

being put on half, if all her opponents are agreed she has much too much, or penalised one down. If she has only just won the majority of her matches, it shows her handicap is correct, and she is not penalised."

**Official Answers to Club Queries.**  
(N.Z. Ladies' Golf Union.)

May an extra score returned in the same week as the medal match is played count for a reduction of handicap?—Answer: Under present rules one extra score a week is allowed for handicapping, whether a match is played as well or not. Players with handicaps over 25, however, may give in extra scores as often as they can.

What is the limit for bogey handicaps?—Answer: The generally recognised scale of bogey handicaps is three-fourths the medal handicap.

**AUCKLAND.**

The Auckland Provincial Championship has been fixed much later this year than it has ever been before. Bad luck, in the form of wet weather, has marred this fixture for years, so upon the advice of the club's professional, Hood, the date has been fixed for Monday, 11th, and following days, as he considers the course will then be at its best.

Another innovation is to be made—a junior cup. This news has created a great amount of interest and speculation among the junior players. There is to be a qualifying round, to be played on September 7th, the best eight to qualify.

Mrs. Hope Lewis is presenting a prize. The conditions for which are the best total of two rounds against bogey. The first round is to be played on Monday, 24th, and the second round on Thursday, 27th; post entries, players to choose their own partners.

The Cambridge Golf Club have very wisely decided to hold their ladies' championship meeting before the men's, and to make the championship open. The meeting is fixed for Monday and Tuesday, August 14 and 15. Already a number of the members of the Auckland Ladies' Golf Club have decided to compete, and I think there will be a big entry from Auckland. The men's tournament is fixed for Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday of the same week. And the South Auckland Championship is an open event this year.

The Ecclectic Match, for which Mrs. R. A. Carr presented prizes, has been keenly contested, this form of match being very popular with players. There were two divisions—senior and junior. The following are the results:—

Seniors.—Miss Madge McLean, gross score 97, handicap 24, net score 73 (winner); Miss Winnie Cotter, gross score 94, handicap 18, net 76, and Miss Gwen Gorrie, gross score 76, handicap 19, net 76, tied for second place.

Juniors.—Miss Nellie Upton, gross score 97, handicap 31, net 66 (winner).

**HAWERA.**

A team of Waverley Ladies played Hawera on the latter club's links on Thursday, and suffered defeat by seven matches to 2. The following are the results, Waverley being mentioned first: Miss Caye 0, v. Mrs. B. McLean 1; Mrs. Bount 0, v. Mrs. Bull 1; Mrs. Johnson 0, v. Miss Glenn 1; Miss Bourke 0, v. Mrs. Kimball 1; Miss Esse 0, v. Mrs. Foyster 1; Miss Lewing 0, v. Mrs. Parkinson 1; Mrs. Black 0, v. Miss Q. Glenn 1; Miss Leo 1, v. Mrs. Hawken 0; Miss Brewer 1, v. Mrs. Campbell 0.

For Mrs. G. McLean's trophy, Mrs. Kimball scored a win with 73 net, Miss Glenn (76) being second.

**MANAWATU.**

On Tuesday last Mrs. Moore gave prizes for a foursome match, senior players being partnered with juniors. Two pairs tied for first place, and three for second. The former (Miss Sylvia Abraham and Mrs. Tripe, and Miss Hesketh and Mrs. Macdonald) elected to decide the tie by lot, and Miss Abraham and her partner won.

**POVERTY BAY.**

The results of the mixed foursomes played last week were as follows:—Mrs. Traill and C. Morgan, 99—10, 78; Miss Nolan and Irvine, 85—4, 81; Mrs. R. Willock and George, 92—10, 82; Mrs. Morgan and Howie, 87—3, 84; Miss Foster and W. B. Willock, 95—10, 85; Mrs. King and N. Bull, 85—ser, 85; Miss Bright and Brown, 90—5, 85; Mrs. Bull and Brabant, 95—9, 87; Miss Sweet and Jeffreys, 99—12, 87; Mrs. O'Meara and H. Bennett, 93—6, 87; Miss Bennett and Dodgson, 95—7, 88; Miss Redstone and J. H. Bull, 96—7, 89; Miss King and Murray, 98—9, 89; Mrs. Barlow and Graham, 99—10, 89; Mrs. Murray and G. Willock, 93—4, 89; Mrs. Burke and Evans, 97—8, 89; Mrs. Adair and Busby, 96—7, 89; Miss Symes and Henderson, 97—7, 90; Miss H. Black and R. Willock, 97—6, 91; Miss Willis and Burke, 99—8, 91; Miss Bull and F. T. Morgan, 97—5, 92; Mrs. A. Rees and Nolan, 107—9, 98.

The annual match between teams selected by the captain and secretary took place last week in almost ideal weather conditions, the result being a victory for the secretary's team by six wins to three. The details are appended, the ladies in the captain's team being mentioned first in each instance:—

Mrs. King and Miss Nolan, all square; Miss Sweet lost to Mrs. Morgan; Mrs. Barlow beat Mrs. Cole; Miss Bull lost to Mrs. O'Meara; Miss Bright and Mrs. Traill, all square; Mrs. Burke lost to Mrs. Bull; Mrs. A. Rees and Mrs. R. Willock, all square; Miss Willis, lost to Miss H. Black; Miss H. Nolan lost to Miss King; Miss Bennett lost to Mrs. Adair; Miss Chris beat Miss M. Rees; Miss B. Black and Miss Symes, all square; Miss Lewis and Miss F. Black, all square; Miss Graham beat Miss I. Chris.

**CHRISTCHURCH.**

A handicap match was played last month for a prize given by Mrs. A. E. G. Rhodes. In the semi-finals Miss P. Anderson beat Mrs. Donald, and Miss Campbell beat Mrs. Alan Campbell.

In the final, between Miss Campbell and Miss Anderson, the first match was a draw. Miss Anderson, receiving ten strokes, finally beat Miss Campbell.

The monthly medal match was played on June 7th, Miss Symons winning the senior medal, and Miss N. Holmes the junior.

**CAMBRIDGE.**

A meeting of the Committee of the Cambridge Golf Club was held last week. It was decided to ask Mr. R. Muir to act as secretary to the ladies' tournament to be held on the local links on Monday and Tuesday, August 14 and 15.

The following programme of events was arranged for the ladies' tournament:—Ladies' championship (open), the first eight to qualify, an 18-hole course; two medal handicaps, 18-hole course; bogey competition; approaching and putting competition; driving competition; foursomes (medal play), 18 holes.

The programme for the men's tournament, to be held on the Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday following the ladies' tournament was arranged as follows:—South Auckland amateur championships, 36 holes (medal play), open to all members of all registered clubs in New Zealand; teams' match, 18 holes; bogey handicap, 18 holes; two medal handicaps, 18 holes; foursome bogey. The men's bogey was revised as follows:—4, 4, 6, 4, 6, 3, 4—40; and the ladies, 5, 4, 6, 5, 4, 6, 7, 3 4—45.

On the local links last week a match was played between Messrs. McCormack (professional) and E. J. Wilkinson and Messrs. A. H. Nicoll and M. Wells. The former couple won by 4 up and 3 to play, with a best ball score of 82.

Mr. Shaw, of the local club, did the 8th hole in 1 on Saturday. This is the first time this hole has been done in 1, and the feat carries with it the usual penalty.

**WANGANUI.**

The results of Wednesday's medal matches were as follows:—

Class A.—Miss H. Anderson, 113 (28), 85; Mrs. W. Paterson, 118 (30), 86.  
Class B.—Miss D. Brettingham, 97 (21), 74, tied with Mrs. Strouts, 111 (25), 76.

**America keeps the Schenectady.**

**AN AMAZING INTERPRETATION AND THE DANGERS IT CREATES.**

(By Henry Leach, in "Golfing.")

We are led to understand that at the meeting of the United States Golf Association, which was held at Chicago, when the keenly anticipated discussion took place on the question as to the attitude to be adopted by America in regard to the new rule of the Royal and Ancient Club by which mallet-headed putters and other clubs were made illegal, a decision was arrived at by which the suggestion made by St. Andrews for a kind of compromise was accepted. This suggestion was to the effect that though the St. Andrews rule as promulgated, with its appended "note," most clearly and designedly excommunicated the Schenectady putter, the U.S.G.A. were at liberty to "interpret" that rule in such a manner as to make the Schenectady legal in their own country. One must be careful to begin these notes in the way that I have done, for in some respects the message headed "Chicago, Saturday," which was published in the English papers, does not appear altogether conclusive, nor is it so concise and definite as one would wish. We are informed that the more level-headed members of the U.S.G.A. realised the danger of having two sets of rules, and that the tone of the meeting was on the whole one of "a marked desire friendliness with St. Andrews." American golfers have always desired friendliness with St. Andrews, and there is nothing inconsistent between desire and a keen resentment at some of the St. Andrews acts. "It was agreed to support the Royal and Ancient rule to the effect that no departure from the traditional and accepted form and make of golf clubs should be sanctioned, but the interpretation of this rule was left to the executive committee with the instruction that they should interpret it in such a way as not to bar the Schenectady putter." If it were not for the strange remark by the writer of the message about the "level-headed members" one might consider this, at all events, as definite. Then "further proof of the existence of this friendly spirit was shown by the decision as to the proposed rules for bogey play, which are founded on the rules for medal competitions. The suggested code was referred to the committee with the instruction that it submit the same to the Rules of Golf Committee, St. Andrews, for criticism." If that is the Association's idea of being friendly—asking St. Andrews to perform a task which it abhors—there is nothing more to be said; but most people conversant with the circumstances will come to the conclusion that, in the words of a vulgarism in common use, either the U.S.G.A. is pulling St. Andrews' leg, or, as is more likely, somebody has been pulling the correspondents. We can hardly be satisfied about these matters until we see a full report of the meeting.

However, taking the words of this message as we have them, let us consider the meaning and effect of the decision. Few people understand what this interpretation business means. The rule is that the Rules Committee will not sanction nontraditional clubs of various kinds including those of the mallet-headed type. That in itself might not bar the Schenectady. But appended to this rule is a "note," which becomes part of the British code, and which clearly defines the exact character of the clubs that will be passed, and one of the provisions in this note is "The shaft shall be fixed at the heel, or to a neck, socket, or hose which terminates at the heel." This was aimed directly at the Schenectady; and, that there might be no doubt about it, when an amendment was moved at the previous meeting at St. Andrews that the Schenectady might be removed from the proposed embargo, it found no support. The Rules Committee state clearly that they will not sanction any Schenectady, as it violates their rule. However, they inform the United States that they may "interpret" the rule in any way they please so as to make the Schenectady legal in America.

This was an amazing suggestion. No such "interpretation" of the rule was possible unless part of the rule, being the "note," was suppressed. To interpret the rule so as to pass the Schenectady would mean that for "Yes" there should be read "No," and that for "No" there should be read "Yes." The Americans are to pretend that they are playing according to St. Andrews rules when they are not, and they are to pretend that their clubs are legal according to the authority that they serve under, when by the clear and definite statement of

that authority, if such clubs were submitted to it for determination, they would unhesitatingly be disqualified.

Now a very great evil has been created by the establishment of this principle of "interpretation," and by the first example of it. If America may "interpret" the golfing law to their own liking, reading it to mean directly the opposite from what St. Andrews means, and be regarded as still loyal, why should others not do so also? It is most absolutely certain, to begin with, that the new French Association will "interpret" in the same way as the Americans. There is no reason why the Irish and Welsh Golfing Unions should not do the same. They why should not the Midland Union, which is not notoriously satisfied with all that St. Andrews does and omits to do, likewise "interpret"? It is not merely this rule about the Schenectady alone—any other may be "interpreted," and there is no limit to the extent of the "interpretation," since the Schenectady case is as bad as any one could be. Any club also may interpret any law as it pleases. St. Andrews is not like a Golfing Union or any other governing authority. In the full sense it is not an authority, as it has no power to enforce. That is unfortunate in a sense. It cannot prevent any club or member of a club from playing the game at any time or place or in any manner that they or he please, and if they or he like to say that the play is according to St. Andrews rules "interpreted" in their own way and according to their own satisfaction, that is their affair, and they are right.

Reliable information reaches me to the effect that some of the players in the forefront of the French Association—which is an important body now and will be much more so in the future—are not satisfied that there should be any limit whatever upon the form of club that may be used, and are especially averse to the exclusion of centre-shafted clubs of all kinds. This may be partly due to the fact that a gentleman of distinction who has been responsible to a large extent for some of the golf enterprises in that country lately (the reference is not to M. Deschamps) is much addicted to experimenting with clubs of his own make and design, and uses for one thing a hammer-like driver with which he certainly plays better than he does with any other. If it is suggested that it is wrong that a man's own private idiosyncrasies should be allowed to count in this way, it is answered that it is this experimentation and scope for ingenuity which makes the game so interesting as it is; and how is the game made any worse for any of it? Certainly it is not made less difficult, although some of those who adopt the new devices may think so. It has been urged that in America they have no proper respect for the traditions of the game. Well, in France, how could they have? Our language is not theirs, we are not of the same race, and Duncan Forbes of Collieston, William St. Clair of Roslyn, Colonel Murray Belshe, George Glennie, and all the other heroes of the golfing past of various areas are nothing whatever to them—nothing like so much as Arnaud Massy or Bombouline. Then it may be said in reply that French golf is nothing to us. But it was understood that we wanted to keep it the same everywhere. That cannot be done according to the present system.

**MISCELLANEOUS.**

Golf in the Streets.—An unusual form of freak golf was played in the streets of Sheffield between 4 and 6 a.m. recently. A well known Sheffield player undertook to go from above Broomhill and hole out on the ninth green of the Abbeydale Club's course in 150 strokes or less. He accomplished what had seemed a difficult task, with 30 strokes to spare.

A Schoolboy's Score.—There are few players who would not be glad to emulate the steadiness of Master John Chisholm, of the Whitehall School Club, Glasgow. Playing in a School Club fixture last Friday he went round the Lethamhill course of the Alexandra Club in 70 as follows:—Out: 3, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4—35; in: 4, 5, 3, 4, 4, 3, 5, 4, 3—35; total 70. His ball hung on the lip of the last hole for a 2, which would have enabled him to equal the professional record of 69. Chisholm did not hole a single long putt, and made no brilliant recoveries. He never made a mistake the whole round.

Oh! for a practical standard handicap system! The open medal at the Walter and Kingdon Easter Meeting was won by a competitor who had a handicap of 14. He went round the course in 80, and won with 10 strokes to spare.