

quently evoked applause by brilliant volleying.

Misses Travers and Wellwood played more like themselves in the final against Misses Nunneley and E. Williams, the Wellington Provincial champions of 1910. The latter pair were first to get going, and won the opening set, 6-3, but afterwards scored only five games altogether, though they both played quite up to their best form. Miss Travers played better in this match than on any other occasion during the tournament; but Miss Wellwood was the weaker player of the four, Miss Williams ably supporting her partner, and playing unusually well for her in a tournament. All round the tennis was of a high standard, and as a contest was the best exhibition during the whole three days. Miss Nunneley herself stated that she has never played better in her career than in the first couple of sets of the game under review.

COMBINED DOUBLES.

Most people were pleased to see Fisher and Miss Travers victorious in the combined championship. They won the final against Brown and Miss Nunneley very easily as far as scores are concerned, but Cox and Miss Hartgill gave them an anxious time in the preceding round. Cox and his partner won the first set after Fisher and Miss Travers led, 3-1, 4-2, 5-3, and then the Dannevirke pair led, 3-1 and 4-2, in the second set; but after missing the seventh game on two occasions, they afterwards went to pieces, Fisher's side winning ten of the last twelve games played. Cox was brilliant, and his smashing delightful to watch. Miss Hartgill, too, played beautifully for a couple of sets, but then went right off. Miss Travers was not playing very well, but Fisher was a host in himself, and even better in the final, when his volleying, smashing, and trickiness undoubtedly won the match.

Swainson and Miss Brewster reached the semi-final in the top half, where after winning two matches they went out to Brown and Miss Nunneley, but were not disgraced, as Swainson was very aggressive, and put up a splendid performance, quite his best at the tournament.

**HANDICAPS.
MEN'S SINGLES.**

(First Grade.)
Semi-finals.—A. W. Soundy 18, v. K. Ryan 35, 60-49; J. L. Blundell 18, v. T. H. Jones 15, 60-44.
Final.—J. L. Blundell (Masterton) 18, v. A. W. Soundy (Dannevirke) 18, 60-54.

MEN'S SINGLES.

Semi-finals.—G. Natusch 20, v. K. Ryan 20, 60-54; G. L. Clark 20, v. E. Knight 10, 60-51.
Final.—G. Natusch (Dannevirke) 20, v. G. L. Clark (Dannevirke) 20, 60-54.

LADIES' SINGLES.

Semi-finals.—Miss N. Curtis 15, v. Miss S. Clark 10, 60-53; Miss J. Hindmarsh 15, v. Miss Brewster 5, 50-40.
Final.—Miss J. Hindmarsh (Greenmeadows) 15, v. Miss N. Curtis (Petone) 15, 50-45.

MEN'S DOUBLES.

Semi-finals.—W. J. Rowe and H. W. Giesen (scr) v. E. Norrie and N. Green 18, 60-53; J. G. Swainson and D. H. Druce (owe 10) v. D. Cowan and F. Tomoana 10, 62-60.
Final.—J. G. Swainson and D. H. Druce (Pahiatua) (owe 10) v. W. J. Rowe and H. W. Giesen (Dannevirke) (scr), 60-57.

LADIES' DOUBLES.

Semi-finals.—Misses L. Williams and Irvine (scr) v. Misses Hartgill and Braithwaite (owe 10), 60-55; Misses Clark and Hindmarsh 5, v. Misses Riddell and Chadwick 20, 50-46.
Final.—Misses L. Williams (Sydney) and Irvine (Dannevirke) (scr) v. Misses S. Clark and J. Hindmarsh (Greenmeadows) 5, 50-40.

COMBINED DOUBLES.

Semi-finals.—L. E. Mair and Miss Cowper (20) v. N. Green and Miss Braithwaite (12), 60-57; G. L. Hartgill and Mrs. Hartgill (25) v. R. B. Vartain and Miss Irvine (12), 60-33.
Final.—G. L. Hartgill and Mrs. Hartgill, seno. (25), (Dannevirke), v. L. E. Mair and Miss Cowper (20), 60-57.

Notes.

MEN'S 1st GRADE SINGLES.

The back-markers (Fisher, owe 40, and Brown, owe 25), hadn't a hope in this event, as the handicapping was all in favour of the limit men. R. H. Robert-

shawe (30) and J. L. Blundell (18), always looked well in, but one man had to go, as the pair met in the round preceding the semi-final; Blundell winning comfortably as he did in the two remaining matches.

MEN'S SECOND GRADE SINGLES.

The scratch men were also asked to do impossible things in the second grade, three of the four players to reach the semi-final, all having 20 (the limit) from Cowan (scr). Natusch had easy wins right through his closest game, and being in the semi-final and final, in which the scores were 60-54 in both cases.

LADIES' SINGLES.

The two girls who reached the final were easily the best players on their respective sides of the draw on their handicaps. Miss Curtis had been playing very confidently, and as she volleyed well appeared to have the better chance, but Miss Hindmarsh hit hard every time, and her driving was exceptionally good—on the play the five points margin in favour of the Napier girl was a fair indication of the player's merits.

MEN'S DOUBLES.

The most likely-looking combination, Norrie and Green, were put out by Rowe and Giesen, after a closely contested advantage game, 64-62. Cowan and Friday Tomoana who also had a great chance, lost to Swainson and Druce, 62-60 after leading 59-54, and only one point to go. The Pahiatua pair were equal to the task of conceding Rowe and Giesen 10 points in the final, and won by 60-57.

LADIES' DOUBLES.

Misses Clark and Hindmarsh played a great game in the final until the winning post came in sight. They had even improved on their handicap and led 30-30 with, with but eleven points to go, when the crisis came, and they only scored 7 more points, while Misses L. Williams and Irvine got the 20 required to win the match—the latter pair combined splendidly.

COMBINED DOUBLES.

Probably the most popular win at the whole tournament was that of George Hartgill and his mother in the combined handicaps. At on stage they increased their lead (handicap) of five to eleven, but lost it again, their opponents leading 47-44. From that point the Hartgills steadied down again, and won 60-57. Mrs. Hartgill played surprisingly well, and returned many difficult shots.

WELLINGTON.

GENERAL NOTES.

The Taranaki Championship and Handicap Tournament commences at New Plymouth to-morrow, but Wellington will not be represented to any extent. The only players making the trip to the writer's knowledge are F. P. Wilson (Victoria College), A. W. Soundy (Dannevirke), and D. Cowan (Hastings).

A pleasing feature of the Dannevirke's showing was for Wellington Club players are concerned was the fine form of Miss Elsie Williams in the final of the championship doubles. As a rule, this player does not show to advantage in a tournament, as she appears to be affected by the importance of the occasion, but this time she gave of her best, and had Miss Nunneley played with any heart in the third set, the pair might have defeated the New Zealand champions.

The inter-club competitions will be resumed on Saturday, but interest in them will be somewhat slackened owing to the senior competitions having been completed, excepting for two postponed matches. The principal fixtures this week are in the C grade, when the unbeaten teams in both men's and ladies' competitions are drawn to meet each other:—Brougham Hill, A. Khandallah, and Khandallah, St. John's.

J. L. Blundell (Masterton), who won the first grade handicap singles at Dannevirke, was the winner of the first Wellington provincial junior championship at Easter, 1910. It will be remembered that there was a controversy over this event owing to the scratching of Jones, Sheppard, and Lewis, with the result that Blundell and A. G. Duncan (Petone) fought out the final, though that year there was no doubt that Sheppard would have beaten Blundell, and met Jones in the final. In the Dannevirke tournament by a coincidence Blundell and Jones met in the semi-final of the singles, in which the latter conceded three points, but was badly beaten, playing a fine game.

A player who must make a name for himself is J. G. Swainson, the Pahiatua champion, who defeated Warns Pearce, the well-known Canterbury representative, in the final of the Pahiatua championship at New Year. He plays a fine all-round game, and drives, smashes, and serves above the ordinary.

There are some lady players of great promise taking part in the big tournament at Dannevirke, and time will prove whether N.Z. champions of the future are not included in the following list:—Misses Eileen and Doris Wellwood (Hastings), S. Clark and J. Hindmarsh (Greenmeadows), Hartgill (Dannevirke), L. K. Hughes (Pahiatua), and N. Curtis (Petone).

Combinations in the combined championship of the province at Masterton:—H. A. Parker and Miss Travers (probable winners), F. M. B. Fisher and Miss R. Wellwood, H. W. Brown and Miss Nunneley, C. C. Cox and Miss Hartgill, W. Goss and Miss E. Williams.

The Wellington doubles champions, Misses Nunneley and E. Williams, had an anxious time in the first round of the Dannevirke championship, when they met the younger Wellwood sisters, Eileen and Doris. The Hawke's Bay pair created a sensation by taking the first set, but were subsequently defeated, 5-0, 6-2, 6-4, or 17 games to 12, a highly creditable performance against such redoubtable opponents.

AUCKLAND.

No word is now heard of unseasonable weather, and tennis players have been able for the last few weeks to get all the play they required. On Saturday last the weather was again perfect, and the courts in each district were taxed to the utmost.

Now that the Auckland championships are in hand, players will be getting all the practice they can to get into form for those events.

The entries received for the different events can be considered very satisfactory, and as there is no player conspicuously prominent in Auckland at present, the results are all the more uncertain.

The entries for the men's singles championship include A. S. C. Brown, W. A. Brown, Grossmann, Sherriffs, Morthep, Hunt, Gold Smith, Grigson, Hanna; and for the doubles, Grossmann and Hickson, Heather and Billing, A. S. C. Brown and Grigson, Baker and Simpson, Mowbray and P. Hanna, W. A. Brown and Morthep, Hunt and Henderson; whilst in the ladies singles Misses G. Gorrie, I. Cooke, and Mrs. Cooper are competing, and Misses G. Gorrie and Gray, I. Cooke and Steele, Mrs. Cooper and Miss Harvey, in the ladies doubles.

With Miss Gray and Hickson, Miss Cooper and Hunt, Miss G. Gorrie and Henderson, Miss I. Gorrie and Heather, Mrs. Cooper and Rainger, Miss Cooke and Goldsmith, and others, in the combined championship, that event promises to be most interesting.

All the necessary arrangements are well in hand, and the fact that the first round closes on February 11th, and the second round on the 25th February,

shows that the Association are not going to allow the events to stand over any great length of time. This decision is a very wise one, and was advocated in these columns some time since.

The men's singles and doubles are the best of five sets, and the ladies' and combined events are the best of three sets.

The matches will be played under Provincial Tournament rules, and where players belong to different clubs the match is to be played on the ground of a club to which one of the players belong. All information regulating the events may be had on application to the secretary, Mr L. G. Murray, Hobson Buildings.

Members of the Eden and Epsem Club were able to witness some very fine volleying last Saturday. To see the ball smashed at very wide angles reminded one of the clean, well-placed smashing of Blair, who played here at the N.Z. championship meeting. The visitor was Mr B. T. Diddams, who, with Dunlop, were the crack double players in Victoria a few years ago. Mr Diddams was here about ten years ago, and although he does not play a great deal of tennis now, he gave some idea of what he must have been at his best.

Commenting on the remarks made by Mr H. A. Parker, when in Auckland, Mr Diddams agreed that Brookes was the most brilliant player in the world to-day, but had to admit that, if a contest with Wilding went to five sets, the odds were in favour of Wilding. This was due, he said, to Wilding's magnificent physique.

The West End Club's handicap tournament will be played next Saturday and Monday. The entries so far are considered satisfactory, and, given fine weather, the tournament should be a success. Messrs Angus, Goldie, Cooke, Wynman, McCoy, Upton, and Fee have control of the events, and this should be a sufficient guarantee of good management.

Norman Brookes has intimated that he will be available for the Davis Cup contests this year.

PATEA.

The Waverley team journeyed to Patea last Saturday, and after a most enjoyable and even match, Waverley was victorious by two matches. The following are the results: Waverley players being mentioned first:—

LADIES' SINGLES.

Mrs. Wallace v. Miss Powdrell, 2-9; Miss Dickie v. Mrs. Payne, 4-9; Miss Brewer v. Mrs. A. Powdrell, 12-14; Mrs. Palmer v. Mrs. Jones, 6-9; Miss Blennerhassett v. Miss Benner, 9-7; Miss Esser v. Mrs. Booth, 4-9.

LADIES' DOUBLES.

Mrs. Wallace and Miss Dickie v. Mrs. Payne and Miss Powdrell, 2-9; Miss Brewer and Mrs. Palmer v. Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Powdrell, 6-9; Misses Blennerhassett and Esser v. Mrs. Booth and Miss Benner, 6-9.

MEN'S SINGLES.

C. Dickie v. Powdrell, 6-1, 6-1; Wallace v. Whitehead, 0-4, 3-6, 6-2; B.

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