

GOLF.

The links are in good order just now, and there is usually an average of about twenty players out each week-day, while this number is of course largely exceeded on Saturday. On Thursday the attendance of ladies was above the average, and some good games were played. On Saturday there was a single club competition which attracted a good many entries. The hole known as Jacob's Ladder proved the chief stumbling block under the circumstances.

Travis, who won the Amateur Golf Championship, in the Old Country recently, putts with what is called a "Schenectady" putter. It is shaped like a croquet mallet. Willie Park says the idea is thirty years old, but its inventor says it is not two years old. Anyway, fifteen hundred of them were sold before noon in London next day after the match. Travis claims that no matter on what part of the face the ball is struck it runs true. It is curious that it is owing to the Americans and their Haskell ball that the craving for long driving came in, now it is an American that has shown that it is not long driving that pays. Travis is a native of Australia, but went to America about 18 years ago. He has been playing for eight years. He carried off the American championship in 1900, the second year he played for it; also in 1901 and again this year. He is 45 years of age, is only 5 feet 6 inches high, but is well-built, and of a powerful build.

The championship of South Australia has just been won by W. J. Gunson, with Julian Ayers second.

The victory of J. White, of Sunningdale, in the English open golf championship was intensely exciting, for J. Braid and J. H. Taylor each had a put on the last green to be with him. Braid's put was a foot short, and Taylor's only just missed the hole. The scoring, as I said last week, was extremely low, as White's figures, 296 for the 72 holes, beat the previous record. J. H. Taylor's last round of 68, a record for the green, was simply magnificent. This is J. White's first championship.

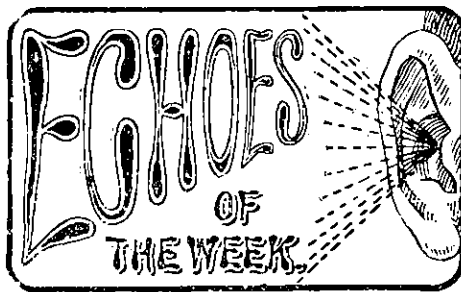
ATHLETICS.

The finals for the Wellington centre amateur boxing championships on Saturday evening resulted as under:—Bantams, Gosling beat Clifford; middle-weights, Redgrave beat Rogers; feather-weights, Thomas beat Crawford; light-weights, Sampson beat Williams; heavy-weights, Maloney beat Sandow.

The South African boxer, Rudolf Unholz, who has appeared in the ring in England several times during the last few months, scored a rather lucky win over George Justice, of New York, at Newcastle recently. They were matched for 20 rounds, at 9st 4lb, for a purse of £80, and after a fierce fight for nine rounds the American's right wrist commenced to bleed badly, and he went very weak, getting knocked out in the next round. It transpired that while in training a sheet of glass had fallen on his wrist, cutting two veins, and though the wound had healed it burst open under the strain of the present strenuous fight.

Eugen Sandow has another book in the press, entitled: "Body Building." "The Man in the Making." With 7 Cabinet Photographs of the Author posing. Printed on art paper. The book contains: Physical Culture and its Growth, The Royal Commission, My System Described, Physical Culture—its Use and Abuse. Curative Physical Culture Exercise for Health. Also some Illustrated Exercises for: Indigestion, Developing the Arms and Shoulders, Development of the Chest, Abdominal Complaints, the Prevention for Appendicitis, Constipation, Liver Troubles, Laternal Curvature, Developing the Lower Parts of the Body, etc.

From Grecian ages up to our own day, Have bronchial cures appeared and ceased to be; But this, the world admits, has come to stay, And to be known as The Great Remedy. The trite old saying's right, the best will last, And last it will, of this you may be sure, For coughs and colds are ailments of the past, By timely use of Woods' Great Peppermint Cure.



(By "Ithuriel.")

Considering his prices, Paderewski can afford legitimate advertising (says "Civis"). I like to read how his Melbourne audience "just roared at him," "went mad with excitement," and as the concert proceeded are madder and madder. If the circulation of this information is duly paid for—and I hope it is—I consider it legitimate advertising. But when I am told that in the fiery rush of his manipulations and prestigitations Paderewski's fingers got entangled in the keys, and that he left behind him a keyboard covered with blood, I feel that I am being treated as a credulous person. The thing may have been so, but it can't be expected that I should believe it. Involuntarily, and perhaps unjustly, I suspect the arts of Mr Vincent Crummies. As for Paderewski's prices, we shall pay them no doubt, even as the Melbourne and Sydney people are paying them; but we shall remark upon them. It is noted that when first interviewed, Paderewski said that "he had looked forward with pleasurable anticipation to meeting the homely, warm-hearted people of Australia," and that Mr Arlington, his agent, followed on with the irrelevant remark that "the prices would be a guinea, ten shillings, and five." Whereupon an Australian rhymester:

I've played from Rome to Paraguay,
from Hull to Indiana,
I've "obliged 'em" where the teeming
Cockneys hive,
And now in dear Australia I'll assault
the grand planner,
Where my prices are a guinea, ten, and
five.
Yes, since I left old Europe with my
concert party,
I've been longing for the day when I'd
arrive,
For I pined to see Australia and its
people warm and hearty,
And my prices are a guinea, ten, and
five.

Another verse, not exactly suitable for reading in families, I omit. Paderewski may charge what he pleases, of course; he is a monopolist, and we have no redress. But at least we can grumble.

Some years ago Sir John Astley was staying with friends near Ascot for the Ascot week. On the first day of the races he entered the Royal enclosure wearing a short round coat instead of the regulation frock-coat. The King (then Prince of Wales) noticed it, and said, "I think, Sir John, that you have forgotten your buttons" (meaning his frock-coat with buttons at the back). The next day Sir John appeared with two huge buttons sewn on; but it was the same short, round coat. The King, who always enjoys a good joke, was immensely pleased.

Two impecunious Scotchmen went into the bar, and having only sixpence between them, ordered one nip of whisky. They were hesitating who would have the first drink when an old acquaintance joined them. Pretending they had just drunk, they handed the newcomer the whisky, requesting him to join them in a drink. He drank, and after a few moments of painful and silent suspense, he said, "Now, boys, you'll have one with me." "Wasna that weel managed, mon?" said one to his pal afterwards. "Ay, it was," said the other solemnly; "but it was a dreadful risk."

The hot dry air treatment has no abler exponents in this colony than Mr and Mrs Edwin Booth, of Dunedin. Under this system (commonly known as Tallerman's) it is astonishing what degrees of heat can be borne—in some cases as high as 350 degrees and over. Mr and Mrs Booth have effected some remarkable cures by their various methods of massage, electric and hot air treatment, and sufferers who peruse that popular periodical, the "New Zealand Illustrated Magazine," will find particulars which should prove of considerable interest.

A preacher, who went to a Kentucky parish, where the parishioners bred horses was asked to invite the prayers of the congregation for Lucy Grey. He did so. They prayed three Sundays for Lucy Grey. On the fourth he was told he need not do it any more. "Why," said the preacher. "Is she dead?" "No," answered the man; "she won the Derby."

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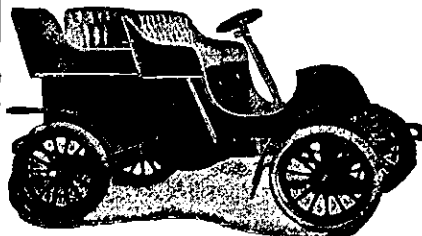
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December 25, 1903.—N.S.W. GUN CLUB XMAS GIFT RIGHT-OUT TROPHY. Won by Mr. A. H. Emanuel, using BALLISTITE. Runner-up, Mr. H. Garratt, also using BALLISTITE.
ENGLISH SHOOTING.—At the Gun Club and Hurlingham Season, 1903-4, just concluded, BALLISTITE, for the seventh consecutive year, topped the list of winning powders, securing 211,000 out of a total of 219,488.

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