AROUND THE WHIST TABLE.

EFFECTS OF MODERN THOUGHT IN THE WHIST WORLD.

"Cavendish" Pottering Away at Points Forgotten in America—The Seventh American Whist League Congress at Put-in-Bay.

Those who are watching the course of modern thought in the whist world cannot help being impressed by the entire change in the nature of the questions that interest the players of to-day as compared with those that interested them a year or two ago. Then everything centred around the petty details of the individual suit; the card to lead, the card to return. To-day it is all generalities in the plan of attack or defence; the suit to open, the suit to preserve. The controversies as to the minor tactics of leads and follows, which set players by the ears a few years ago, are dead issues to-day, and have given way to the discussion of the broad strategy and the underlying principles of play.

In the London *Field*, "Cavendish" is still whittling at the small end of nothing, and setting forth very learned arguments in favor of the lead of knaves and tens with "dual significances," things which have long since ceased to interest the American player. In the hundreds of questions asked by correspondents of THE SUN during the past year, there has not been one about leading the ten from K, J, 10, or from Q, J, 10; the ace or small from ace five, or any details of that kind. Everything is about the comparative value of a supporting card and a tenace suit; the strength which should justify a trump attack; the management of cards of re-entry, and the limit of safety in finesse.

If a new edition of any of the standard text books on the game were to be issued to-morrow it would probably contain some startling changes in its statements of the general principles of whist strategy. Take the case of leading trumps, for instance. One of the most time-honored maxims is that "with an established suit, four trumps, and a card of re-entry in another suit, the player should lead trumps." The experience of the past year has taught us that the words "four trumps" might perhaps be left out altogether in this maxim, and another clause might be added to it: "With a very good but unestablished suit, and a card of re-entry, lead trumps if you have four." The whole thing will probably be condensed into one maxim some time in the near future, which will be to the effect that when you have a hand which would be decidedly improved for trick-taking purposes if the trumps were out of its way you should try to get them out.

There are few players who will risk a trump attack without an almost certain re-entry card; but the number of those who will lead trumps without waiting to establish a suit is daily increasing. This is one of the main points of difference between modern players. Those of one school claim that it is better to establish the suit before leading the trumps, and point to the possibility of getting a first force on an adversary. The other school claims that by leading the suit first, even if you succeed in establishing it, you run the risk of losing your card of re-entry before you begin the trump attack, to say nothing of the disadvantage of warning the adversaries which suit to keep guarded if you fail to get it established.

There are only two conditions possible with an unestablished suit: Your partner has the missing cards or the adversaries hold them. In the first case you are wasting time by leading the suit; in the second case you are giving the adversaries information, allowing them an opportunity to force out your re-entry card and perhaps letting them get a first force on you.

If you lead the trumps first, they know nothing of the suit for which you are making the effort, and they are just as likely to open your strong but unestablished suit as they are to attack your re-entry suit. Many hands are sent to THE SUN in which the player who begins by attempting to establish a plain suit never gets a trick in it, while if the trumps had been led first something might have been made out of it.

Another curious point is that it often happens that both sides have hands which would justify making a trump attack, according to modern theories, and the one that makes it first usually gets the best of it. The most general result of a trump lead is to make the adversaries guess a good deal, run to cover with cards that they ought to keep, and play their hands as if they were on the defensive, when as a matter of fact they are the stronger, if they only knew it. In a hand in the mixed pair match at Philadelphia the leader had a suit headed by Q, J, 10, with an ace to get in with, and led trumps from three small ones. The player on her left won the third round of trumps, and proceeded to "run" with the ace and king of the leader's long suit, under the impression that he would be acting wisely to make what tricks he could at once. The leader made five tricks in the suit later on. Now, if the suit had been opened, the best card of it would have been the very last thing the adversary would have led. A curious example of how badly some people will play when opposed by a trump attack occurred in Section C of the mixed pairs at Philadelphia. The hand was No. 10 on Wednesday night. A—B are partners against Y—Z. Z dealt and turned the heart king. The underlined card wins the trick, and the card under it is the next one led. Mrs. E. T. Baker held Y's cards.

TRICK.	A	Y	B	Z
1.....	4 ♠	Q ♠	3 ♠	9 ♠
2.....	♡ 3	♡ 9	♡ 2	♡ 10
3.....	♡ 5	♡ 7	♡ 6	♡ J
4.....	♡ A	♡ 4	♡ 8	♡ Q
5.....	♣ 7	♣ 2	♣ 9	♣ Q
6.....	3 ◇	5 ◇	6 ◇	J ◇
7.....	4 ◇	Q ◇	8 ◇	2 ◇
8.....	10 ◇	K ◇	9 ◇	10 ♠
9.....	5 ♠	A ◇	8 ♠	3 ♠
10.....	6 ♠	7 ◇	J ♠	4 ♠
11.....	A ♠	2 ♠	5 ♠	K ◇
12.....	♣ J	7 ♠	6 ♠	A ♠
13.....	♣ K	K ♠	♣ 10	♣ 8

A-B win two tricks.

Trick 1. A is playing on the theory of establishing the plain suit first. The result is that she never gets a trick in it. With a four-card suit headed by an honor, very good reentry cards in clubs, and three diamonds, it is obvious that the trumps can never be used for ruffing purposes, and they might as well be led. A was perhaps deterred by the turn-up card, a matter which modern players pay less and less attention to every day.

Trick 2. As the spade ace is not with B, Y's king is a certain card of reentry on the third round of spades. She has an excellent diamond suit already established, but nothing in clubs. Recent investigations have shown that if a suit is to be finessed at all the fewer cards you have in it the better, because there are more chances for your partner to hold protection in it. This was long ago pointed out by Dr. Pole with regard to the trump suit. Some suit must be finessed in almost all trump-leading hands, because if a player waited until he had protection in every suit he would never lead trumps.

A has no objection to the trump coming out, and lets Z continue them for three rounds.

Trick 5. Although A might have run for it at this stage by playing spade ace, that would not have made any difference in the result, for Y's king and seven would have been good for the next two tricks in the suit, and A would never make a club.

Trick 6. Z's lead is good common-sense whist. As A has shown the spade suit and Z has the clubs, diamonds must be the suit for which Y is leading trumps.

Here is the play when A let the spades alone and started with the trump attack:

TRICK.	A	Y	B	Z
1.....	♡ 3	♡ 4	♡ 8	♡ 10
2.....	♣ 7	♣ 2	♣ 9	♣ 4
3.....	♡ A	♡ 7	♡ 6	♡ J
4.....	♡ 5	♡ 9	♡ 2	♡ Q
5.....	♣ J	7 ◇	♣ 5	♣ A
6.....	♣ K	5 ◇	♣ 6	♣ 3
7.....	4 ♠	2 ♠	J ♠	9 ♠
8.....	A ♠	7 ♠	8 ♠	10 ♠
9.....	6 ♠	Q ♠	3 ♠	2 ◇
10.....	3 ◇	A ◇	6 ◇	J ◇
11.....	4 ◇	K ◇	8 ◇	♣ 8
12.....	10 ◇	Q ◇	9 ◇	♣ Q
13.....	5 ♠	K ♠	♣ 10	♡ K

A-B win five tricks.

Trick 2. Z follows the modern principle of leading a small card from ace and four others. Apart from the fact that leading away from a tenace is bad in itself, Z has a much better opening in the diamond jack. Had he led that card, and found it to win the trick, he would have been very blind indeed if he did not see that it would be to his advantage to take up the trump attack himself. Z is afraid to open a weak suit just because A has led trumps, and he does not want to walk into her possible strong suit, for which trumps were led.

Trick 4. A's original plan was to exhaust the trumps, and she is not going to change it as long as she can get out four of them every time she leads.

Trick 5. Z is still afraid that his weak suits are those in which A is strong, and, being still quite in the dark as to A's object in making such a fierce attack on the trumps, he keeps to his own long suit. Y figures A for K Q J of clubs, and probably the spade ace as re-entry, so she begins a signal in the diamonds.

Trick 6. With the thirteenth trump to get in with, Z can see no better defensive game than to go on and establish the clubs. The whole trouble is that he is frightened out of a strong attack into a weak defence by A's trump lead.

Trick 7. Two tricks might have been saved here by putting on the queen; but the club led at trick 6 shows that Z had five originally, and Y hopes to get rid of the losing spades on the established clubs, if Z can win this trick in spades. This is a good instance of the folly of trusting partner for tricks while you can make them yourself. Even if the spade ace is with B, which is improbable from A's tactics, whatever B leads must give Y-Z the rest of the tricks.

The loss on this hand is chiefly due to the bad play of Y and Z, and most of it is traceable to the fact that they are afraid of A simply because she led trumps.

THE SEVENTH CONGRESS.

Only a few weeks remain before the annual congress of the American Whist League will meet at the Hotel Victory, Put-in-Bay. L. G. Parker, Chairman of the Administration Bureau, has just issued the following programme of the events for each day, so that the various club teams and pairs can pick the prizes they wish to compete for and make their arrangements accordingly. As will be seen, the plan is extensive, taking in thirteen general contests; but the constant strain of playing day and night, which was such a defect in the schedule at Manhattan Beach, has been entirely done away with. The following is the official list of events:

First—A contest for the Hamilton Club trophy for 1897-98. During the preliminary play, which will occupy Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, each club shall play a match against every other club in the contest, and the two clubs with the highest match score shall play a final match on Saturday.

Second—A contest for the first possession of the American Whist League Challenge trophy for the year 1897-98. The preliminary play will occupy the evenings of Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, and will be conducted under the Mitchell-Howell progressive system. The two clubs with the highest trick score shall play a final match on Saturday.

Third—A contest for the Minneapolis trophy for club pairs. This contest will be conducted under the new Howell pair progressive system, in which each pair completes a match against every other pair at one sitting. There will be six sittings, occupying the afternoons and evenings of Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, and the pair with the highest trick score shall be declared the winner.

Fourth—A contest for the Brooklyn trophy for teams representing auxiliary associations. The Tournament Committee will decide as to the time and method of play after the entries have been received.

Fifth—Progressive "fours" match score, Tuesday afternoon. (Individual prizes presented by the Trist Duplicate Whist Club of San Francisco.)

Sixth—Progressive "pairs," Tuesday evening. Individual prizes to makers of best North-South and East-West scores.

Seventh—Progressive "pairs," Wednesday afternoon. Individual prizes.

Eighth—Progressive "fours," Wednesday evening. Trick score, individual prizes.

Ninth—Progressive "pairs," Thursday afternoon. Match score, individual prizes.

Tenth—Progressive "pairs," Thursday evening. Individual prizes.

Eleventh—Progressive "pairs," Friday evening. Individual prizes.

Twelfth—Progressive "fours," Friday evening. Trick score, individual prizes.

Thirteenth—Progressive straight whist contest, Saturday evening. Individual prizes to the pair making the largest majority of tricks.

Individual souvenirs will be awarded to the players who represent the winning club in the final play for the Hamilton Club, American Whist League, and Minneapolis trophies.

OUR PROBLEMS.

No one solved the perception problem of May 2, although a great many tried it. There were two points in it, both of which required more than ordinary "perception" to see. The first was, why did not North lead the spade king if he held it? The second was, if East held the cards credited to him, would he have called for trumps on the first trick, when he knew nothing of the diamond suit except that it was led? Here is the actual play, the heart king turned by W:

TRICK.	N	E	S	W
1.....	3 ◇	6 ◇	K ◇	4 ◇
2.....	8 ♠	6 ♠	A ♠	5 ♠
3.....	Q ♠	4 ♠	3 ♠	7 ♠
4.....	5 ◇	A ◇	8 ◇	9 ◇
5.....	10 ◇	2 ◇	2 ♠	♡ 2
6.....	♡ 3	♡ 4	♡ 5	♡ K
7.....	♡ J	♡ Q	♡ 6	♡ 10
8.....	♣ 2	♡ A	♡ 7	♣ 7
9.....	♣ 3	♡ 9	♡ 8	♣ 8
10.....	J ◇	Q ◇	♣ Q	♣ 9
11.....	♣ 4	7 ◇	9 ♠	♣ 10
12.....	♣ 5	K ♠	10 ♠	♣ J
13.....	♣ 6	J ♠	♣ A	♣ K

Of those who saw the point of the problem, but did not credit E with the spade king, nor see his object in holding it up, Wilbur F. Smith, C. H. F., and J. B. Elwell sent the best analyses of the position. The hand was No. 6 in the match by correspondence, and was published in "Whist Tactics." Jules Wotten of Washington played E's cards; his partner was Harry Stevens of Chicago, while Tatnall of Wilmington and Howell of Boston were N and S.

Here is another, which is simply a question of the best lead for S at trick 4. The heart seven was turned by W, and S held the following cards: H—A, K, Q; C—J, 4; D—A, 6, 3; S—9, 8, 7, 5, 4. The first three tricks were as follows:

	N	E	S	W	Won by
1	♡	♡	♡	♡	South
2	♡	♡	♡	♡	South
3	♡	♡	♡	♠	South

CLUB NOTES.

The leaders to date in the compass whist matches in Brooklyn are:

Player.	Games.	Tricks.	Aver.
C. A. Henriques	18	119	.267
C. R. Kelley	16	82	.307
E. A. Buffinton	23	111	.166
A. Gilhooly	27	107	.166

At the Whist Club of New York the leaders are:

E. T. Baker, 53; J. B. Elwell, 38; B. J. Bachman, 37; A. E. Taylor, 32. On last Wednesday Dickerman and Cramer made high score, 8 plus; Floyd and Henry, 7 plus.

OUR CORRESPONDENTS.

Plainfield asks: "If A and B are tied for first place and A cuts ten, at the same time exposing a three, while B cuts a nine, which wins?" The laws of whist require a person exposing more than one card in cutting to cut again. In this case B would keep his nine and A would have to cut again. If A could beat the nine by getting a lower card he would win; if he cut a higher card than the nine, B would win, as the lowest cut wins at whist.

W. H. W. asks: "What is to be done in the following case: The game is compass whist, and a set of trays have been played only at the table at which they were dealt, and then passed on to the next table. North looks at the trump indicator, and says: "heart ace." East sorts his hand and says: "That can't be right, for I have the heart ace." The tray is taken back to the table it came from and the correct trump is found to be the king. This adjusts the matter of the turn-up trump, but what about the information given to West, that his partner has the ace of trumps over the king?" It would seem that the whole proceeding in this case was irregular, in the first place, East has no business to say anything about the turn-up trump if it is North's deal. Not finding in his hand the card indicated, North should have taken the tray back to the table at which it was dealt and had the matter set right without explaining to the others at the table that he had no such card. Strictly speaking, the trump indicator is part of the dealer's hand, and no one else should be allowed to see it. In the case cited, the card named by East is clearly an exposed card, and liable to be called.

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CYCLING WOMAN ABROAD.

MADELINE KILPATRICK MOBBED ON LONDON STREETS.

The Little Trick Rider Says the English Women on Wheels Are Uncanny—The Gay Parisienne Is Chic, of Course—Bicycling in Johannesburg and Cape Town, Africa.

Madeline Kilpatrick, a trick bicyclist, has just returned from a trip to England, France, and South Africa. She and her husband, Charles Kilpatrick, a one-legged trick cyclist, who made his reputation by riding a wheel down the west steps of the Capitol building in Washington, landed here last Sunday. When Mrs. Kilpatrick walked into an academy on the Boulevard a few days ago she was effusively greeted by the women present, and was easily persuaded to tell of her experiences abroad.

"You know we left New York on the 27th of last June," said the little woman, "to do our trick act in a music hall in London, but first we went to Paris for a few days in sightseeing."

"Now tell us about the Paris wheelwomen," interrupted one of Mrs. Kilpatrick's hearers.

"The Parisian women are excellent riders. They sit their wheels well, ride fearlessly, and look so neat and chic when in the saddle. You rarely see a woman in Paris riding a loop frame, and when we were there nearly all of them wore bloomers. I did not see a woman in all Paris riding in knickerbockers. They dress loudly on the wheel, it is true, but a thing that looks loud anywhere else doesn't seem so there, and I tell you the Paris biking sisterhood are a delight to the eye. They are great enthusiasts, too.

"From Paris we went to London. There we showed in different music halls until the 10th of October. The weather was perfect and the English roads are very fine, but it is impossible for a woman to ride comfortably in London unless she keeps to the parks. Rude boys, men and women stand on the sidewalks and shout all sorts of outrageous things as you pass. They cry out 'You ought to be ashamed,' 'You are a disgrace to the country,' 'You are no lady.' Mr. Kilpatrick and I rode downtown one day. I wore a skirt only six inches from the ground. When rain came on I dismounted and took my wheel under an awning to wait until the shower was over. Somehow I lost Charley in the crowd. Over 500 people gathered to look at me. They blocked the pavement and actually stopped the traffic in the street. I called a policeman to protect me, and he said, 'You've no business to be down here on a wheel dressed that way,' and he stepped back in the crowd. This was enough for the mob. They began to guy me and I again called the policeman. This time he asked me how one or two policemen could disperse such a crowd, and I told him it would take two New York cops less than two minutes to scatter them, and if they could not do it alone they'd call for help. Then I tried to make my way into the street to a cab, and the men and women poked umbrellas and canes at my wheel, trying to break the spokes. I was almost killed by a wagon, and the drivers of the first two cabs that passed said they were engaged. The third had a man in it, but he saw my predicament, jumped out, and told me to get in. As he lifted my wheel up the mob tried to pull it out, and he raised his cane and threatened to strike the next man who dared to touch it. They followed the cab for two blocks, yelling like savages, and in the heart of London."

"How do the English women ride?"

"Of all the wheelwomen I've ever seen they are the worst riders," answered the expert. "I got in a scrape for saying that publicly over there. When we were showing at Canterbury a woman reporter called to interview me. She was a very good rider, and of course her first question was what I thought of the riding of the English women. She looked as if lightning had struck her when I told her they were the worst yet. She didn't like it, but she published what I said, and I can tell you the English papers gave me a good many scorchings.

"The English women use some very strong riders, but they have a hideous position on the wheel. They sit right over the rear wheel, and when the pedal is at their longest reach, instead of being near the ground, as with us, it is way in front of the saddle. The machines used in England have the saddle so far over the rear wheel that if a rider puts her feet down straight from the saddle she would be standing upright over the saddle, and the saddle can't be raised, either, for, if so, the rider could not reach the pedals. And wheels such as these are built so low that when one attempts to make a short turn the inside pedal almost touches the ground."

"How do the English women dress?" questioned a tall girl.

"As well as they ride," answered Mrs. Kilpatrick; "they wear long skirts and any old thing they happen to have. Those who do have special cycling suits made have the skirts so long that there is no style about their get-up. When the foot is at its lowest point in pedaling, their skirts come within a few inches of the ground and our 'monkey-back' men look quite artistic by comparison. I've yet to see the first pretty rider over there among the women. It was amusing to see the way the English audiences took our act. They never once dreamed that any clever rider by practising could do the same things, but regarded us as they would an acrobat or tight-rope walker.

"On the 10th of October we sailed from Southampton for South Africa. In Johannesburg we showed eight weeks in a music hall. We got there just a year after Dr. Jameson's raid, and, though the times were bad, our audiences were large and the most appreciative we ever showed before. The Kaffirs are not allowed out after dark unless they have a license, and they are never admitted to places of amusement. The audiences represented almost every nationality, and it was most interesting to study them. If an artist finds popular favor in Johannesburg, he or she always receives a benefit before leaving. We received $1,000, besides more presents than we could bring away. One of the presents was little pin from a cycling club. It is made of Transvaal gold, and is emblematic of the gold fields. You see the crossed pick and shovel with the nuggets of gold and the little bucket suspended. Now, isn't that beautiful?" Mrs. Kilpatrick opened her eyes. "When we went to Johannesburg only two women in the place rode wheels, and they created a sensation every time they went out. When we left, eight weeks later, over one hundred were riding, and nearly all rode American wheels. They wore their skirts six inches from the ground, too.

"Just before we left, the men got up a cycle parade that would have done credit to any city in the world, and the novices all took part. The men are very fine riders. Everybody wore fancy costumes and a prize was given for the most effective and also for the best float. After the parade all who participated and those spectators who wished went to the Wanderers' Club, an athletic organization, and everybody had to pay one shilling to get through the gate. The parade was for the benefit of the hospital, and that night those who had it in charge turned over £350 to the institution. The Wanderers' Club is ahead of any similar organization in America or England. The grounds are magnificent. They have a course for track athletics, polo, cricket, and tennis grounds, a bicycle track, and a cycle path, and the clubhouse is perfectly equipped for indoor sports.

"From Johannesburg we went to Cape Town with Fisher, one of the best many women in Cape Town wheel, and they all ride in bloomers. Most of them ride American wheels. There is a fine bicycle club there, and the roads are excellent, although the country is so mountainous. The club gave us a complimentary run, and we went over a road over 700 feet in thirteen miles. I tell you it was a pull, and when we got to the top of the mountain we rode down 700 feet on the other side in three miles to the level of the sea. It was an awful drop, and the most expert cyclist has to use a brake constantly, for the road winds round and round suddenly, and is built on the shelf of the mountain. It overlooks the most precipitous cliff, and if one should lose control of one's wheel—well, you'd never find a piece of the unfortunate. That is the favorite ride of the Cape Town people. We opened there on the 1st of November, the Cape Town summer, and their fall was just commencing when we sailed for Paris.

"We played at the Casino in Paris for one month, and it rained nearly every day. I got out on my wheel only four or five times, and what do you think? On my second visit to Paris I found that the majority of the women had discarded bloomers and were riding in divided skirts. I brought one home, and I wish I had it on, so you could see it. It is the most perfect costume I've ever seen. It takes the place of bloomers, and yet a perfect old fogy would admit that it is a beautiful, graceful skirt. I won't try to describe it, because I will ride down in it, so you can judge for yourself.

"One thing I have been convinced of in my travels," said Mrs. Kilpatrick. "No wheel compares with a high-grade American machine. The French wheels are better than the English, but they are no possible match at all."

"Are you going abroad again?" asked a short-skirted sister.

"Yes," answered Mrs. Kilpatrick, "we open on the Isle of Man, at the Palace, on the 19th of July, and then we are booked to take the music hall tour, which includes Paris, Budapest, Berlin, Madrid, and other places. On the whole route we lose only five days travelling. They wanted us to return to Johannesburg in the fall, but we will not go this time."

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LAWN TENNIS SEASON AT HAND.

The Championship Series to Open at Washington on Tuesday.

The lawn tennis season of 1897 will open Tuesday next at Washington, D. C., with the Southern championship tournament. Two or three minor events have been played so far this spring, but this will be the first important meeting of the year and elaborate preparations have been made for it. The courts of the Bachelors' Club have been put into excellent condition and the Washington players have been hard at work for several weeks preparing for the annual invasion of the Northern experts. Entries do not close until to-morrow, so the full entry list cannot be given, but a good-sized delegation of players from the North is expected.

Just who will compose the New York party is not certain as yet, but a number of the well-known local players have been practising with the hope of entering at Washington. The championship was won last spring by J. Parmly Paret of the Orange Lawn Tennis Club, and he will go on to defend his claim to the title. W. Gordon Parker, another New York player, who held the handsome challenge bowl in 1894, will probably try once more for another "leg" on the trophy, which becomes the personal property of any player winning it three times, not necessarily in succession. Parker has been practising at the West Side courts, but is not in anything like the condition he showed three years ago, when he won the trophy. Paret, too, has been training for two or three weeks. J. Harry Masson, Jr., a New York player of erratic skill and a student at Princeton, has been practising indoors all winter for this tournament, and he will be a sure starter. Oviedo M. Bostwick and Raymond D. Thurber, two members of the West Side Tennis Club, were uncertain last week whether they would enter or not, but either or both may be found among the players. From Washington comes the rumor that both Malcolm Whitman and Leo Ware, the two crack players of Harvard, will invade Southern soil and make a strong bid for the championship, and it is not at all improbable that D. F. Davis and perhaps one or two other young Harvard players may also enter.

Among the Southern players there will be several who are well able to hold up the honor of their section. Thomas A. Driscoll, ex-champion of the Pacific Coast, and now a student at Georgetown University, will be the most dangerous. It was Driscoll who upset both Budlong and Ware in the intercollegiate championship last fall at New Haven, although Whitman managed to dispose of him in the finals rather easily. Driscoll has been practising steadily for two weeks with J. C. Davidson, one of the best players in the South. Davidson is a very hard man to beat on the Bachelor courts, for, with the confidence of familiar surroundings, he uses a terrific forehand drive that is almost as accurate as it is fast. J. C. Goodfellow, Frank Georgehan, last year's runner-up; John Clay, W. P. Metcalf, and several other Washington players will also be among the home talent. It is doubtful if ex-Champion A. H. S. Post, of Baltimore will play, although one or two of the other Baltimore players may be found among the entries.

The New England championship is the next event on the schedule, and this will take place on the courts of the New Haven Lawn Tennis Club next week. Arthur E. Foote has won the handsome challenge cup twice, and he will certainly be on hand with high hopes of a third and final victory. Unless Fischer or one of the other crack players should decide to enter at New Haven there seems little chance of saving this old trophy for further competition. To be sure Whitman, Ware, and other Harvard men may enter, but the absence of Chace, Larned, Howland, Fischer, and other crack players who figured at New Haven in former years seems to indicate a sure victory for Foote.

There will be a number of open tournaments around New York this season, particularly in the spring. Perhaps the most important of these is the resurrected New York State championship, which will be started again at the Staten Island Cricket Club during the week of June 17. This title was held by Clarence Hobart in 1893 and 1894. Last year and the season before there were no tournaments held at Saratoga, its former home, and the valuable High Rock Cup held by Hobart has lapsed into his permanent possession. The Staten Islanders will offer a new challenge trophy, but whether they will permit Hobart to stay out and defend his title or make him play through the tournament for the new cup if he wants it has not been announced as yet.

The West Side Tennis Club will promote a metropolitan championship, and a new challenge trophy will be offered on the usual conditions. This tournament will be played on the courts at Eighty-ninth street and Central Park West during the week of June 22, and it seems probable that the trophy will become the temporary property of Fischer, for on these courts he is almost, if not quite, invincible. The Kings County Tennis Club, after finding new grounds last year, has decided to hold an open tournament this season, and it has secured the week of June 1 for the meeting. A woman's event will probably be added to the programme, as at the West Side tournament, for the benefit of Miss Moore, Miss Helwig, and Miss Atkinson.

The Middle States championship tournament, always the biggest event of the tennis season around the metropolis, has been put off this season until July. Larned, Wrenn, Stevens, Fischer, George Wrenn, and several other cracks will be among the field that will struggle for Clarence Hobart's honors.

The New Jersey State championship, which was scheduled for the week of June 2, has been postponed by the Hohokus Valley Tennis Club, and a new date will soon be announced.

Atlantic Yacht Club to Go in Commission on Decoration Day.

Going in commission, which is always an imposing ceremony in the Atlantic Yacht Club, will precede the regular Decoration Day regatta on May 31. Orders have been issued for the fleet to assemble off the Bay Ridge clubhouse at 9:30 o'clock in the morning in two lines, the flagship having the right of the first division and the Vice-Commodore's craft occupying the position of honor in the second line.

At 10:30 o'clock a gun will be fired from the flagship, and the club flag will be sent aloft to the truck of the staff on the pier, when the fleet will salute as follows: First, a gun from the flagship; then a gun from the yachts of other flag officers present, senior first, and afterward each yacht in quick succession will fire a gun. After the salute to the flag, a gun will be fired from the clubhouse at such time as the Regatta Committee may direct, which will be the signal to weigh anchor for the starting line.

The Regatta Committee, composed of Newbury D. Lawton, David E. Austen, and George W. McNulty, has arranged a programme with instructions for yacht captains who wish to participate in the regatta. The races will be for all classes, and a prize of $25 in value or cash will be awarded to the winning yacht in each class. Not more than one prize, however, will be awarded in any class. The committee desires that all members of the club should enter their yachts in the opening ceremonies regardless of speed or previous record, so that a full representation of the fleet may be had.

Edward Weston, John H. Lott, Arthur P. Clapp, and George A. Freith have been proposed for membership.

Yachting Notes of Interest.

The auxiliary cathoat, Maggie S., owned by Anthony P. Smith, went into commission yesterday.

The fast steam launch Commander, Al Marshall, Larchmont Yacht Club, is being fitted with a new boiler. She will go in commission early in June.

The steam yacht Raynham has been finished and delivered to her owner, E. S. Woodward. On her trial trip she made fifteen miles per hour.

The big cabin cat Louise, owned by Commodore Sherwood of the Gravesend Bay Yacht Club, was launched yesterday from Crosby's, and will go in commission at once.

John Jacob Astor's electric launch, that was sent overboard from Ayers's yard, at Nyack, last September, is afloat once more. She is having new batteries placed in position.

John Ives's catboat La Cubana was launched on Friday from the foot of Forty-second street, South Brooklyn. She is lying off the Atlantic Yacht Clubhouse at Bay Ridge.

The new 25-foot racing cat Qui Vive has been delivered to George Freith of the Atlantic Yacht Club. She is at the Bay Ridge basin, and will be used in the vicinity of New York Bay.

The knockabout Kite was sold on Friday to Fred Alex. Archibald, Larchmont Yacht Club. Her principal dimensions are 32 feet over all, 24 feet water line, 11 feet beam, and 3 feet draught.

Work on the new Hiawatha is advancing rapidly. Her machinery and spars are in place and the joiner work is finished. She will have a trial trip this week and will be delivered by June 1.

The sloop Canopus, owned by Henry B. Howell of the Atlantic Yacht Club, is on the ways at Crosby's, being repaired and overhauled. She will go into commission the early part of the week.

The steam yacht Wachusett, owned by F. T. Holden, Larchmont Yacht Club, has new spars. The new stem and clipper bow has transformed the craft so that her old friends will hardly recognize her.

Chris Meyer's steam yacht Mascoth is hauled out at Morris Heights, having her underbody painted and varnished. There will be considerable alteration made in her interior fittings, and she will have a new deckhouse. The boat will be ready in about three weeks.

Rear-Commodore Fred Gerkin's steam yacht Wabenon was delivered by the Gas Engine and Power Company yesterday. The alterations that have been made are new boilers, a modern stern, new masts, and a new speed wheel. Her rigging also has been changed.

The steamer Althea, formerly Judy, owned by T. E. Ward, is being fitted with new spars and a new electric light plant. Alterations are being made in the crew's quarters and lead is being added to her keel. Her saloon also will be redecorated. She will go in commission this week.

Among the prominent steam yachts at the Morris Heights basin are: Anita, J. H. Flagler; Tillie, Starbuck estate; Lorna, W. L. Stow; Saranac, A. Van Santvoord and Tranquillo, formerly owned by S. B. Ferris, who purchased the Talisman from Herbert Ballantine of Newark.

William A. Slater's big auxiliary yacht Eleanor, which has been chartered to H. Payne Whitney, was hauled out on Downing & Lawrence's ways yesterday afternoon. Her underbody will be painted and put in shape for the voyage to the North Sea.

The steam yacht Rex arrived at Pete's basin yesterday, where she will be overhauled preparatory to a cruise up the coast as far as Bangor, Me.

CARRIER PIGEONS FOR HAWAII.

A Winged Messenger Service to Be Adopted and Save Expense of Cable.

From the San Francisco Chronicle.

A carrier pigeon service on a large scale is about to be established on the Hawaiian Islands. Pigeon flying is generally carried on as a pastime, and is the national sport of Belgium, but a company has just been formed in Honolulu to utilize the peculiar traits of the homing pigeons in a business which is set forth in a prospectus as being very remunerative. Birds have already been bought and taken to the islands. The proposition is to establish lofts on all of the different islands in the Hawaiian group, beginning first with Hawaii, Maui, Kauai, and Oahu. By means of fast-flying pigeons messages can be sent from Honolulu to all the towns and plantations on the different islands, and vice versa. It is believed that not less than fifty plantations will join the scheme.

Commissioner Joseph Marsden of Honolulu, who is at the head of the new company, has mailed maps of the islands to the best posted homing pigeon men in this country, and they have replied that neither the distance between the islands or the channel winds will be an obstacle in the way of successful flights. Kauai and Maui are both but 100 miles from Honolulu, and the most distant point of the islands from Honolulu is but 250 miles. The best record shows that pigeons have flown 614 miles in one day in a fly from Gainesville, Ga., to Philadelphia. This could not be done regularly, but it is generally considered a feasible plan to fly pigeons over moderate-sized bodies of water at a very fast rate.

The need of more frequent and speedy transmission of messages between the islands of the Hawaiian group has been strongly felt, and, as there seems to be little or no prospect of an inter-island cable for some years at least, the proposition to establish a homing pigeon service is deemed a good business scheme. The company being organized is to begin with a capital of $4,000, divided into 400 shares of $10 each. It is proposed to begin with a loft in Honolulu and equip it with fifty pairs of young birds of pedigree stock and half a dozen older birds with established reputations. It is expected that within a year birds will be raised all over the islands and the service will be in full blast.

A very similar scheme to that of the Hawaiians is also being established between Alaska and Puget Sound. The long delay experienced in receiving news from or transmitting it to Alaska has been considered a serious drawback. Superintendent Duncan of the Alaska Treadwell Mining Company has secured several pairs of pigeons from an Alameda fancier and a large loft has been built at Treadwell for their accommodation. As soon as they breed an attempt will be made, after training the young birds, to fly them from Port Townsend or some other Puget Sound port. The distance is 823 miles by steamer, and is too much for a bird to fly in one day. As a homer makes slow progress after the first day, a system of stages will be inaugurated. Stations may be established at Juneau or Dugolas island, Fort Wrangel, Fort Tongas, Nanlamo, and Port Townsend

Convention of Press Clubs.

The coming convention of the International League of Press Clubs will bring together delegates from over forty press clubs in the United States and Canada. The sessions will be held in the rooms of the New York Press Club. Topics of interest to journalists will be discussed. Among the subjects will be the following: "The Rank of Journalism as a Profession," "Women in the Profession," "The Use and Abuse of Newspaper Illustrations," "The Past and Present of Journalism," "Duties and Relations of Newspaper Workers," "How Can the League be Made of Greater Practical Value to the Individual Members of the League Clubs?"

The Woman's Press Club and the German Press Club will be represented in the convention.

Programme of the New Rochelle Yacht Clubs Special Regatta.

The special regatta of the New Rochelle Yacht Club for sloops in the new 20-foot class; cabin cats, 25-foot class, and open cats, 20 and 25-foot classes, will be sailed in the vicinity of Echo Bay on May 22. Invitations have been sent to all regularly organized yacht clubs, and if entries are received from "sand baggers" additional classes will be formed. Prizes will be awarded to winners in each class where two or more yachts start and a second prize where four or more start with the intention of finishing the race. A special prize of a silver cup will be awarded to the winner in the twenty-foot class, with an additional trophy if five or more start.

The races, which will be sailed in two divisions, will be started at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. The twenty-foot class will go in the first division, while the second division will comprise all catboats. The starting and finishing lines will be marked by boats flying the club flag and anchored at the entrance of Echo Bay. The course for all classes will be from the starting line at Echo Bay, to and around the red buoy on the southwesterly end of "Hen and Chickens" Reef; thence to and around the striped buoy known as "Big Ground Buoy," leaving the most easterly buoy on Execution Reef; thence to and around the easterly stake boat at the starting line, leaving all marks on the starboard hand; to be sailed twice and under, as well as all cats, to be measured with crews on board.

Want to Play Games.

The Optimus Baseball Club would like to play games with A1 commercial house teams. Address J. T. Collins, captain and manager, 54 Ann street.

The South Orange Field Club has June 12 and Sept. 6 open, and would like to hear from first-class clubs. Address Harold Byron, manager, South Orange, N. J.

The Darson Baseball Club