

CYCLING.

(By "PETROL.")

Two Continental cracks, Messrs. Henri Mayer and Walter Rutt, are now in Australia, and will probably compete in the forthcoming meetings (says the "Australasian.") Messrs. N. M. Andersen and Larsen (Danes), and Nodola, a Russian, may be expected to arrive at any time. Both Rutt and Andersen were acquainted with; they were here last season in company with Ellegaard. Henri Mayer has a first-class reputation in Europe, and is looked upon as being equal to Major Taylor, Lawson, Kramer, and Ellegaard, and has many brilliant wins to his credit. Of Larsen and Nodola we have little knowledge, save that they are riders of the first class, and it may be fairly argued that unless they had some pretensions to speed above the ordinary they would scarcely have been inclined to come so far abroad.

It would now appear that instead of there being a paucity of oversea riders here this season, there is every indication of an overplus, for with Samuelson, Lawson, and Macfarland there will be no less than eight foreign racers of note. But what we want is two or three local riders who can make a good showing against them, for this would produce interest, and the public who patronise the sports meetings would be more concerned in even a nearly equal struggle between our own men and the visitors than between the visitors themselves. Unfortunately, the methods adopted here do not tend to develop the best qualities of our riders, or even inculcate a desire to reach the top of the tree. It is not the best rider or riders who may win the richest prizes, but those who are favoured by a combination of a liberal handicap, good luck, and a certain amount of extraneous aid.

The final scores for the championship of America, decided by points in eleven events of from a quarter to five miles in length, show (according to a contemporary) that Frank Kramer heads the list with 59 points, with Ivor Lawson 38 points, second. Fenn is third with 26, J. Bedell fourth with 18, and Macfarland fifth with 11. Kramer, for the fifth year in succession, has annexed the title, which is quite unprecedented. He had also held the same position in amateurism for two years prior to joining the professionals. The American amateur champion is Downey, who scored one point more than Billington.

The following teams have been selected and will play as shown:—

EDEN AND EPSOM v. DEVONPORT.
Men's A.—Messrs. Grossman and Mair (E. and E.) v. Messrs. T. Macky and Redman (D.), at Mount Eden.
Men's B.—Messrs. Heather and A. S. C. Brown (E. and E.) v. Messrs. Rishworth and Hall (D.), at Devonport.
Ladies' A.—Misses E. Rice and A. Stewart (E. and E.) v. Devonport pair, not yet selected, at Devonport.
Ladies' B.—Misses E. and G. Gorrie (E. and E.) v. Mrs. Swan and Miss Mason (D.), at Mount Eden.
Combined A.—Miss D. Udy and Billing (E. and E.) v. Mrs. Cooper and H. R. Cooke (D.), at Devonport.
Combined B.—Miss P. Gorrie and W. A. Brown (E. and E.) v. Miss Metcalfe and K. Howarth (D.), at Mount Eden.
Note.—Devonport team is liable to slight alteration.

AUCKLAND v. WEST END.
Men's A.—Messrs. Paterson and Upton (W.E.), at Auckland.
Men's B.—Messrs. Baker and Morpeth (W.E.), at West End.
Ladies' A.—Misses A. Nicholson and Whitelaw (W.E.), at West End.
Ladies' B.—Mrs. Gentles and Miss Gittos (W.E.), at Auckland.
Combined A.—Miss Nicholson and Dr. Keith (W.E.), at West End.
Combined B.—Miss Holland and Goldie (W.E.), at Auckland.
The Auckland teams are not yet picked.

PARNELL v. ONEHUNGA.
(All matches at Parnell.)
Men's A.—Messrs. Stevenson and Maddox (P.).
Men's B.—Messrs. Simpson and Le Sieur (P.).
Ladies' A.—Mrs. Bloomfield and Miss Walker (P.).
Ladies' B.—Mrs. Holmes and Miss Atkinson (P.).
Combined A.—Miss Parsons and Scherff (P.).
Combined B.—Miss Steele and Cox (P.).
Onehunga teams not to hand in time for these notes.

Forecasting the result of the first round, Eden and Epsom should win against Devonport, and West End against Auckland. Not knowing the Onehunga Club's strength, it is still probable that they will not be able to win against a club of Parnell's standing, and the matches will all be played on the latter's ground.

West End have already commenced their handicap tournament, and on Saturday Miss Whitelaw and Hickson played Miss Nicholson and Oliphant, the latter pair winning 0-6, 6-5, 6-3 in the first set Oliphant and partner only secured four points.

Miss A. Nicholson and Paterson (owing 15 1-6) beat Miss Gittos and Morpeth 6-3, 5-6, 6-2. The match was a good one, and in the second set Miss Gittos and partner won from 2-5 and 30-40.

Devonport in the first inter-club match suffer from the loss of Miss Harvey and Fred Brabant. The former will probably be away. Should she, however, be able to play the team as shown in above list will be subject to alteration. Brabant is suffering from a bad leg.

C. H. Young is improving, and will probably find a place in future club events.

Lieutenant Smythe is a new member of whom we shall doubtless hear much.

H. R. Cooke informs me he will be unable to go to Wellington. He will likely play in the Auckland combined with Mrs. Cooper.

Mrs. Cooper and Miss Harvey will probably go to Wellington for the Ladies' Doubles.
W. A. Brown and Morpeth will play in the Auckland Championship Doubles.

Slazenger's new rackets, bearing the name of P. A. Vaile, are excellently balanced, and from this cause are meeting with much praise from local players. Quite a number are to be seen in use.

Brookes, the Australian champion, will probably be in Auckland about the 16th inst., and arrangements are trying to be made for him to appear in the New Zealand championships at Wellington.

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race throughout from the launch. The Commodore's courtesy is much appreciated, I am sure.

The usual fine fleet put in an appearance at the Manukau Yacht Club's second race on Saturday, but the light nor-easter was all in favour of the limit boat, and the finish was rather one-sided. Mavis, which had the liberal handicap of 50min. eventually passed the winning post at 4hrs 1min 30sec, and 15½ min ahead of Petrel, which finish second. The others to finish were: Endeavour, 4hr 19min; Myrtle, 4hr 20min; Mascotte, 4hr 21min 30sec; Spray, 4hr 26min; Alma, 4hr 26min 30sec; May Bee, 4hr 28 min; Ngaroma, 4hr 35min 30sec.

The little racer Zealandia, which Logan Bros. built for South Africa recently, won her first race on arrival. She was down to compete in a second race, but as the little skimming dish was asked to give away starts up to 28min in an eight mile course the prospects of success were not bright. Zealandia has been purchased from Mr Schollum by the owner of Mercia, another Logan-built boat now in Africa.

The motor boat championship on Saturday must be written down as a dismal failure. Only two boats, Union and Togo, were entered, and the race was spoilt by the former getting in too close at the Sandspit, the result being that Togo came in "on her own," having done the 10½ knots in 42½min; good going, indeed.

The following are the entries for the Ponsonby Regatta:—

First-class Yacht Race: Rainbow, Moana, Thelma, Ariki.
Second-class Yacht Race: Windward, Anona, Huia, Ngatira, Queenie, Rosina.
Yacht, 26ft and over 24ft (Ponsonby restricted class): Flora, Emerald, Tiri, Mystery, Okere, Zealandia.

Yachts, 24ft waterline and under: Wairiki, Janet, Iris, Wairere, Speedwell, Viola, Eulalie, Miro.

Maiden Fours (under 10st): Ngaruwahia, St. George's, Auckland, West End (two crews), Waitemata (two crews).
Patikis: Aoma, Wareho, Ngaroma, Doreen, Myra, Boomerang.

Yachts, 24ft and over 22ft: Tiro, Gladys, Spray, Waitangi, Marie, Ofa, Why Not.

Yachts, 26ft overall and under: Val-dora, Rewi, Rose, Bona, Kotare.

Yachts, 22ft and under: Freak, Eileen, Hetty, Essie, Seahorse, Roma, Maro, Princess, Mowai, Rio.

Maiden Fours (open): North Shore, St. George's, Auckland, West End (two crews), Waitemata (two crews).

Open Boats, 16ft and under: Estrella, Waka, Anona, Norma, Kaitere, Reore, Rita, Laurel, Ailsa.

Junior Fours (under 10st): Auckland, West End (two crews), Waitemata.

Cruising Motor Launch Race: Waitiri, Union, Rangatira, Relief, Regal, Napier, Blue Bell, Waioni, Baby, Lozier, Slim Jim, Rewa, Matareka, Seaford No. 1.

Junior Fours (open): Auckland, West End (two crews), Waitemata (two crews).

Motor Launch Speed Race: Union, Togo, Napier, Slim Jim.

Senior Fours: St. George's, Auckland, West End, Waitemata (two crews).

LAWN TENNIS.

(By "VOLLEY.")

In spite of counter attractions the various lawns were well attended last Saturday, which, by the way, was another lovely day.

The association has made the draws for the inter-club matches for the season, which have resulted as follows:—

December 9.—Eden and Epsom v. Devonport, Auckland v. West End, Parnell v. Onehunga.

December 16.—Eden and Epsom v. Parnell, Devonport v. Auckland, West End v. Onehunga.

January 13.—Eden and Epsom v. Auckland, Devonport v. Onehunga, West End v. Parnell.

February 3.—Eden and Epsom v. West End, Onehunga v. Auckland, Parnell v. Devonport.

February 24.—Eden and Epsom v. Onehunga, West End v. Devonport, Auckland v. Parnell.

The association secretary also notifies that names of teams for these matches must be handed in to him not later than four p.m. on the Wednesday preceding each match, and that the rule regarding the grounds on which matches are to be played has been relaxed with regard to the Onehunga Club for the first three fixtures, as this club's new lawns will not be ready for play until the end of January.

Davies, A. Crowe, A. G. Baddiley, J. Powell (skip) 19.

F. Burton, East, W. Darby, A. Coutts (skip) 31, v. E. White, P. Darby, Oxley, Webb (skip) 16.

J. Adams, H. W. Smith, W. Arey, W. Wales (skip) 23, v. F. Leighton, J. R. Alf, J. C. Robinson, T. Watson (skip)

E. Hankins, Dunnett, W. Oldham, A. Bartlett (skip) 17, v. S. Miller, Darby, Hemus, S. G. Lee (skip) 13.

Rooney, R. W. Koals, D. Crabtree, J. Hitchbury (skip) 30, v. A. Parsons, McLeod, J. Schischka, A. Littler (skip) 14. Singles Championship.—E. East 15 v. E. Clarke 14.

The Remuera Club was instituted in 1895, and has a membership of over 100. The grounds have tennis or croquet lawn attached, as well as a full-sized bowling green. The green is conveniently reached by train or tram, and is within three minutes' walk of station and stopping-place. By the way, a portrait of Mr Duncan Clerk, the popular president of the club, appears in this issue. He is a fine player, and was hon. secretary of the first team of bowlers to visit the Old Country.

Percy Thomson, who is said to have played on more New Zealand greens than anyone in Auckland, is leading in first-class style just now, and, in conjunction with Coombes, has been securing a few caps lately in pairs matches. Oliphant and W. A. Thomson fell victims the other day, and now "the long and the short of it" are looking for more world's to conquer.

Auckland Club entries closed on Saturday, and the several competitions filled very well indeed. By the way, the big green is looking splendid, and members are keen to be on it. They will have to curb their impatience till after Christmas.

"Driver Easton is back again from his Northern trip, and lost not a minute getting down to the green."

Secretary Harty is the right man to make a visitor feel at home on the Devonport green. The brand of tea he supplies is very refreshing. It was very hard luck being the odd man out.

The Devonport green was as keen as a razor's edge on Saturday and ditchers were all the fashion. Ask "Mac."

Coombes, of the Auckland Club, was slipping against Miller at Devonport on Saturday, and "the long man" got home by 19 to 15. They do say that third man McKenzie won the match with his one drive. It was a fair "sprawler."

AQUATICS.

(By "THE REEFER.")

Both of the sailing races on the programme of the Royal N.Z. Yacht Squadron, which were got off on Saturday, gave rise to interesting races. In the event for yachts over 32ft the contestants were: Ariki, scratch; Rainbow, 5min; Thelma 9min; Moana, 20min; Ida, 22min. The light nor-easter gave too much lead- ing and running and not enough wind- ward work for the back-markers to have any chance of giving away the handicaps, but despite this the race was well contested. Thelma, after a bad start, sailed better than she has done for some time past, and on the lead up the harbour she travelled in fine style. On the first round Thelma led Rainbow by five seconds, with Ariki very close up, Moana and Ida being a long way inside their time. The three leaders were at it "hammer and tongs" all the way to the reef, but on the lead home Thelma drew away, crossing the finishing line 1min 34sec ahead of Ariki, which was 2min 14sec ahead of Rainbow. Moana gained slightly on Rainbow during the second round and very easily pulled off first prize on time by over 10min from Thelma, which beat Ida by 1½min.

In the race for yachts 32ft and under the competitors were: Ngatira, scratch; Wairere, 5min; Wairiki 6min; Janet, 7min. The scratch boat sailed very finely all the afternoon, eventually getting the winning gun. On time allowance she beat Janet, the limit boat, by 70sec.

Commodore Whitley, of the Power Boat Association, is at all times ready to put his smart launch Matareka at the disposal of the Yacht Club officials. Having had some experience of that wearisome wait on the wharf when acting as one of the officers of the day, I can fully realise what a boon it must be to the present executive to be able to witness the

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