

Traps.

The play shown below is described in Gossip's "Chess Players Vade-Mecum" as a notable trap in the Ginoco Piano. It hardly comes within our conception of a trap, because the ensnarement is not immediate. Indeed, the subsequent play requires great care and circumspection to prevent the victim's escape. The play might perhaps more aptly be likened to the weaving of a spider's web, or the playing of a trout. However, the play is so full of interest and excitement that we think our readers will relish it perhaps even more than an ordinary trap.

The web is woven thus:—After 1. P-K4, P-K4, 2. KKt-B3, QKt-B3; 3. B-B4, B-B4; 4. P-Q3, Kt-B3; 5. Castles, P-Q3; 6. Ql-K5, P-KK3; 7. B-B4, P-KK4, 8. Ql-K5. Black continues P-KR4, leaving his KtP to be taken. If White takes the Pawn, the game proceeds:

9. KtXP ..... P-R5
Steinitz claims to have first brought out the idea of this counter-attack (starting from Black's 6th move) in the London tournament of 1862 in a game against Signor Dubois (white), who, however, at this point played 9. P-KR4. In his "Modern Chess Instructor" (from which the text and most of the following notes are taken), he suggests that if White here plays P-KR3, the following continuation:

10. KtXP ..... PxB
11. KtXQ ..... QB-Kt5
At this point Gossip leaves one to find the right continuation, which is not unlike putting a man down on a deserted mining field on a wet and dark night, and telling him to find the hotel, where he will get a change and a good feed.

12. Q-Q2
If 12. Kt-B7, Black's best answer, is 12. RXP, which leads to the same position by a transposition of moves.
13. .... Kt-Q5
13. Kt-B7

If 13. P-Kt3, Kt-K7 ch; 14. K-R8, RXP ch; 15. PxB, B-B6 mate. If 13. PXP, Kt-B6 dbl. ch; 14. K-R sq, RXP mate.
14. .... RXP
14. Kt-K5 ..... K-K2
15. Q-K3 ..... Kt-K7 ch
16. QxKt ..... QR-R sq
17. Kt-B3 ..... BxQ
18. Kt-Q2 ..... Kt-K5
19. P-Q4 ..... BxP
20. BxB ..... QRxKt
21. PXR ..... PXP ch
22. RXP ..... BxR ch

followed by Kt-K6 mate. The concluding moves are borrowed from Salvioi.

ITEMS.

We learn from the "Illustrated London News" that the 58th annual report of the City of London Chess Club, recently issued, presents a continued satisfactory chronicle of progress and success. The outstanding feature of the year was the victory over America, by which the Newnes Challenge Cup becomes the absolute property of the club.

Auckland Workingmen's Club.

A well-attended meeting of the chess and draughts playing members of the Auckland Workingmen's Club was held in the club's social hall, Colough-street, last Wednesday, when it was decided to form a chess and draughts section on lines somewhat similar to those obtaining in the sister club in Wellington. The following sectional committee was appointed: President, Mr. C. F. Mack, the president of the club; hon. sec., Mr. W. Eymann; hon. treas., Mr. Chas. Clarke; additional members of committee, Messrs. Geo. Donaldson, E. A. de Montalk, P. Mackay, and J. Trickett, with Mr. R. Barrows as consulting member. The appointment of handicappers and referees was left in the hands of the Sectional Committee. We understand it is intended to start matches and tournaments as soon as possible.

Hamilton Chess Club.

The return match with Tauranga, which was played by telegraph, resulted in a win for Tauranga by 6 games to 4.

LAWN TENNIS.

WELLINGTON.

(By "ROMULUS.")

W. Sheppard (ex-Newton and Wellington Clubs) is rapidly developing into a first-class player in Christchurch. At the last tournament held there he won the handicap singles from scratch, and also reached the semi-final in the championship singles and doubles. Last Saturday he met the veteran, W. Goss, in the first round of the United Club's championship, but was defeated by two sets to one, 6-1, 5-7, 6-2.

Alec. Duncan and Percy Wright, two of the most promising colts in local tennis during the last couple of seasons, have migrated to Auckland, and as they are both very keen and enthusiastic, they should make a name for themselves in Auckland tennis. Their doings will be followed with great interest by the younger generation of Wellington players, amongst whom these two Petone and Miriri representatives were deservedly popular.

At the Khandallah Club's annual meeting, held on 21st August, hearty votes of thanks were passed to Messrs. J. H. and G. H. Richardson in recognition of their invaluable services to the club. The father has been president since its inception several years ago, while George has carried out the executive duties season after season in an efficient and tactful manner.

Subject to the approval of England and America, the challenge-round for the Davis Cup has been fixed for 29th and 30th December and 1st January at Christchurch. The Canterbury Association will take charge of the New Zealand championships after all, the meeting taking place on the usual dates, 26th, 27th, and 28th December. Following on the Davis Cup meeting, the New Zealand L.T.A. has decided to hold an invitation championship singles event, in which the Davis Cup players and the

crack Australian and New Zealand representatives are expected to compete.

The annual general meeting of the progressive Newtown Club was held on 29th August, when the following officers were elected for the year:—President, Mr. W. H. P. Barber; vice-presidents, Hon. C. M. Luke, M.L.C., Messrs. J. P. Lake, M.P., F. Grady, sen., E. Y. Redward, W. Fraser, P. H. Muter, J. H. Pollock, T. H. Gill, and R. F. Lynch; Management Committee—Messrs. E. Y. Redward, F. R. Curtis, H. L. Godher, J. H. Clark, and P. A. Lewis; hon. secretary, Mr. G. S. Pratt; hon. treasurer, Mr. F. B. Spitsbury; delegates to W.P.L.T.A., Messrs. F. A. Lewis and F. B. Spitsbury.

The annual report stated that the membership was 79, the receipts for the year £205 10/2, and the expenditure £201 14/3 (of which £77 10/9 was the cost of erecting the club's fine new pavilion).

At the quarterly meeting of the New Zealand Council, held in Wellington on Monday week, Professor T. A. Hunter (chairman) announced that the Management Committee had arranged for an Australian ladies' team to visit the Dominion and play matches in Wellington at some convenient date, either before or after the Davis Cup contest.

The Khandallah Club has every reason to be satisfied with its position, both from a financial and playing point of view. The balance-sheet shows an excess of assets over liabilities to the extent of £57 18/1, while the men's and ladies' teams in the C grade competitions of the W.P.L.T.A. earned distinction for the district. The ladies were champions for the season with a record of nine wins and one loss; the men's team just missed championship honours, and was runner-up to Brougham Hill, winning seven and losing two matches.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing season at the annual general meeting, held on 21st August:—President, Mr. F. Holdsworth; Management Committee—Messrs. Batham and Cook, Messrs. G. H. Richardson, W. Hutchings, B. Heenan, and P. Duddle; Match Committee—Messrs. G. H. Richardson, B. Heenan, and P. Hodgson; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. P. Hodgson; hon. auditor, Mr. J. H. Jerram; delegates to W.P.L.T.A., Messrs. D. M. Kean and P. Hodgson.

Wilding's inability to represent Australasia in the challenge round of the Davis Cup comes as a great surprise to Wellingtonians, as the principal factor in leading to the change of venue from Wellington to Christchurch was the matter of sentiment surrounding Wilding's engagement (called out on Wednesday) no doubt accounts for his decision not to come out to New Zealand for the challenge rounds, thereby vitally affecting Australasia's chance of successfully defending the cup.

Wellington Chess Club.

The six players who qualified for the "Petherick Finals" were paired as follows in the first round: Kelling v. Gyles, Hicks v. Cimino, and Pochy v. Carman. Gyles, as was expected, maintained his unbeaten record, proving too good for the scratch man who had to concede the odds of knight and move. Hicks, giving the odds of rook and move, won from Cimino after a desperate struggle. Carman, receiving pawn and move, beat Pochy.

The ladder match, Purchas v. Gyles, was won by the former. The second game in the James-Hicks match ended, after a prolonged contest, in a draw.

The "New Zealand Times" states that a tourney, to decide the championship of the Wairarapa district, will shortly be played in two sections—North v. South. The two winners ultimately playing off until one of them scores three wins. This will afford a sure test of superiority. We hope the two winners will live long enough to see it out.

Solution of Position No. 106

(Shinkman.)

- 1. R-R4, B-Q5 (any other reply means sudden death.)
2. R-QKt4 ..... Any move.
3. R mates.

GOLF

This paper has been appointed the official organ of the Ladies Golf Union, New Zealand branch.

Secretaries of ladies' golf clubs are invited to forward official notices, hand-icaps and alterations, results of competitions, and other matters of interest, to reach the publishing office not later than the Saturday prior to date of publication.

AUCKLAND.

THE junior championship was started on Saturday, when the qualifying round was played.

The following players took part:—Richmond, Louissou, John Frater, St. J. Clark, A. Carrick, C. Nathan, R. Towle, C. A. Gillies, H. Milnes, Leo Myers, S. A. Carr, W. W. Bruce, G. Pierce, M. George, J. H. Jackson, F. W. Thorne, A. E. Kinder, E. D. Benjamin, C. J. Owen, S. A. Longuet, F. Binney, C. O. Maloney, W. Gorrie, B. S. Finn, J. J. Kingston, E. W. Cave, J. B. Macfarlane, J. Evans, T. D. Ball, W. Fairclough, A. Farmer, B. Noakes, C. R. Brown, A. M. Ferguson, B. R. Dawson, H. Allen, J. W. Hall, James Frater, S. Hanna, A. Cooper, S. Brigham. The conditions were medal play, the 16 players returning the best scores to qualify for match play. The following 16 qualified:

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W. Fairclough 90, T. Ball 101, Kingswell 102, J. Frater 102, C. Mahoney 103, J. W. Hall 103, C. Nathan 103, B. Dawson 104, John Frater 104, J. Binney 104, C. Brown 105, H. Richmond 106, S. Hanna 106, J. B. Macfarlane 106, H. Allen 106, A. Ferguson 106, G. Pierce 106. Ferguson and Pierce play off for 16th place.

The draw for the first round of match play is as follows:—Macfarlane plays Binney, Allen plays Brown, Hall plays Dawson, Kingswell plays Richmond, Fairclough plays Mahoney, J. Frater plays Nathan, T. Ball, S. Hanna plays the winner of the Pierce-Ferguson tie.

WELLINGTON.

(By Telegraph.—Own Correspondent.)

WELLINGTON, Saturday. The Wellington Golf Club's competition for the captain's (Mr. W. B. Lees) prize was played to-day on the Heta-tanga Links, and resulted in a win for A. J. Abbott and Miss Wheeler, with the excellent score of two up. The next best cards handed in were G. T. George and Miss R. Simpson, three down; C. J. Nathan and Miss Burnes, four down.

RICHMOND.

The first round of the junior championship was played last week. Results: Watts beat Dublin, Symes beat Goyen, Spanger beat Modlin, Ciffin beat J. Harley, C. Preston beat Button, F. Preston beat Crawford, Ledger beat Hamilton, Parson beat De Thier, Staveley beat Francis, Hawker beat Sherwin.

Manawatu Tournament.

There was beautiful weather on August 29, for the opening of the Manawatu golf tournament, and the links were in splendid order.

Driving and Approaching Competition.—Kapi Tareha, first, 101. 1/2m. from flag; Arthur Duncan, second, 141. 1/2m. from flag; W. Bendall, third, 221. 1/2m. from flag; J. R. McLennan, fourth, 237. from flag.

Kurepo Tareha, Hawke's Bay, champion, was unable to be present.

36 Hole Competition.—First Round: The four best cards sent in were:—K. Duncan 75, V. Harman 75, R. P. Abraham 100, J. C. Bidwill 168, K. Duncan 108; total, 664. Manawatu A: A. Barrard 176, L. Seifert 177, J. Strang 179, H. L. Young 180; total, 712.

36-Hole Stroke.—C. Louissou, 185, 36 1/4; R. P. Abraham, 182, 26 1/4; St. C. Jounneaux, 186, 30 1/4.

In the play-off for the second place in the 36th-hole stroke competition, R. P. Abraham beat St. C. Jounneaux.

The Nathan Cup goes to F. Seifert. Last year's winner, Mr. R. P. Abraham second. Details of the playe are as follows:—

Championship.—Second round: Kapi beat R. P. Abraham 3 up and 2; A. Strang beat Butterworth 6 and 5; J. C. Bidwill beat W. Read 2 and 1; K. Duncan beat A. Barrard 4 and 3.

Bogey Handicap.—Butterworth, 3, 2 down; Dr. Cox 5, 2; S. Seifert 6, 2; H. Cooper 8, 3; N. Green 3, 3; J. C. Bidwill scratch, 3; A. Barrard 2, 3; A. Duncan owes 4, 4; L. Seifert 3, 4; W. Bendall 16, 4; H. Cheroot 4, 6; Jounneaux 9, 5; W. McIntosh 7, 5; W. Seifert 10, 5; the rest ranged from 6 to 8 down.

Stroke Handicap.—A. Duncan 76, over 4-80; R. Abbott 91, 10-81; H. G. Moore 94, 11-84; A. Gillies 93, 10-83; J. R. McLennan 101, 18-83; D. C. Moore 95, 11-84; W. Seifert 98, 14-84; J. Strang 93, 5-88; G. Lang Meason 107, 18-89; K. Duncan 98, 3-90; W. McIntosh 100, 10-90; St. C. Jounneaux 103, 12-91.

The meeting was continued on August 31, when the semi-final of the championship resulted in A. Duncan defeating Kapi