CRICKET.

THE AWARD OF HONOUR.

The Mayor of Auckland has presented each of the team which won the Plunket Shield with a gold medal. In making the presentation, Mr. Myers said the victory had placed Auckland in the front in senior cricket in the Dominion. For some years past Aucklanders had been succereful in other branches of sport, but somewhat unfortunate in cricket. He considered that sport of this kind had a good effect in bui ding up a spirit of good citizenship. New Zealand was forging ahead in sport, and. wished specially to express his gratification that the world's championship for sculling still remained in the Dominion. (Applause.) He trusted that in the future they would be able to compete successfully against both English and Australian elevens. Although the climate in Australia might be better, the conditions were, on the who e, fairly even. He spoke of the value of coaches. He further expressed pleasure at the selection of an Aucklander as a Rhodes scholar, showing that Auckland possessed mental, as well as physical, prowess.

The medal has on the obverse side a shield, enclosed in a laurel wreath. with the monogram of the Auckland Cricket Association and a set of wickets, bat, and ball. On the reverse side is inscribed: "Presented by Mr. A. M. Myers to the winners of the Plunket shield, 1907," with the player's name underneath.

NORTH SHORE DO WELL AGAINST PARNELL.

The eighth round of the District Cup Championship was commenced on Saturday. Considering that the wickets were in good order and the afternoon fine, the batting was par-ticular y bad. Parnell led off against North Shore, but could only make 90, and of these Andrea scored 29 and Forster 20. It was a wretched exhibition of tame cricket. North Shore have lost three wickets for 83 (Dacre 24), so should win easily.

GRAFTON SHOULD BEAT CITY.

City batted first in the match against Grafton, and against weak bowling did badly. Hemus, as usual, top-scored, making 35, but the display by the others was feeble, the innings As Grafton have closing with 119. 110 on the slate for three wickets, they should win easily. D. Hay is 29 (not out) and Graham 26 (not out).

A BAD START BY PONSONBY.

Ponsonby led off against Eden, but the batsmen could do nothing against Relf, whose "good-bye" performance was the taking of seven wickets for 35 runs. Sixty runs was all the side could manage, Woods making 28. Thanks to a free innings iv Brock-Smith (ne got one 6 and six 4's in a score of 43), Eden have notched 76 runs for five wickets, so should win. White bowled very finely, taking four wickets

A GREAT SCORE BY WELLINGTON OLD BOYS.

The Wellington cricket championships were continued on Saturday. Old Boys, in their first innings, made 509, and Midlands, in their first innings, scored 56 for three wickets. Petone, in the first innings, made 190, and Phoenix in the second innings, 150 for the loss of six wickets. Wellington, in the first innings, scored 339 (Naughton 119) against Gas-

THE GAME IN DUNEDIN.

At Dunedin, the cricket matches were continued on Saturday in fine weather. Carisbrook B defeated Carisbrook A by 54 runs on the first innings. The former made 141, and 199 for five wickets (Thomson 52 not out, Austin 17), while the latter responded with 87 (Fisher 30). Grange secured a three-point win over Dunedin, the former making 117 and 101 for nine wickets, while the losers compiled 68 and 148 (Bannerman 42). Albion made 123 and 139, and defeated Opoho (124 and 59) by 79 runs.

CHRISTCHURCH CRICKET.

The seventh round of the various competitions was brought to a conclusion on Saturday, when the weather was fine and the wickets good. The was fine and the wickets good. The results were:—West Christchurch, 320 and 32 for one wicket, beat Riccarton, 292 and 57. Sydenham, 263, and 18 for two wickets, beat St. Albans, 146 and 129. Linwood, 284, beat East Christchurch, 94 and 41.

A CLERICAL CHAMPION.

The Rev. E. F. Waddy has completed 1000 runs for New South Wales in representative cricket, averaging 43 runs per innings. His recent per-formances in big cricket have been excellent. He is a hitter.

WONDERFUL!

A phenomenal individual performance took place on Saturday, February 22, in a match at Balmain, Sydney. N. Gillies scored 125 out of 179, and secured all ten wickets for 29, out of 76, besides performing the Balmain Earlsbrae v. hat-trick, for Rozelle, the former being the leading "B" grade, and the latter the leading "A" grade in the Balmain and District Association's competition.

LEFT-HANDED BATSMEN.

The left-handers have achieved no little success against the Englishmen this season (writes "Not Out" in the "Referee"), as indeed is generally the case in the first-class matches out here. H. Moses was a veritable thorn in the path of the English professional teams of twenty years ago, when great bowlers were not so scarce and wickets did not last as they do now. W. Bruce, too, was a brilliant performer in the classic games. Like Bardsley, he takes a high grip of the bat, which he uses like a whip to lash the ball. At his best Bruce was risky, but elegant and brilliant, and delightful to watch. J. Darling and C. Hill, each great in

his own way, are difficult types of left-handers. The former has a not un-usual grip, but Clem Hill in this respect is a law unto himself. He grips firmly with the hand very low, and an unusual space between the hands; it helps him in some of his characteristic and practically unique on-side shots.

Amongst the younger left-handers. V. Ransford has an easy, natural grip of the bat. M. H. Blaxland takes a higher grip than Ransford, yet not so high as Bardsley.

Clem Hill has scored 160, 104, 87, 61; V. Ransford, 102, 54, 51, 51, 44, 38; and W. Bardsley 108 and 19 against the Englishmen.

AMONG THE JUNIORS.

Grafton II. scored 274 against Eden A, D. Hill playing a splendid innings of 107, Robinson getting 90. Eden lost two wickets for 44.
Parnell A made 226 against Eden

B. who lost seven wickets for 39. Parnell B made 68 to City's 133 for nine wickets.

ATHLETICS.

THE AUSTRALASIAN AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIPS.

NEW ZEALAND VICTORIOUS. SOME GREAT PERFORMANCES.

The annual Australasian championships took place at Hobart on Saturday and Monday. There was an excellent attendance on the first day, but a lesser one on Monday. Some of the performances registered, notably in the pole vault and 440yds Hurdles, were very fine indeed. The result was a victory for New Zealand with 7 wins, N.S.W. scoring 4½ wins, Victoria 1½, Tasmania and Queensland 1 each. There was a remarkable result in the 120yds Hurdles. Davis (Victoria) and Stewart (N.S.W.) ran a dead heat, and in running it off on Monday again dead-heated. It was thought that N.S.W. would win, but Barker, their mainstay, although performing grandly, had too much to do.

lts were as follows

| 100YDS CHAMPIONSHIP. Barker (N.S.W.) 1 Morgan (T.) 2 Fay (Q.) 3 Won by six inches, Time, 10 1-5s. |
|---|
| ONE MILE WALK CHAMPIONSHIP. |
| Kerr (N.Z.) |
| RUNNING HIGH JUMP CHAMPION- SHIP. |
| Orbell, 5ft 10in (N.Z.) |
| Clemes (T.) |

120YDS HURDLE CHAMPIONSHIP. A dead neat twice, 1...., 6 2-5s.
PUTTING SHOT CHAMPIONSHIP, O'Reilly, 38ft 10in (N.S.W.) 1
Kearney, 35ft lin (Q.) ... 2
Maher, 34ft 9in (V.) ... 3

440YDS CHAMPIONSHIP. Barker (N.S.W.) 1
Davis (V.) 3
Fisher (N.Z.) 3
Won easily by 10yds, with 3yds between second and third. Time, 51s. ONE MILE WALK HANDICAP. THREE MILES RUNNING CHAM-PIONSHIP.

McKay (N.Z.), 11ft 1in ... 1
Frawley (Q.), 11ft 2
McKay beat the Australasian record
by %in, held by Hori Eruera, of Auckland, N.Z. THREE MILE WALK CHAMPION-

SHIP.

Kerr (N.Z.) 1
Stubberfield (N.Z.) 2
Time, 23m, 55 3-5s. 220YDS CHAMPIONSHIP.

Barker (N.S.W.) 1
Morgan (V.) 2
Fay (Q.) 3
Fay and Morgan dead-heated for second place, but in the run-off Morgan beat Fay. Time, 22 3-5s. THROWING HAMMER CHAMPION-

Kearney (Q.), 125ft 7in O'Reilly (N.S.W.), 124ft 11in BROAD JUMP CHAMPIONSHIP.
Davis (V.), 20ft 9in 1
Barker (N.S.W.), 20ft 2½in 2
McKay (N.Z.), 19ft 10½in ... 3
880YDS CHAMPIONSHIP.

 Trembath (N.Z.)
 1

 Barker (N.S.W.)
 2

 Fisher (N.Z.)
 3

 Won by four yards.
 Time, 2m. 1-3s.

 440YDS HURDLE CHAMPIONSHIP,

330YDS HANDICAP. Wise (T.)
Parke (N.S.W.)
Gregory (N.S.W.)
Won by a foot, Time, 33 1-5s.
MILE HANDICAP. Smith (N.S.W.)

Morgan (T.)

Time, 4m, 40 4-5s.

NEW ZEALAND UNION CONFER-ENCE AT NEW PLYMOUTH.

The New Zealand Athletic Union's conference commenced at New Plymouth on Thursday, delegates being present from every centre in the Doninion, Mr. George Woods (president) said the new Gaming Act had abolished proprietary athletic gatherings. A forward move had been made by the sports governing bodies in forming a New Zealand sports federation, of which the Athletic Union is a member, The application of the New Zealand Axeman's Association, that the union should recommend its entrance to the sports federation, was refused pending amended rules giving affiliated societies fair representation. It was decided to remove the disqualifications inflicted in connection with the Scottish Society of Christchurch Games, applications to be made personally. It was agreed that registration fees should be allotted at 1s for union centres and 1s 6d for competitors suspended to date in connection with proprietary sports, who will be ellgible to compete after July 31, 1908. The Winton Quoits Club was granted the New Zealand championship for 1908. The protest from the Southland Caledonian Society, which allowed a disqualified competitor to compete at their meeting on New Year's Day, resulted in the society being requested to make good the deficiency between the first and second prize money. The society was also fined 1 guinea, to be paid within three months, the moneys and medals won to be returned. Steps were taken to form a centre in Auckland province.

The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, Mr. G. W. Woods (Invercargill); vice-presidents, Messrs. Duncan (Wellington) and Clark (New Plymouth); auditor, Mr. J. Kennedy (Geraldine); secretary and treasurer, Mr. J. Corcoran (Dunedin); committee, Messrs, R. Smith (Pahiatua), Good (Christchurch), Keast (Dunedin), and Perkins (West Coast). The Otago centre was allotted the next conference, and a championships record book and standards were recommended to be drawn up by the executive.

CYCLING AND MOTOR NOTES.

NAPIER V. FIAT.

There is a likelihood of some very fast motor-racing being seen on the Brooklands track shortly, owing to the fact that the F.I.A.T. Motor Co., of Italy, has accepted the broadcast challenge of Messrs. S. F. Edge and Co., of England, to race the Napier cars, of certain horse-powers, and over certain distances, against allcomers.

A BIG TRACK.

A scheme is on foot in America to build a motor-racing track—a duplicate of that at Brooklands, Englandonly better, of course. Its location is to be near Philadelphia, and it will be two miles in circumference, with a width of 100ft ordinarily, and 125ft at the turns, which will be banked to an angle of 30deg. A company, known

as the American Motordrome Incorp. has been formed, with a capital of £100,000, and has secured a tract of land some 200 acres in extent. It is proposed to build the track proper of cinders and cement, and, "if matters progress satisfactorily," it is to be opened in June next.

THE MELBOURNE-TO-ADELAIDE

Having placed the Melbourne-to-Sydney motor record in a very safe place, Messrs. C. B. Kellow and H. B. James intend shortly to reduce the best motor time from Melbourne to Adelaide if it is at all possible (says the "Australasian.") The record at present stands at 28h. 40min., but as the distance is shorter than the Sydney route, the motorists believe they can materially reduce the figures. After their experience in this kind of sport, they are desirous of taking along a third driver, in order that they may conserve their energy and perhaps a little sleep en route, and have asked Mr. James Moffatt to accompany them. The car to be used will be the same as driven across to Sydney—a 15 h.p. Ta bot. The route for the greater part is over fair to good roads, but where it is bad it is very, very bad, as the Cooroong sand patch, in South Australia, about 85 miles in length, will have to be negotiated. At certain times this track is worse than others, and much depends on the state of the weather at the time or immediately previous to their tackling it whether they have a comparatively easy or difficult pas-

ROUND THE WORLD RACE.

A cablegram states that the contestants in the great motor race around the world from New York to Paris (17,000 miles) are as follows:-Godard, 30 h.p. Motobloc (French); Pons, 15 h.p. Sizaire-Nandin (French); St. Chaffray, 30 h.p. De Dion (French); Sirtori, 28-40 h.p. Zust (Italian); Mass, 40 h.p. Portos (German); and Roberts on a 560 h.p. man); and Roberts, on a 60 Thomas (American). h.p.

Considerable disappointment will be felt owing to the absence of Prince Scipio Borghese's name from amongst the list of starters. The winner of the Pekin-Paris contest entered for the Round the World Race, and it was assumed that he would be a starter. His absence will rob the event of a lot of interest. In M. Godard and Pons the contestants include two Pekin-Paris drivers—Godard other completing the trip on a Spyker (Dutch) car, after surmounting terrible hardships. Pons attempted to get through on a Tri car, but failed to negotiate the Gobi Desert. pluck and perseverance will over-come the difficulties of the New York Paris route, then Godard is the driver one would pick for the arduous undertaking. The ingenuity and resource-

