

Mrs. Ward and Stronach, sq.; Miss Wood and Forbes 0, v. Miss K. Rattray and Branch, 8; Miss Cowlishaw and Harman 0, v. Miss Scott and Scanlon 3; Miss Fisher and Trolowe 0, v. Miss Hill and Gale, sq. Totals: Christchurch 23, Otago 32.

The fast greens again caused trouble to the Christchurch players. A dinner to the visitors was given in the evening in the Otago Club, which function proved most successful.

WANGANUI.

The mixed foursome played on the opening day of the season by members of the Wanganui Club resulted as follows: Miss Montgomery-Moore and Mr. D. Ritchie were the winning couple, two up on bogey; Mr. Bruce and Miss P. Nixon came second, all square; Mr. Harold and Miss Christie, and Mr. Cave and Miss Cave were each one down.

NELSON.

A mixed foursome bogey competition was played at the Tahuna links last week, and resulted in a win for Mrs. Bigg-Wither and T. Bigg-Wither with a score of 1 up. The following cards were handed in:—

Mrs. Bigg-Wither and Bigg-Wither, handicap 36, 1 up.

Miss Sutherland-Smith and R. Dodds, handicap 28, 1 down; Miss Hair and A. E. Jackson, handicap 18, 2 down; Miss G. Cook and J. Cook, handicap 27, 2 down; Miss Ledger and M. McLaren, handicap 17, 3 down; Miss Bamford and R. S. Booth, handicap 23, 4 down; Miss Maginnity and C. W. Brown, handicap 17, 5 down; Miss A. Dodson and A. Maides, handicap 29, 6 down; Miss Lucas and J. H. Cook, handicap 35, 7 down; Miss Booth and C. R. Fell, handicap 18, 7 down; Miss E. Ledger and H. Robison, handicap 12, 8 down; Mrs. Thomas and J. Houliker, handicap 30, 10 down; Mrs. Dodson and P. Dakiel, handicap 32, 10 down; Miss E. Hair and B. Bisley, handicap 30, 10 down; Mrs. Lewis and W. Squires, handicap 22, 11 down; Miss Adams and S. Tyreman, handicap 12, 11 down; Miss Dimant and T. Houliker, handicap 37, 11 down.

TEMUKA.

The election of officers of the Temuka Club took place at the annual meeting which was held last week and resulted as follows:—President, Mr. E. James; vice-presidents, the Hon. T. Buxton and Mr. J. T. Maling; captain, Mr. W. Pearse; handicappers, Dr. A. H. Curtis and Mr. A. Bushell; secretary, Dr. B. Volkman; treasurer, Mr. A. Bushell; committee, Messrs. Scott, Paterson, Guild Drs. R. Volkman and A. H. Curtis, and Mr. R. Pearse.

NEW PLYMOUTH.

A bogey handicap was played last week in very stormy weather, and in consequence, the entries were small and the play not up to the usual standard. The prize presented by Mr. Standish was won by J. Johnston, with a score of 4 down. The five best cards put in were as follows:—J. Johnston, 13, 4 down; W. C. Weston, scr. 5 down; R. A. Gray, 6, 6 down; K. Bain, 15, 8 down; A. Bewley, scr. 9 down.

LADIES' GOLF.

AUCKLAND.

The second round of the Hope Lewis Rose Bowl was played on Monday, and resulted as follows: Miss Winnie Cotter defeated Mrs. W. R. Bloomfield, 7 up and 6 to play; Miss Sybil Paton received a bye from Miss Jean Richmond; Miss G. Gorrie defeated Miss N. Upton, 5 and 4; Miss M. Cooper received a bye from Miss Hilda Bloomfield; Miss Stella McLean defeated Miss C. Thorpe, 3 and 2; Miss Nora Gorrie defeated Mrs. E. Horton, 2 and 1; Miss Marjorie Towle defeated Miss Madge McLean, 4 and 2; Miss R. Gorrie received a bye from Miss M. Heath.

The third round must be played on or before Thursday, May 9th.

A very good 12-hole putting course has been laid out on one side of the clubhouse. The men's club have instituted a monthly putting competition, which is

an excellent idea, and a very good lead for the ladies' club to follow. Most of the players go out by the 12.10 train, and so finish their round early in the afternoon, and a putting competition would be an excellent way to fill in the wait, and at the same time be a means of improving this very important part of the game. Mr. Milnes won the first monthly competition over a nine-hole course with a very steady round of 18.

The monthly medal was played on Monday, the weather was glorious, but there was not a large entry. The senior medal was won by Miss Rachel Norris, gross score 100, handicap 14, net 86 (winner); Miss Gwen Gorrie, 102-4-96; Miss Milly Cotter, 117-18-99; Junior medal—Miss C. Thorpe, gross score 119, handicap 33, 86 (winner); Miss Roysie Greig, 120-35-84; Miss Jessie Frater, 137-33-104.

NAPIER.

The members of the Napier Ladies' Golf Club played the first round for the Donnelly Vase on Thursday, May 2nd. The best cards given in were: Mrs. Bernan, handicap 14, 2 down; Mrs. Kennedy, 14, 6 down; Mrs. Snodgrass, 18, 6 down; Mrs. Russell, 18, 7 down; Mrs. H. Smith, 11, 8 down; Miss Dean, 12, 9 down.

The club committee this year decided to fix 18 as the handicap limit for all club bogey matches. All bogey matches must therefore, be won by "A" players.

CAMBRIDGE.

The Cambridge Club's first monthly medal match was completed on Saturday, Miss B. Taylor winning with 91 net; Miss Lunnon, second, with 95.

NELSON.

Following is the result of the Encounter and junior medal match played last week:—

Miss A. Dodson, 120, 40, 86; Miss C. Cook, 122, 40, 82; Miss E. Hair, 128, 40, 88; Miss Maginnity, 129, 40, 89; Miss E. Ledger, 162, 13, 80; Miss Lucas, 131, 40, 91; Miss Bamford, 122, 27, 95; Miss L. Ledger, 110, 14, 96.

MANGAWATI.

The first bogey match of the season took place on Thursday last. There was a good muster of players, but the length and softness of the grass made scores against bogey very difficult, and the cards returned were not good. The winners were Mrs. Slack in the A grade, Mrs. Milton in the B grade, and Miss Watson in the Juniors.

CLUTHA.

The following is the result of the first Ladies' Medal Match:—Mrs. Coghill (57-2) 65, Mrs. Landels (60-12) 57, Miss Hutchins (70-10) 60, Mrs. Grigor (74-12) 62, Miss Waymouth (70-8) 62, Miss C. Grant (77-14) 63, Miss Kiernan (63-scr) 65.

GISHORNE.

The first L.C.U. round was played on the links by the Poverty Bay Golf Club in favourable weather with the following results:—

Silver Medal.—Mrs. Barlow, 101-19-82; Miss Sweet, 108-12-86; Mrs. Cole, 108-19-80; Mrs. O'Meara, 108-18-90; Miss D. Bull, 104-10-94; Mrs. Morgan, 112-18-94.

Bronze Medal.—Mrs. Burke, 110-30-80; Mrs. Adair, 118-27-91; Miss N. Tucker, 135-39-96; Miss F. Davies, 129-31-98; Mrs. H. Bull, 135-28-107.

The Perfect Golfer.

Let there be any person who is prepared to deny that such a human exists, let me assure him that I quite agree, and this point being settled, let me endeavour to prove my contention. In the first place, what is a perfect golfer? Is it the present Open Champion, who is also a perfect gentleman? I do not intend to lay it down that the perfect golfer must necessarily be the perfect player, for a man can be a machine-

like exponent and yet fall far short of what—in my opinion—constitutes a perfect golfer. Let me illustrate my meaning. Your opponent "puts it across you" to the extent of "ten up and eight"; continues his round, and succeeds in breaking the record of the course. You have been playing with him, but he is scarcely conscious of your presence, so lost is he in contemplation of possibilities. This indifference to your existence brands him at once as an imperfect player, inasmuch that he should have sympathised with your indifferent display up to the tenth, and thereafter given you a few hints, putting his own play entirely on one side. I am perfectly aware that to defeat an opponent by ten and eight and then sympathise with him is one of the worst crimes in the golfing calendar, for it is by way of adding insult to injury. "I can forgive him defeating me; I forgive him his many superior smiles, and even tolerate the many pieces of good fortune that he received; but when he tells me that I show signs of 'coming on,' I want his blood." This is a remark I once overheard, and our sympathy must be with the bloodthirsty person. On my own showing, then, it is not good policy to sympathise with your victim: in fact, if you defeat him badly, he would agree with you if you informed him that "of all the players you have met, you have never yet seen one quite so hopeless as he is." When a person plays badly he is perfectly happy in being miserable, and welcomes any addition to his misery. It is quite possible that the perfect golfer, in your opinion, is the man who plays you for a trifle, knowing perfectly well that he hasn't a fel-ne's chance of ever beating you. It seems to point to the fact that you must be a popular person in his eyes, seeing that he is prepared to lay down his life, so to speak in order to please you; and human nature is such that he, who by his acts shows admiration for our persons, is invariably thought well of by the one admired. The man who takes his own time on the greens, regardless of the shouts of "Fore!" cannot be a perfect specimen, for he is selfish. Who ever knew one of this type to be a ball? As a rule he is always down the course, and if you harbour any hope of his losing his ball you will be disappointed. He is also one of those rare golfers who are familiar with the rules, and to a gae with him is folly. Those who play three-ball matches on busy days are also outside the pale. The motives that prompt the players taking part in three and four-ball matches are merely mercenary ones. Playing a solitary opponent your winnings are limited, but playing two or three others you have a chance of making a bit. Hence the growing popularity of these forms of contest. I once knew four persons who invariably played together, all against all. It took them two hours and half to play the round, and about the same length of time to work out how each stood financially. The wagers were always five shillings a match, ditto score, half-crown for best return against bogey, sixpence for every four, a shilling for three's, whilst a hole in two netted two shillings. There was no mention of a hole in one, the obtaining of which would probably result in the other three players dropping the acquaintance of the freak. It can be easily understood that a game of this description, if one player was in form, meant a good sum of talent money, but I can find no trace of the perfect golfer in this type of player. On the other hand, the person who informs you that he never plays for money cannot be considered popular. He will offer to play you for a cup of tea, but who drinks tea? and so you shun him as you would the plague. The plus player of your club, who is always fixed up when a 20 handicap man inquires if he is playing anyone, falls far short of what constitutes perfection. When on the course he expects you to allow him to pass, seeing that the slightest waiting invariably upsets him. They are frightfully sensitive, and as you, in common with the other members, have a sneaking admiration for your club champion, you inform him to "go through" whenever he likes. He thanks you, but having expected this consideration on your part his gratitude is worth little, therefore we must pass him over in our search. To be the captain of a club is a post usually occupied by the most popular man, and he approaches very close to our idea of a perfect golfer, but as we know that the post of captain is usually offered to one who has an interest in the welfare of the club—in

much the same manner that the treasurer is usually the manager of the local bank—it somewhat depreciates the value of the honour. The person who talks from the first tee to the last put is no better or worse than he who never speaks during the whole round. One is a gaseous person, the other impossible, and both should be avoided if you are searching for a pleasant opponent. The caddy, who is "damned" by his employer for every trifling fault, invariably has the sympathy of his employer's opponent, whose play is the cause of the other's annoyance. To damn one's caddy, therefore, is not good form, and betrays the imperfect gentleman; whilst he who tolerates every failing on the part of his caddy is not fit to be a golfer, and here again we draw a blank. Must we go back to the days when the golf courses of England were few and far between in order to discover the true type? Young golfers were few, for golf in those days seemed to be confined to those slowing up in life's race. A few weeks at Hoylake, then on to Westward Ho! Sandwich, Blackheath, and St. Andrews made up their round. A single in the morning, followed by a foursome in the afternoon, was their daily programme; and to play eight rounds in a single day would have been considered the act of a lunatic, for golf to these old-timers was a game to be taken seriously. The day of bogey, monthly medal, and various other forms of competition had not yet dawned. Two medal days a year were quite sufficient, and the post-hunter was unknown. He is a product of a later age, and the result of a craving for notoriety that is becoming more and more common. It must not be imagined, however, that the golfer of the eighties was without sin, for clamminess was rampant. The stranger found it difficult to obtain a match, and the professional was his opponent until the ice thawed. This still exists in some clubs of long standing. They have their own circle into which a stranger is not admitted, unless he be a well-known man or is well introduced. The increasing popularity of golf, however, is breaking down these barriers, and the stranger is welcomed as a person likely to contribute to the club's exchequer. Sordid reasons certainly, but his green fee is appreciated. I am rather inclined to the belief that we shall not discover this perfect golfer. We do not know what he is for one thing, and if we saw him we should not recognise him, for we are unfamiliar with the type. If he ever is discovered, I think we shall find a person who plays for the love of the game alone; one who, no matter what his opponent's handicap may be, is always prepared to play a single or make one in a foursome. He will be a player who is conscious of his own limitations, one who appreciates good play on the part of his opponent, whilst deprecating his own good fortune. He will be a player who, on being laid stymie that prevents him halving a match, will reply to your murmur of regret that it is all in the game and must be borne uncomplainingly. He will insist on a further search when you have decided to give up looking for a ball, the result of an erratic drive. He will sympathise, in no hypocritical spirit with your feeble efforts and take your half-crown with genuine regret. All these things will be found in the ideal player, and when found he should be placed in a museum and a charge made for admission, for he will represent that rarest thing on this planet to-day—a perfect golfer.

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