

in popularising the sport. All told, the cost of the track, which will be open for training purposes the first week in January, will be about £2500. It is proposed to hold frequent meetings on the "saucer," and the promoters intend making a big effort to bring back the old-time interest in cycle racing, and, judging from the programmes they intend putting forward, comprising cycle, tandem and motor cycle racing, they have every chance of success.

**CRICKET.**

**THE THIRD TEST MATCH.**

Each side having a close game to their credit, the third Test Match between Australia and England has given rise to much interest. The game is being played at Adelaide on the Oval, which is famous for great scores. It is probably the fastest scoring ground in the world, but on this occasion there has been no meteoric run-getting, the batting for such a wicket being tame throughout. Noble won the toss and the Australians batted first. Hill and Trumper both failed badly, and but for some bright batting by Macartney, Ransford and Hartigan, the total would have been very poor indeed. On going to the wickets England did much better, Gunn, Fane, Hardstaff and Crawford all showing attractive cricket.

Being in a minority of 78, Australia commenced badly in the second innings, losing five wickets for 135, and then, with seven down for 180, matters looked very bad. Then a change came over the game, the Queenslander (Hartigan) and the South Australian (Hill) making a splendid stand. They defied the bowlers all the afternoon, and when stumps were drawn each had passed the century.

The scores were:—

<b>AUSTRALIA.—First Innings.</b>	
Noble, c Hutchings, b Barnes	15
Trumper, b Fielder	4
Macartney, lbw, b Braund	75
Macalister, c Hutchings, b Crawford	28
Armstrong, c Humphries, b Fielder	17
Ransford, b Barnes	44
Hill, c Humphries, b Barnes	5
Hartigan, b Fielder	48
Carter, lbw, b Hutchings	24
O'Connor, not out	10
Saunders, b Fielder	1
Sundries	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>285</b>

Bowling Analysis.—Fielder, four wickets for 85 runs; Barnes, three for 60; Crawford, one for 60; Rhodes, none for 35; Braund, one for 26; Hutchings, one for 5.

<b>ENGLAND.—First Innings.</b>	
Hobbs, c Carter, b Saunders	26
Fane, run out	48
Gunn, b O'Connor	65
Hutchings, c and b Macartney	23
Braund, b Macartney	0
Hardstaff, b O'Connor	61
Rhodes, c Carter, b O'Connor	38
Crawford, b Armstrong	62
Barnes, c and b Armstrong	12
Humphries, thrown out	7
Fielder, not out	0
Sundries	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>363</b>

Bowling Analysis.—O'Connor, three wickets for 110 runs; Saunders, one for 83; Noble, none for 38; Armstrong, two for 55; Macartney, two for 49; Hartigan, none for 7.

<b>AUSTRALIA.—Second Innings.</b>	
Noble, c Gunn, b Fielder	65
Trumper, b Barnes	0
Macartney, b Barnes	9
Macalister, lbw, b Crawford	17
Armstrong, c Hutchings, b Braund	34
O'Connor, c Rhodes, b Braund	25
Hartigan, not out	106
Hill, not out	105
Sundries	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>397</b>

The matches yet to be played by the English team now in Australia are as follows:—

- Tasmania, at Launceston—January 18, 20, and 21.
- Tasmania, at Hobart—January 24, 25, and 27.
- Victoria, at Melbourne—January 31, and February 1, 2, and 4.
- Australia (fourth test), at Melbourne—February 7, 8, 10, and 11.
- New South Wales, at Sydney—February 14, 15, 17, and 18.
- Australia (fifth test), at Sydney—February 21, 22, 24, and 25.
- South Australia, at Adelaide—February 29, and March 2, 3, and 4.
- West Australia, at Perth—March 12, 13, 14, and 16.

Mr. Kennerly Rumford, the well-known singer, now in Auckland, is a cricketer of no mean skill. He is a member of the famous Marylebone Cricket Club.

An interval of three weeks between the first and last day of a match seems absurd, yet this is what has happened with the Auckland championships. This sort of thing is not conducive to the best interests of cricket.

Parnell beat Grafton on Saturday very easily on the first innings by 264 for seven wickets to 68 and 161. For the winners Sale played a dashing innings of 86, while Foster, who hit merrily for 56 not out, Graham (53), and Clayton (52) batted well for Grafton, but the tail was a very long one.

Eden carried too many guns for City, scoring 255 for eight wickets to City's 58 and 102. With the exception of Taylor and Stenson, who failed, all the members of the winning team batted well, Elliott top-scoring with 48.

Grafton II. beat City II. by 21 runs after a keen game. The scores were: Grafton 141 and 64 to City's 124 and Grafton 141 and 64 to City's 124 and 48.

Eden B beat Ponsonby II. by 149 and 103 for six to 59 and 184.

Eden A won on the first innings against Parnell A with scores of 160 and 115 for four to 150.

In Saturday's matches at Christchurch the results were as follows:—West Christchurch, first innings, 161 (E. J. Norman 48) and five for no wickets in their second innings, v. S. Albans, 100 in their first innings. Riccarton, 379 for five wickets (E. R. Caygill 148 not out, A. Anthony 65, F. C. Fryer 62), v. East Christchurch. Sydenham, 245 (J. H. Bennett 62, W. Patrick 50), v. Linwood, 49 for four wickets.

The Wellington matches went as follows:—Newtown, first innings, 209 (Day 58, Tillyard not out 52), v. Midland, 82 for one wicket (Hickson not out 35, Williams not out 37). Wellington, first innings, 129 (Mahoney 40), v. Petone, 115 for nine wickets (Cobcroft not out 52). Phoenix, first innings, 185 (McLellan not out 74, Waters 41), v. Gas Company, 150 for three wickets (Dredge not out 63).

**BILLIARDS.**

**THE FLUKER'S SONG.**

Oh, harness me down with your Rules and Regs,  
Be sure of your baulk and play!  
For I don't care a d— what the marker pegs,  
Nor what my opponents say.  
Armed with a twenty-ouncer cue,  
Laden with tons of chalk,  
I'll puff at a fag the whole game through,  
And talk and talk and talk!

Strokes that a Roberts never tried;  
Cannons a Reece might miss.  
Shots that take cushions on every side,  
Then slides in off from a kiss.  
What though the marker's eyes are dim,  
Though my opponent's sick?  
My game is "Hit it, and trust to Jim,  
And plenty of Stick, Stick, Stick!"



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FOR Quality, Finish and Price,  
Our Golf, Bat, and Tennis Racquet Grips, Football Bladders, etc. etc.  
ARE ABSOLUTELY THE  
**Finest on the Market.**  
OBTAINABLE ALL LEADING STORES AND SPORTS DEPOTS.  
**Specify Dunlop Brand**

**THE CRAZE OF AN HOUR.**

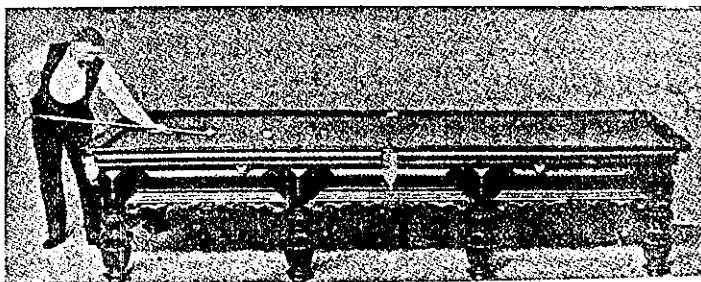
"The game of billiards is passing through a somewhat curious phase at present. Almost every week we read of some fresh 'freak' invention in the way of a table and the 'no-bar,' the 'arc-oval,' and the 'octangular' will, doubtless, be succeeded by others. Well, it is not very long ago that billiard tables were being pulled down to make room for ping-pong, and that terrible game had desolated many previously happy homes, and ruined nearly every comfortable saloon bar. We went to bed one night with the abomination in full blast, and it is scarcely an exaggeration to write that, in the morning, ping-pong had vanished from the face of the land. Just now diabolism is the craze of the moment but it is perfectly certain that, sooner or later, its end will be as sudden as was that of ping-pong. As Shakespeare has it, 'These violent delights have violent endings,' and the ordinary game of billiards—the Association rules of which are now as nearly perfect as possible—will be giving enjoyment to millions when some of the fearful and wonderful experiments in the way of tables which are being made at present have been long forgotten. The arc-oval is the best that I have yet seen (says a writer in the "Illustrated Sporting News"), and it is easy to imagine that plenty of fun could be extracted from one in a country house on a wet day after dinner. It possesses the advantage that it is possible to play upon it in a room twenty feet long by seventeen wide, though, of course, a foot or so more each way is desirable."

**AUSTRALIAN WEISS' SUCCESS.**

Quite the most sought-after professional this season is Fred Weiss, the Australian champion (says the "World of Billiards."—If not the most stylish cueist the world has known, he is without a superior as a judge of cushion angles and a practical exponent of intricate cannons which depend upon one or more cushion contacts. He was chosen to exploit the arc-oval table in conjunction with John Roberts solely on account of his ability in this direction. What is more, he justified his selection, and at the present moment there is little room to doubt that he could be matched to play anyone level, and for big stake money, at any style of billiards except the normal. He had the measure of John Roberts on the arc-oval board. In his latest role as chief figure in demonstrations upon the new octangular table of Messrs. Thurston's manufacture, Weiss has outplayed the great spot-stroke celebrity, W. J. Peall. When the Australian was not included in the select seven chosen to do duty in the star event of the London billiard season, the most sporting tournament promoted by Messrs. Burroughes and Watts, it was thought that his engagements would be few and far between. But it has happily proved otherwise. He has been given the opportunity to devote himself to the new problems of "incidence and reflection" (that vague combination which used to puzzle the billiard amateur so badly in the earlier books of instruction!) to his own credit and the satisfaction of the enterprising spirits which have given billiards a well-deserved fillip. For we shall never be brought to believe other than that the booming of the arc-oval and its much heralded appearance, assisted by the re entry of John Roberts into public billiard life again, was not in the best interests of our great indoor game. Weiss has played no unimportant part, too, in providing a view of many fantastical strokes. He is very much in the billiard picture just now.

Should the red winner? Yes, if the white loser.

**HIGHEST AWARDS. LOWEST PRICES.**  
**WRIGHT, RANISH & CO., 134, WILLIS-ST., WELLINGTON.** The Oldest, Largest, and Most Up-to-date Establishment in the Colony.



Full-sized Billiard Tables complete for 82 guineas, fitted with our patent low Excelsior Cushions. **BILLIARD DINING TABLES A SPECIALITY.**

Billiard balls are first roughly turned by a lathe from the tusk, then left for six months to a year in a room about the temperature of an ordinary billiard room. This length of time is necessary, because the ivory shrinks more in one direction than another, and the seasoning must be complete before the balls are finished and polished.

Games of billiards have been interrupted in some strange ways at times, but it is doubtful if any are more peculiar than that which is reported from Johannesburg during a locust visitation. When the swarm passed through the town they settled on everything, they got into the houses, and nothing could keep them out. At this time a game of billiards was in progress in a well-known hotel, when the pests swarmed in, they flocked in in such numbers that they covered the floor a foot deep, they covered the table, and as for the occupants, they made tracks as soon as possible, they were literally covered also. Other rooms were not quite so severely treated, but all the same their experiences will not be soon forgotten. It was three days before the first room was in a condition to receive customers again, and during this time five or six men were kept busy from morning to night cleaning up.

**WHERE TO PLAY BILLIARDS.**

**B FORD'S** Waitemata Billiard Club, Custom-street, Auckland. Open to play all-comers on 100 Break Ford's Unequaled Billiard Pockets, all colours. Post free to any part of New Zealand, 10s 6d.

**BARTON, MCGILL AND CO.,** Billiard Table Manufacturers (Gold Medalists), 422 Queen-street, Auckland. Requisites always in stock.

**VICTORIA BILLIARD SALOON,** Peel-street, Gisborne.—Three First-class Billiard Tables. Everything New and Up-to-date.—Segedin and Ostojka, Proprietors.

**RODGERS' BILLIARD SALOONS,** Invercargill. Three Tables in Esk-street and Two in Dee-street, Prince of Wales' Buildings. Visitors will receive best of attention combined with First-class Tables, etc.

**COFFEE PALACE BILLIARD SALOON** (close to McMahon's Hotel), Whangarei. Two Fine Tables; nicely furnished room, where visitors can have a quiet game with best attention.—S. CALKIN, Proprietor.

**VICTORIA BILLIARD SALOON,** oldest and finest Saloon in Auckland. Has been thoroughly renovated; three First-class Billiard Tables, where you can enjoy a game.—Segedin and Ostojka, Proprietors.

**OPOTIKI BILLIARD AND TOILET SALOON**—Well-kept Room, two First-class Tables. Quietness and order maintained. Note address, satisfaction guaranteed.—HARRY LARMER, Tobacconist and Hairdresser, Proprietor.

**RANFURLY BILLIARD SALOON**—Two First-class Tables. Visitors can rely on strict attention. Snooker, Pool, etc.—C. H. HUNT, Proprietor, 118 Ridgway-street, Wanganui.

**T. R. JENSEN,** Hairdresser and Tobacconist, Broadway, Stratford. Finest Brands of Tobacco, Cigars, etc. First-class Billiard Saloon, with all accessories. Next Railway Gates, Stratford.

**GEORGE-STREET BILLIARD SALOON,** Palmerston North. Three First-class Tables. Billiard, Pool, Snooker. Every attention to visitors.—T. BILLS, Proprietor.

**TAUTAKI BILLIARD HALL** (late Christchurch Cycling Club Rooms), 186, Gloucester-street, Christchurch. Fitted with 3 Alcock's Best Tables and Accessories. All Brand New, including Crystalate and Bonzoline Billiard and Snooker Balls. 50 up 6d. 100 up 1s. Cycle stand provided free to customers. Telephone 2251.—C. NUNN, Proprietor.

**LUTJOHANN AND CO.,** Billiard Table Manufacturers, Victoria Square, Christchurch. Full-size Tables from 85 guineas upwards; Special Dining Billiard Tables, from £32 to £45. Winners of Gold Medal at International Exhibition. All makes of Balls and Cues to select from.

**W. LIZZANI,** Expert Billiard Table Manufacturer, Dining-Billiard Tables, Bagatelle Tables, the Champion Cue, Turned-down Bagatelle Boards, all Billiard Table Requisites, Cardboard Shades, etc., etc. Lower High-street, Dunedin (next Railway Station). Repairs a Specialty. Telephone 2234.