men's match, was responsible for her side's only winning effort, but two rubbers took three sets to decide, Miss Scott failing against Miss Archer (6-5, 4-6, 6-3), whilst the latter and Miss Morgan atoned for Miss Morgan's defeat by Miss van Staveren by taking revenge in the first double: 6-5, 4-6, 6-4.

MEN'S B GRADE.

Outstanding individual efforts in this grade were those of: Loughnan (Victoria College), in putting up a good fight against Sampson (Brougham Hill), who beat him 6-5, 6-3; Andrews (Petone), in defeating Kirk (Hutt) 6-5, 6-4; whilst Brown, in the same match, was the only player to win a rubber for Hutt, Austin losing to him 6-3, 5-6, 6-3; Swinburne (Trinity), in defeating Rutherford (Victoria College) 6-3, 6-5.

LADIES' B GRADE.

The star match was the meeting of Petone and Brougham Hill, the two strongest teams in the competition, the suburbanites getting home by four rubbers to two, 36 games to 26. The singles resulted as follows, Petone winning both doubles: Miss Bennett v. Miss Rothschild 2-7, Miss D. Caverhill v. Miss Hayes 7-4, Miss O. Caverhill v. Miss Williams 6-7, Miss Walters v. Mrs. Sampson 7-2.

FIRST-GRADE TENNIS.

There are twelve teams taking part in this season's first-grade tennis, seven in the men's competition and five in the ladies'. Of the 48 players engaged (teams consisting of four aside) only three are new to senior tennis, F. J. Cornell (Hutt), P. B. Wright, and T. H. Jones (Muritai), they having been members of clubs competing in junior tennis last season. The first-named player made a successful debut on Saturday week, when he scored a fine win against J. S. Wilson (Wellington), whilst the Muritai colts were to face the music against Thorndon (last season's champions) on Saturday, probably Peacock and Young. Those at present composing the various teams are:—

MEN'S COMPETITION.

Brougham Hill.—F. R. Laishley, J. Hunter, H. V. and J. A. B. Howe, and J. W. M. Dart (substitute).

Hutt.—L. W. Hawkins, F. J. Cornell, T. L. Ward, F. B. Green.

Muritai.—R. H. Nagle, P. B. Wright, F. A. Lewis, T. H. Jones.

Thorndon.—R. N. K. Swanston, J. C. Peacock, G. Smythe, A. Young.

Victoria College.—F. P. Wilson, R. H. J. Beere, G. M. Cleghorn, D. S. Smith.

Wellington Ists.—H. W. Brown, J. S. Wilson, E. Salmon, A. W. Mc Nicol.

Wellington Ends.—F. Eller, C. A. Jeffery, S. Paterson, J. McLean.

LADIES' COMPETITION.

Brougham Hill.—Misses Morgan, Archer, Davis, Mrs. W. E. Howe.

Thorndon.—Misses Nunneley, Batham, Mrs. Holmes, Misses Butterworth, Simpson.

Victoria College.—Misses Von Staveren, Scott, Reeve, McIntosh.

Wellington Ists.—Misses Travers, Williams, Cook, Mrs. Goldie.

Wellington Ends.—Misses Dimant, Roberts, Atmore, Webb, Francis.

Inter-Club Items.

The association had introduced a new scheme of inter-club tennis for this season's matches. Briefly, the idea is as follows:—Separate competitions for men and ladies, the men's competitions being played in four grades (A, B, C, D), and the ladies in three grades (A, B, C). Each team in grades of both competitions consists of four players, all of whom play one single and a double.

The opening matches culminated on Saturday, 22nd inst., and the only objection to an otherwise popular innovation is the difficulty experienced by the

ladies in managing their matches and doing their own umpiring, but after a few Saturdays things will probably run more smoothly.

Hutt, the winner of last season's junior championship, has entered for first grade honours and has a very even team, which will win more matches than it will lose. P. W. Jackson, a well-known player, has unfortunately retired from the game, and he will be greatly missed, as it was largely owing to his capability as a player that the club (of which he was captain) was so successful in last season's matches.

The C grade fixture in the ladies' competition, St. John's and Trinity, played on Saturday week, furnished a rather remarkable result. Matches in this grade consist of six sets (or rubbers) of 7 games up; but the instructions forwarded to clubs contained the wording "best of thirteen games," which, of course, is the same thing. The captains of the above two teams carried out the instruction literally, with the result that thirteen games were actually played in the whole six rubbers, which were won by St. John's, the games totalling to 57 for the winners, whereas it is really only possible to score 42. The details are appended:—

LADIES' COMPETITIONS.

C GRADE.

St. John's defeated Trinity by six rubbers to nil, 57 games to 21.

Miss Tavendale v. Miss D'Emden, 9-4; Miss Horrell v. Mrs. Smart, 11-2; Miss Wilson v. Miss Gamble, 8-5; Miss Clyde v. Miss Henderson, 9-4; Misses Tavendale and Horrell v. Miss D'Emden and Mrs. Smart, 8-5; Misses Wilson and Clyde v. Misses Gamble and Henderson, 12-1.

Personal.

Mr. A. J. Petherick, public accountant, Wellington, has been appointed secretary of the N.Z. Lawn Tennis Association, but will not be called upon to carry out the executive duties at N.Z. championships at Blenheim at Christmas.

Mr. W. J. Organ, (Rona Bay), well-known in the Empire City for his enthusiasm in all matters appertaining to sport, especially in connection with hockey, tennis, and cricket, has severed his connection with the firm of Bolton and Organ, to commence on his own account, the practice of his profession, barrister and solicitor. His large circle of friends wish him success in his new enterprise as he has always proved himself a keen business man and a good fellow.

The New Zealand and Canterbury Lawn Tennis Associations are both minus the services, this year, of the two gentlemen who for many years have filled the respective secretarial positions. The vacancies caused by the retirement of Messrs. G. N. Goldie and Eric Taylor will probably never be filled so satisfactorily as when they were in office, and tennis generally will be the poorer for the loss of these two proved and energetic officials. The former was voted an honourarium at the annual meeting of the New Zealand Association, held on Friday, 13th October and is later to be presented with an illuminated address.

Miss Butterworth, a Canterbury representative player, is now resident in Wellington, and will play for the Thorndon Club in the senior competition.

J. S. Wilson, the well-known Wellingtonian, leaves the district shortly to enter into business at Blenheim. He is one of the most popular players in the province, and will be greatly missed by his many friends.

General.

The official openings (with the corresponding functions) of the various clubs enumerated as follow:—September 24, Madeley (Island Bay); September 26, Khandallah; October 1, Wellington and Hutt; October 8, Newton, Petone, Karori and Kilmuir; October 15, Midwell-street and Oriental; October 22, Thorndon and Muritai.

The New Zealand championships have been offered to the Marlborough Association, and if that body undertakes to run the meeting and guarantee the secretarial duties the 1910 championships will start at Blenheim on Boxing Day. Why should the Marlborough secretary have to conduct the tournament when the N.Z.L.T.A. has actually decided upon a paid secretary, who is to receive a bonus for carrying out the executive work at championship meetings?

Canterbury and Otago are indignant over the rule passed at the annual meeting of the N.Z. Lawn Tennis Association relative to the representation question and the paid secretaryship. Talk of se-

cession is mooted, but if malcontents succeed in breaking up the N.Z. Association it is a certainty there will be no cup contest in Wellington next year.

AUCKLAND.

Auckland Club.

The Auckland Club's courts presented an animated appearance with the numerous presence of tennis and croquet players. The ceremony of formally opening the courts was performed by Mr. L. J. Bagnall, Mayor of Auckland, who, though many many years ago he took a prominent part in establishing a successful club at the Thames, but was now too much of a veteran to participate in the game. He was glad to see that tennis was such a popular game in the Dominion, and that the Wilding and Parker New Zealand had players who could successfully compete with the world's champions. Mr. Milne, treasurer, remarked that in view of the probability of the closing of that portion of the Domain it was reassuring to know that the Tennis Club would have the sympathies of the Mayor when provision was being made for other grounds. The Mayor replied that the courts would not be interfered with for a season or two, and certainly not before due provision was made for courts as good as the club at present possessed. The ladies provided afternoon tea. The courts were in good condition, and some excellent tennis was played.

Farnell Club.

A large crowd of members and visitors attended at the Farnell courts, which were formally declared open in an appropriate speech by Professor Sengar. He mentioned that the courts were in better condition this season than they ever had been during the years he had lived in the view of the fact that as the negotiations for the Domain courts were definitely off a scheme of improvements in connection with the ground would be undertaken. He extended a hearty welcome to the visitors. Mrs. Sengar provided afternoon tea. Excellent play was witnessed during the afternoon. The membership is again large this season, and the list will probably be closed in a week or so.

West End Club.

The West End Club's season was opened by the president, Mr. C. H. Jones, who complimented the club on the good state in which he found its courts. He wished that some of the younger members could have seen the court some 20 years ago, when he and others spent much time in forming and levelling it. He himself had given up tennis and taken to the old man's game of bowls, but he hoped to play his hand at it once or twice during the coming season. He then declared the courts open. Afternoon tea was provided by lady members and friends, and play was keenly taken up by members and several representatives of other clubs.

North Shore Club.

The official opening of the North Shore Club's courts, was altogether successful from everybody's point of view. The courts were in first-class order, and although there was a very large attendance of players, most of them were able to get as much tennis as they were for. The weather was perfect, which suited others besides the players, and all who were on the grounds enjoyed themselves thoroughly.

GISBORNE.

The opening of the 1910-11 Tennis season at the Gisborne courts took place on Saturday week in ideal weather, a large number of members and visitors attending. The club has had a number of alterations to the pavilion and grounds, the courts being in capital order. Competitions commence almost at once at this club.

New Zealand Tennis Association.

THREATENED SECESSION.

Mr. A. J. Petherick, of Wellington, has been appointed secretary of the New Zealand Lawn Tennis Association out of 15 applicants.

The association carried the following resolution:—"That this association confer with the Otago and Auckland associations with reference to obtaining revision of the rule relating to the question of representation of the New Zealand Association and a paid secretary recently passed, and that, failing to obtain such revision, this association secede from the New Zealand Association."

The mistress was giving Harriet the benefit of her advice and counsel, touching a momentous step the latter contemplated.

"Of course, Harriet," said the lady of the house, "if you intend to get married, that's your own business; but you mustn't forget that marriage is a very serious matter."

"Yes, mum," said Harriet. "Yes, mum; I know 'tis, sometimes, mum. But, mum, maybe I'll have better luck than you did, mum."