AROUND THE WHIST TABLE.

A CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN TRICK-LOSING LEADS.

Analyses of Two Games—Where the American Whist League Might Increase Its Value to Scientific Whist Players.

If the numerous short-suit discussions and experiments of the past year have done nothing else they have certainly demonstrated to all observant players that to lead from certain combinations of cards involves a certain percentage of loss. This loss is not entailed by the mere fact of holding the combination, but is brought about by leading the suit containing it. Such leads will not lose tricks every time they are made, any more than loaded dice will come up sixes every time they are thrown. In some hands a certain lead will gain; in some it will make no difference; but in the long run it will cost the player a certain number of tricks which might have been saved if he had avoided the lead in question, and had allowed some other player to open the suit.

The most prominent of these trick-losing leads is that of a small card from a suit containing a single honor, such as king or queen. Leads from suits containing minor tenaces, or any two high cards not in sequence, are also expensive in the long run, although the percentage may be so small, or the loss so infrequent, as not to attract attention.

On the other hand, there are certain combinations of cards which are generally recognized as distinctly advantageous to lead. Sequences of three cards, such as A K Q, K Q J, or Q J 10, belong to this class. The old theory of leading, in the days of Hoyle and Mathews, was that such leads were better than others; the new theory, since the time of Pole and Cavendish, has been that suits of four are better, even if they are small cards. THE SUN published a hand last week in which the Hamiltons gained four tricks by preferring the sequence opening. To-day another is given in which three tricks were gained by the same selection, in the match between New York and Philadelphia. The deal was No. 5, in which Z dealt and turned the heart jack. A—B are partners against Y—Z. The underlined card wins the trick, and the card under it is the next one led.

	Buff'ton	Hill.	Hawkins	Hart.
TRICK.	A	Y	B	Z
1	K ♢	A ♢	9 ♢	3 ♢
2	2 ♠	Q ♠	A ♠	9 ♠
3	♡ 2	♡ 5	♡ 4	♡ J
4	3 ♠	5 ♠	♡ 3	10 ♠
5	♡ 6	♡ 7	♡ A	♡ Q
6	♡ 10	♡ K	♡ 9	♣ 4
7	♣ A	♣ 9	♣ 10	♣ Q
8	J ♠	K ♠	♡ 8	♣ 5
9	♣ 8	♣ 6	♣ K	♣ 2
10	4 ♠	2 ♢	♣ J	♣ 7
11	J ♢	5 ♢	8 ♢	4 ♢
12	Q ♢	6 ♠	6 ♢	7 ♢
13	8 ♠	7 ♠	♣ 3	10 ♢

New York wins ten tricks.

Trick 1. The theoretical lead from A's hand is the small spade; but the practical lead is undoubtedly the diamond sequence.

Trick 2. As already pointed out, it is better to have some other player open A's spade suit, in which he has a single honor. Y does it in this case, and A gets a trick in the suit, which he would not have done if he had opened it, as we shall see when we come to the overplay.

Trick 7. If Y goes on with his own suit, he establishes the major tenace against himself.

Trick 8. The time has come to establish the suit in which A kept under first.

Trick 9. B now proceeds to make two tricks in a suit established for him by the adversaries, neither of which he would have won had he led it, even with five trumps to back it up, as will be seen from the overplay.

By leading his sequence, A makes two tricks in it, and by not leading his long suit he gets a trick in that. By not leading a suit containing two honors not in sequence, B makes two tricks in it. All these tricks are lost when these suits are opened, as will be seen from the following play of the same cards:

	Watson.	Heart's.	Neff.	Reiley.
TRICK.	A	Y	B	Z
1	3 ♠	Q ♠	A ♠	9 ♠
2	♣ A	♣ 6	♣ 3	♣ 2
3	♣ 8	♣ 9	♣ 10	♣ Q
4	J ♠	K ♠	♡ 3	10 ♠
5	♡ 6	♡ 5	♡ 4	♡ J
6	♡ 10	♡ K	♣ K	♣ 4
7	4 ♠	7 ♠	6 ♢	♡ Q
8	♡ 2	♡ 7	♣ J	♣ 5
9	K ♢	A ♢	8 ♢	3 ♢
10	J ♢	5 ♢	9 ♢	10 ♢
11	Q ♢	2 ♢	♡ 8	4 ♢
12	8 ♠	5 ♠	♡ A	7 ♢
13	2 ♠	6 ♠	♡ 9	♣ 7

Philadelphia wins seven tricks.

Trick 1. Instead of accomplishing anything by leading the suit containing a single honor, A simply establishes it against himself, and never gets a trick in it.

Trick 2. With no card of reëntry for his own suit, and the command of his partner's suit probably with the adversaries, B does not care to lead trumps, even with five. This is practically a confession that he is not strong enough to play the long-suit game. Then why touch the long suit at all? The lead of the club is doubly disadvantageous; it is leading away from a minor tenace, and it is a play which you are afraid to support with a trump attack, although you have five.

If B had led the top diamond at this stage, he would have made it interesting for Y—Z, and tied the score on the hand very easily, no matter what Y did. As it is, B's play has cost game, if Y had trumped and continued the diamonds. If Y led a club, A would have won it, and established his spades, B returning the diamond again. This would have prompted A to go back with the club, and B would have led two rounds of trumps. After that, whether Z led clubs or diamonds, the best trump would be the only trick remaining for Y—Z. This would give A—B ten tricks; showing that A's error in the opening lead might have been atoned for by B's leading the suit for him at trick 2, at the same time avoiding the error of leading the club suit.

Tricks 6 and 8. The readiness with which A trumps his partner's suit shows how little confidence he has in its value. Even B's play of the king at trick 6 will not keep him off at trick 8.

A player having in his hand two suits to select from, one containing a single honor, and the other a good sequence, should have no difficulty in making his choice; but if he has no suit presenting an advantageous opening, by what rule is he to choose between those he has? This is one of the enigmas of modern whist.

The long-suit school avoid the difficulty by denying that there is any loss from leading certain suits; but the more enlightened, especially those who have followed the modern developments of the game, frankly admit that certain leads are trick losers. Some of these claim that the loss cannot be helped; the trick-losing combinations have been dealt to you, and you must lead something. They accept the necessity of making a trick-losing opening as part of the percentage of the game, and console themselves with the thought that it is comparatively small, and may be overcome in two ways: the adversaries may make the same opening, and the loss may be offset by the superiority in play which is is rendered possible by uniformity in leads.

The short-suit school, on the other hand, seek to classify trick-losing leads, and to select those which are less harmful than others. They recognize, in addition to the two classes already enumerated, sequences and single-honor suits, a third class of combinations; those which are very unlikely to take a trick under any circumstances, but especially if led up to. They hold that such cards may be useful in assisting partner, if led to him, and think that if such leads accomplish nothing else they prevent partner from leading to his own disadvantage.

The combinations belonging to this class are suits of two or three cards, none higher than the queen; or suits of four or five, none higher than the ten. Queen, jack and one small; jack, ten and one small; and two-card suits, jack, ten or nine high.

That these are not desirable suits to open is freely admitted, but it is claimed that long suits containing single honors are still less so, and that if the hand contains no suit which offers a good lead it is the player's duty to select that which will probably result in the smallest loss in the long run. The great difficulty is to decide what these combinations are, and under what precise circumstances they should be led. Although the opening lead may be made in accordance with the best experience, the result in many hands may be unfortunate; this may be brought about by several different causes. A person may have in his hand two suits, to lead from one of which is admitted to be undesirable, while the lead from the other is considered excellent; yet in that particular hand it may turn out that the less desirable lead would produce the best result. A player may find the same misfortune to follow him through a long series of hands, and perhaps to lose him an important match, and may conclude that the whole thing is a mistake and that his theory is all wrong.

It is frequently very difficult to tell, without careful analysis, whether the loss on any given hand is due to the opening or to the continuation, and the one may be blamed for what is really due to the other. A player may lead correctly, but may lose his advantage or fail to hold his own by his bad play on the last few tricks. His gains may be offset by his adversaries adopting similar tactics, or they may be lost by his partner's failure to take advantage of the situations which the opening prepared, and should have made clear to him.

All these factors in the result tend to make definite analysis very difficult, and the problem is still further complicated by the fact that it has been found impossible to get persons to play a perfect game, even when they have a week to think over the play of a single card. This is particularly true of those who play against short-suit tactics, and has led many persons to believe that the gains made by common-sense players are largely due to the errors of their adversaries. Even if such is the case, it is no argument against the system, but rather in its favor, if its nature is such that it leads its opponents into error. But while this may win games it is no proof that short-suit tactics are the best, unless the connection between cause and effect can be established, and it can be shown that the errors of the adversaries are the necessary result of the system to which they are opposed.

The problem cannot be solved by mathematical demonstration, and there is nothing for it but to experiment, and experiments are daily being made by thousands. But although these are being tried every day in almost every whist club in the country, they result in no practical benefit to the great mass of whist players. Irregular, unrecorded, and unclassified experiments never will. What is wanted is to take a certain number and variety of test cases, to try them thoroughly on a large scale, and then to classify the results. There certainly should be some means of utilizing the enormous number of experiments that are daily being made in our various whist clubs, so that the results arrived at in one city might be communicated to others, and be compared with the experience there. THE SUN has often been impressed by the fact that notwithstanding the excellent organization of the American Whist League, its clubs are of practically little or no benefit to one another, and there is not the solidarity that should exist in such an association.

Why should not the immense membership of the league be available for the discussion and determination of some of those moot questions of modern whist which can be settled only by experiment? If all the clubs would agree to concentrate their attention upon certain points of whist strategy, one at a time, results of incalculable value might be arrived at in a very short time. Take such an experiment as the following, for instance: Give the leader

H—4, 3, 2, trumps.
C—K, 6, 4, 3, 2.
D—8, 4, 2.
S—J, 2.

There are ten trumps which the leader does not hold; for ten successive deals turn up one of these ten trumps, each time a different one. Thoroughly shuffle the remaining thirty-eight cards and distribute them among the three other players and then play each of the distributions twice over, first trying the lead of the small club and then the lead of the spade jack. The experiment would not take one person much more than an hour, and if fifty players were to try it in fifty different clubs, the result would be a practical test extending over 500 deals. If the results were sent to one person to be classified and published, it would throw a good deal of light on a dark subject.

A correspondent of THE SUN tried this hand for 100 deals, and he found that the results were very slightly in favor of the spade jack; not more than one or two tricks in any deal. He says that he afterward changed the hand, giving the leader the king of diamonds. Then the result of leading the small club or the spade jack was practically the same. When he changed the hand still further, giving the leader K J 2 of diamonds, he found that the lead of the small club was better than that of the spade jack, if partner recognized the small card as a trump invitation. Most of the gains made on the weakest hand, no honor in diamonds, he found to be single tricks, and he sends the following as an example. Z dealt and turned the heart seven:

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

Trick 2. Some players would lead trumps at once from Z's hand, but he is so weak in clubs that he wants to find out where his partner is strong, if at all. The lead of the singleton club would have brought about the same result, as Y would have finessed the queen and led trumps, as the best chance to make his diamonds.

Trick 10. No matter what Y-Z now play, A-B must make a trick. Here is the overplay:

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

Trick 1. Apart from the principle of its being right to play Q second hand when holding A Q 10 and less than four trumps, Y knows that A probably has an honor in the suit from which he leads a small card.

Trick 2. Whether Y leads trumps without showing his suit or leads the spade queen, the result is the same; an easy slam for Y-Z. If Y leads the spade, B covers with the imperfect fourchette, and whether Z then tries the diamond jack first or leads trumps at once makes no difference.

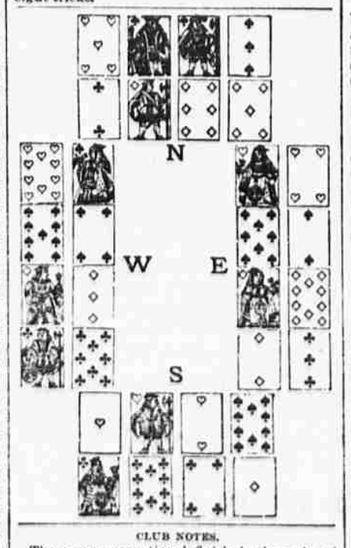
If the hands of Y and Z are transposed, it is a slam for Y-Z, no matter what A leads; but it is important to remember that certain positions of the cards must arise in a large number of deals, and if the position is such that the lead will make no difference in some cases, but may in others, the player should open his hand in such a manner as to secure the advantage to himself if the cards lie favorably for him, because if they do not lie well for him his lead makes no difference.

Small as the difference is in this example, it might have been lost if Y had not put on the club queen second hand, which goes to show that it requires very close playing to get at the true results of different openings.

OUR PROBLEMS.

The problem published May 23 is solved by N leading a trump, S discarding spade 10, N then leads spades twice, S discarding diamonds until E lets go a club, whereupon S discards club 7.

Here is one composed by Prof. Edwin S. Lewis of the Princeton Whist Club. Hearts are trumps, N is to lead, and with S for a partner to win all eight tricks.



CLUB NOTES.

There was a sensational finish in the series of compass matches at the New York Whist Club on Wednesday night. Baker was supposed to be sure of first place, and the race was between Elwell and Bachman for second; but by making the top score 10 plus, with McIvor for a partner, Bachman got first prize, Baker making 7 minus, with Buffinton for a partner. Patterson and Gottschalk made high score E and W. The five leaders are:

Player.	Games.	Tricks.	Top score.
B. J. Bachman	14	55	6
E. S. Baker	13	50	7
J. B. Elwell	14	44	6
A. E. Taylor	13	38	6
L. B. McIvor	14	35	8

ABOUT GOLF AND THE CUE.

THE QUESTION DISCUSSED FROM DIFFERENT STANDPOINTS.

Tallmadge, Peters, and Toler Pass Comments on the Innovation—Outcome of an Experiment at Knollwood—The Divergence in Ideas May Necessitate a Ruling by the U. S. G. A.

There has always been a wide divergence of opinion among golfers regarding the use of a billiard cue on the putting green, and since the editorial in THE SUN of May 23 on the subject the discussions have multiplied. Regarding the legality of the cue under the golf rules, THE SUN is pronounced to be right in its assertion that it is justifiable to use it until some special statute is framed. No two golfers agree, however, as to the utility of the cue. A. Z. Huntington, before starting in the public tournament at Van Cortlandt Park last fall, asked the referee if he might use a putter he had invented, which had a head like a wedge-shaped croquet mallet.

"Certainly," replied the President of St. Andrew's, "you may put with an umbrella handle if you like."

The remark shows the freedom of choice the rules allow to the golfer.

H. O. Tallmadge, who as Secretary of the United States Golf Association had charge of the amateur championship at Newport in 1895, when Richard Peters set out prepared to use a cue in putting, says:

"The officials in charge of the Newport tournament did not make a ruling in the match between Mr. Peters and the Rev. Dr. Rainsford regarding the use of the cue for, after using it once, Peters, at the request of his opponent did not use it again. I do not think that a cue or anything else could be barred out under the present rules, which do not specify what style of club shall be used. At the same time the rules of common sense and fairness should govern all contests, and I am sure the Executive Committee of the U. S. G. A. would use its power and disqualify any competitor who would use a cue in a match, or the committee could make a new rule immediately covering any point which might come up.

"Personally, I believe a billiard cue would be more of a handicap than an advantage, as the cramped position a player would have to take while putting would naturally interfere with his aim. Besides, a golf ball is so small and light that it would be almost impossible to make a cue shot without hitting or pushing the ball twice, which would mean the loss of a stroke in medal play or of the hole in match play."

Richard Peters, who was one of the players who qualified at the Baltusrol tournament, said that after making one successful put with a cue at Newport he thereafter omitted using it, both to please Dr. Rainsford, who is a conservative golfer, and because the innovation made him so nervous that it might have spoiled his game.

"With some practice, so as to overcome awkwardness, I believe the cue would greatly help a player's putting," added Peters. "The greens would have to be perfect, like ours at Meadowbrook, to make the cue effective. It would be idle to try it on knobby or cuppy greens."

The other side of the case was expressed by H. P. Toler, who is one of the best amateur pool players in New York and thoroughly familiar with the uses of the cue.

"I have once or twice experimented with a cue on the putting green, but only out of curiosity," said Toler. "I would not think of using one in a match. The benefit in putting afforded by a cue is, in my opinion, not large enough to compensate for the trouble of using it. I regard its use, too, as something utterly foreign to the spirit of golf, and I maintain that no player with any respect for the game will ever use a cue."

An amateur who tested the cue in putting on the fine greens at Knollwood last week found that the ball ran better from the butt of the cue than when struck by the chalked tip. By making a "bridge" with the left hand and resting the right knee on the turf the cue could be readily guided. Within three feet of the cup the ball could be put in with equal facility from either end of the cue, but on long puts the shots from the tip were apt to run untrue. The impression derived from the experiments was that on long puts the cue is no more reliable than the putter, but when close to the hole the cue is the safer. By practice, however, the cue might be made a patent instrument, should it be held that the "billiardizing" of golf is justifiable.

Douglas Bonner, a junior player at the Staten Island Cricket Club, had some sport last fall with a putter on the cue principle, but designed to rest against the left shoe when in use instead of being supported by a hand "bridge." At one time he talked of taking a patent on his idea. In an article in THE SUN, published after the Westchester tournament last fall, an illustration was printed of Richard Peters's brass putter, which is very effective in short or long puts.

The article showed that the invention of new putters was quite the fashion in 1896, while, in 1895, the golfers had devoted their energies to the invention of new drivers and brasseys. The conclusion drawn was that the players had learned the long game and were next puzzling over the mastery of the short game. The interest now taken in the billiard-cue question suggests that the short game is still the most perplexing part of golf.

The professionals unite in saving that the use of the cue is "na' gowf." Sam Tucker once saw a player use one in a match on Wimbledon Common, near London. His ball had rolled under a furze bush on the edge of the green, and, to avoid teeing, the player sent to the club house for a cue and used it by crouching down so effectively that he sent the ball dead on the rim. Usually the professionals say they have never known the cue to be used. They are indifferent as to whether it should be adopted or not, except on general principles, the position being that whenever any club not of their own invention is introduced at a links. To invent a new club that will aid his game in a decisive way is an idea that fascinates many a new golfer, but the thorough Scotch player is convinced in his heart that, after the experience of a century, the club makers of Scotland have about attained perfection in club making. This is one reason why they regard new styles with indifference.

"What would happen should an American visit Scotland with some new-fangled driver, say, one with springs inside it, that would enable him to out-drive everybody?" was the question once asked a famous Scotch professional.

"Nothing at all," was the reply, "and he would have a grand time winning matches until we learned his secret."

This is not the attitude, however, of the amateurs regarding the use of the billiard cue. They are divided into two camps, one body thinking it sportsmanlike to use it, the other maintaining that while not forbidden by the rules it is not a true golfing idea. The Executive Committee of the U. S. G. A. may soon be called upon to adjudicate finally on the question, so that it will be settled before the time of the amateur championship.

LAWMAKERS IN A SNARL.

The Pennsylvania Legislature's Session Likely to End in a Row.

HARRISBURG, Pa., June 5.—The Legislature is now drifting rudderless and Gov. Hastings has been appealed to by the alarmed crew to save them from shipwreck. Just ahead are the breakers of a bankrupt Treasury.

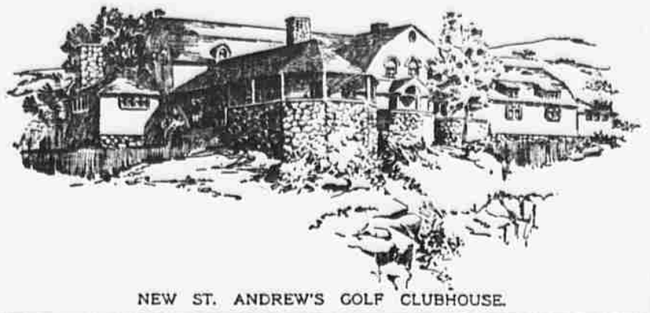
Factional troubles have so disorganized the House as to make it almost impossible to transact business in an orderly way. Speaker Boyer now admits that the Legislature will be in session until the middle of July. There has been so much petty jealousy that the workers in the House have been unable to make any headway in legislation. Rival political interests have also interfered with business. Having exhausted all its ingenuity in the way of devising methods of increasing the revenues of the State, the Legislature has asked Gov. Hastings to come to the rescue. There is reason to believe, however, that the Governor will allow the legislators to work out the problem for themselves. He thinks, as do his advisers, that it is the duty of the law-making branch to devise revenue schemes and not that of the Executive department of the State government. There is no doubt, too, that the resolution calling upon the Governor for information regarding the State's revenues and for suggestions as to new subjects for taxation originated in the camp of his enemies in the Senate.

Some interesting political developments are expected as a result of the strained relations between the Governor and a certain element in the Legislature. Major Levi G. McCauley, the one-armed veteran, who is prominently mentioned as a Republican candidate for Auditor-General, is strongly supported by the Governor, and it is said that his greatest strength is the probable favor of Senator Quay through the good offices of the Governor. If there should be a break between the chief lieutenants of Senator Quay and the Governor, then the chances of the Chester candidate for Auditor-General would rapidly fade, inasmuch as Senator Quay's followers would be loth to help the Governor's political fortunes by advancing one of his selections for a State office. Strange stories are also rife as to the desire of Senator Quay to compose the differences which have existed between David Martin, the Philadelphia combine leader, and himself. It is reported here that Senator Quay is more than anxious to make up with Martin, and to bury the past. Right here, however, is where Senator Quay is skating on thin ice. If he gets too sweet on Martin, according to the political prophets, the anti-Martin element in Philadelphia will turn against him and break his power in the State. Politicians here are expecting a big row before the Legislature adjourns, and as it looks now the break is not far distant. All the conditions favor just such a factional break-up as occurred at the close of the session two years ago, when Gov. Hastings allied himself with the anti-Quay organization.

ST. ANDREW'S NEW CLUBHOUSE.

A Plan to Open the Mount Hope Quarters with an International Team Match.

A plan under discussion may result in the opening of the new St. Andrew's links at Mount Hope with an international match against a team of amateurs from Great Britain. In a desultory way the foreign golfers have talked for some two years of sending a team over, and the scheme is now nearing a consummation. The British players who have made the trip as individuals have spoken in fine terms of their treatment here, which has doubtless quickened their desire to visit us in force. At all events, Charles Broadwood, the English amateur, has written to John Reid, the President of the St. Andrew's Golf Club, stating that he expects to bring over a team in the fall, which will include Balfour-Melville, Fred Tait, John Ball, Jr., A. J. Allan, the amateur champion, and possibly H. H. Hilton, the open champion, and others.



NEW ST. ANDREW'S GOLF CLUBHOUSE.

Reid has promised Broadwood a match with a St. Andrew's team, and he has assured him further that there will be no difficulty in arranging, on his arrival, additional matches with teams representing the East and the West, as well as a contest against an "All America" team. Needless to say, he has also told Broadwood that a team of golf amateurs may rely upon a hearty welcome at every club and links throughout the country.

It is understood that the visitors will be at Chicago in time for the amateur championships of 1897. They will bring a couple of professionals with them, and, as Willie Park, Jr., also intends to play, the next American open championship promises to be the most important as yet held in this country. The next letter from Broadwood will probably contain the full announcement.

The work on the links at Mount Hope will be finished by July 15, but it is proposed to cut and roll the turf daily until September before permitting the club members to play on their new course. The links will be ready for the Labor Day competitions, a handicap for three prizes at eighteen holes, in which the players will be divided into two classes. An international match could be played on any date in September.

But little need be added to the description of the Mount Hope course published in THE SUN on April 2 to depict the present appearance of the links and what they are to be, except that wherever a stone wall approaches or crosses the line of play it will be faced with turf. Since that article was printed the clubhouse has been started, and the frame and foundations are now finished. The foundations are of rough stone, quarried on the property, and the woodwork will be shingled on roof and walls. The architect is R. H. Robertson, who is a member of St. Andrew's and a committeeman at Shinnecock Hills. The exterior is plain and cosey, the cottage suggestion being closely followed.

No location could be more suitable for an inland clubhouse. The site is on the brink of the hill, close to the fifth tee, and the veranda will overhang the descent to the flat valley, crossed by the Sprainbrook, on which the fifth hole and the tees and putting greens up to the thirteenth hole are laid out. The front of the building overlooks the home hole and the starting tee. The veranda in the back will be the great feature of the club. It is so lightly poised on the banks of the precipice and so high above the valley that it will be unique as a summer day lounging place, while it will be nearly as large as a ballroom.

Approaching the clubhouse on the carriage road the visitor will alight on a covered porch, or he may enter the building by a broad stairway. Within is the general room, an apartment 22 feet by 80 feet, to be finished in hardwood and to have an open fireplace and mantel on one side. Opening from this room on the north end is to be the dressing room, a lofty apartment 43 by 30 feet. It will contain 244 lockers, divided among six alcoves, each holding two rows, to insure greater privacy in dressing. The shower room and washrooms will adjoin the dressing room. Each alcove is lighted by a window, and there are extra windows under the eaves and also in the small attic, which is left empty to promote the ventilation.

South of the general room will be the women's room, 16 by 14 feet, with twenty lockers and a toilet room. On this side, too, is to be the dining room, 25 feet by 20, which opens on the covered piazza that commands the extensive view of the course. Back of the dining room are the service and wine rooms and the kitchens. A stairway from the general room leads to the second floor, where there will be seven guest rooms and a bathroom. Accommodation for the help is also provided on this floor.

The new building will be ready and furnished by Labor Day. Murray, the caterer and steward in the present club, will also take charge in the new building. Until the removal the old links will be kept up in the customary style and golfing will go on there as usual.

On Wednesday the Class B and C men meet in the June handicap, the Class A men playing a week later. The thought of the future fine links and clubhouse acts as a stimulus to the golf of the present at St. Andrew's, for all of the members are striving to be at the top of their game for the opening of the new links.

OUR CHESS CORNER.

PROBLEM NO. 541—BY D. ROSS, LONDON.

BLACK—FOUR PIECES.

K on K B 5; Kt on K B 8; Ps on Q B 4 and Q Kt 7.

K on K Kt 2; Q on Q B 8; R on Q R 8; B on K B 6 and Q 8; Kt on Q B 6; P on K 6.

WHITE—SEVEN PIECES.

White to play and mate in three moves.

PROBLEM NO. 542—BY EMIL HOFFMANN, NEW YORK.

BLACK—NINE PIECES.

K on Q B 5; R on Q Kt 8; B on Q Kt 5 and K Kt; Kts on K B 4 and K R 3; Ps on Q R 2, Q Kt 6, and Q 2.

K on Q R 4; Q on K Kt 6; R on Q Kt 8 and K Kt 8; B on K Kt and K B 7; Kt on K 7; P on Q Kt 2.

WHITE—EIGHT PIECES.

White to play and mate in two moves.

SOLUTION TO NO. 539.

1. Kt—Q 6, K—K 4; 2. Kt—B 5 ch, K—K 5; 3. P—Q 3, mate.
1. Kt—Q 6, Kt—Kt 3; 2. Q—B 3, mate.
1. Kt—Q 6, Kt—Q B 4; 2. Kt—B 6 ch, K x P; 3. P—B 4, mate.
1. Kt—Q 6, Kt—B 6; 2. Q x Kt, mate.
1. Kt—Q 6, Kt—K 7; 2. Q—Q 3, mate.
1. Kt—Q 6, Kt—Kt 5; 2. Q—B 4 ch, K—K 4; 3. Kt—B 7, mate.
1. Kt—Q 6, Kt—K B 4; 2. Q—B 4 ch, K—K 4; 3. Kt—B 7, mate.
1. Kt—Q 6, Kt—B 2; 2. Q—B 4 ch, K—K 4; 3. Kt—B 7, mate.
1. Kt—Q 6, Kt—Kt; 2. Q—B 4 ch, K—K 4; 3. Kt—B 7, mate.
1. Kt—Q 6, P x P; 2. Kt—B 6 ch, K—B 4; 3. P—Q 4, mate.
1. Kt—Q 6, P—K 4; 2. Q—B 4, mate.

Correct solutions received from Fred Carter, Boston; Yet Another, New York; Once More, New York; Fred Engel, Brooklyn; A. Quitzow, New York; R. W. Whymann, New York; May Win, Brooklyn; Theodore R. Huyler, Brooklyn; A. M. Wardmann, Brooklyn; Stephen McGrath, New York; Pretty, New York; C. O. Flensbury, Boston; Just in Time, New York; Take Me In, Brooklyn; How Easy, Boston; Correct You Are, Brooklyn; R. S. Walters, New York; O. N. Michaels, Brooklyn; R. M. Mauser, New York; W. Winter, New York; El. B. Maroni, New York; S. Stemler, New York; J. B. Manning, Philadelphia, Pa.; Grover's Lil, Danbury, Conn.; J. Roberts, New York; Elek Emil, New York; Henry Steinberg, New York; F. Cromwell, Brooklyn; A. S. Richmond, Middletown, N. Y.; H. W. Barry, South Boston, Mass.; F. Yokel, Meriden, Conn.; B. L. R., Usa, N. Y.

BARTH'S PROBLEM.

The following solvers have sent a correct solution to the above problem: Fred Carter, Boston; Yet Another, New York; Once More, New York; Fred Engel, Brooklyn; R. W. Whymann, New York; May Win, Brooklyn; Theodore R. Huyler, Brooklyn; A. M. Wardmann, Brooklyn; Stephen McGrath, New York; Pretty, New York; C. O. Flensbury, Boston; Just in Time, New York; Take Me In, Brooklyn; How Easy, Boston; Correct You Are, Brooklyn; R. S. Walters, New York; O. N. Michaels, Brooklyn; R. M. Mauser, New York; W. Winter, New York; El. B. Maroni, New York; S. Stemler, New York; J. B. Manning, Philadelphia, Pa.; H. W. Barry, South Boston, Mass.

As there is a little trick in the problem, such as are often employed for problem-solving tournaments, THE SUN withholds the solution to-day in order to give the other regulars another chance. A. S. Richmond, Middletown, N. Y., will find that "our friend Barth is a Jonah, and not Jonahed."

A. B. Middlemass, New Britain, Conn., forwarded additional correct solutions to Nos. 537 and 538.

Edwin H. Baldwin, Hackensack, N. J., forwarded an additional correct solution to No. 537, as did F. Warwick, St. Paul, Minn., and J. Schroeder, Boisé, Ia., to No. 538.

CORRESPONDENCE.

R. Mitchell, New York.—The history of chess by cable and telegraph, as far as it concerns this country, may be briefly said to be the following: In the season 1889-90 a team match was arranged to be played between the Manhattan Chess Club of this city and the Chess, Checker, and Whist Club of New Orleans. It was arranged that the Manhattan team should make the journey South and that the match should be played over the boards in the clubhouse of the Crescent City. A couple of months prior to the date of play the clubhouse was destroyed by fire and the match was cancelled.

A reporter of THE SUN then proposed to Dr. Mintz, the then manager of the Manhattan Chess Club, that the match be played by telegraph. THE SUN made inquiries at a telegraph company. The latter said that they would make direct connections between the clubs. On learning Dr. Mintz at once sent a challenge to New Orleans for such a match, the challenge was accepted, the match was duly played, and the Manhattans won.

It was suggested to Dr. Mintz to play a match with some London club by cable, but the Doctor did not think the matter practicable. Some three years ago, however, the directors of the Manhattan Chess Club, on being approached on a similar subject, thought the matter over, and, after going into the details, agreed to play such a match. They challenged the British Chess Club of London, the challenge was accepted, and, although the match, owing to want of experience, did not end satisfactorily, it became evident that chess could be played by cable, provided that two days are fixed for such a contest. The year following the Brooklyn Chess Club challenged the British Chess Club to play a match on eight boards, under the condition that it should be a match between all America versus all Great Britain. The British Chess Club accepted the challenge, and, as everybody knows, the match was played. There was no hitch of any sort. This season the second match was played between these countries, and there is no doubt that henceforth chess by cable will be as easily arranged as chess by telegraph or telephone. It is simply a matter of more time and greater expenditure.

Rich. W. W., Brooklyn.—1. Q—Q 3, 2. R—Q. 3. B—B 2 seems the best continuation.

Slow Coach, New York.—Make all the possible moves for black and then try to mate for white, using all possible means to do it.

State Player, Syracuse.—Write to the Secretary, A. B. Hodges, Bay Shore, Long Island, for the data. The programme has not been published so far. As regards your other query, you are advised to write to a local paper, as Berger's book does not record a club at Syracuse.

Otto Rebers, New York.—P—Q R 6, if played by white, is corresponding to a 6, if played by black, to a 8; P—Q 4 stands for either d 4 or d 5, and so on. In the English notation each player counts the squares from 1 to 8. Hence black's Q R 8 is white's Q R 1.

Grover's Lil.—1. R—Q B 5, K—Q 3 ch; 2. R—K 5, P—B 4, and no mate.

Dr. W. C. Dalton, New York, writes as follows: "I send you a three-mover which has elicited high encomiums from two good solvers. It was intended for a tourney, but as I have concluded not to enter it, if you deem it worthy of publication, it is at your service."

BLACK—EIGHT PIECES.

K on Q 4; Q on K R 8; B on Q Kt 8; Ps on Q Kt 6, Q Kt 7, Q 2, K 4 and K B 6.

K on Q Kt 7; Q on Q R; Kts on Q R 3 and K 6; Bs on K B 7 and K B 8; Ps on Q B 5, K 2, and K Kt 3.

WHITE—NINE PIECES.

White to play and mate in three moves.

F. Warwick, St. Paul, Minn.—Kindly forward diagrammed positions of Zukendorf's vs. Jespersen's position and your queries shall be answered.

CHESS NOTES.

W. Steinitz, the referee of the Manhattan vs. Franklin Club match, which was played on Decoration Day, has adjudicated the game, as left unfinished by Hodges, a win for the latter, the score therefore being as follows: Manhattan, 6½; Franklin, 6½. As regards the Halpern vs. Elson game, the other unfinished in the contest, Steinitz has requested both three players to forward to him an analysis of the position, whereupon he will give his verdict. The stand of the match may be seen from the appended table:

MANHATTAN C. C.		FRANKLIN C. C.	
1. Schmidt	½	vs. Voigt	½
2. Delmar	1	vs. Robinson	0
3. Hodges	1	vs. Stewart	0
4. Jasnogrodsky	0	vs. Reichhelm	1
5. De Visser	1	vs. Fraser	0
6. Baird	0	vs. Morgan	1
7. Davidson	½	vs. Shipley	½
8. Hanham	½	vs. Newmann	½
9. Simonson	0	vs. Morgan	1
10. Vorrath	½	vs. Maguire	½
11. Isaacson	½	vs. Bampton	½
12. Halpern	1	vs. Elson	0
13. Lipschitz	1	vs. Young	0
14. Showalter	0	vs. Kemeny	1
Total	6½	Total	6½

Freaks in Pennsylvania.

From the Philadelphia Record.

The hen of a Tinicum farmer in Bucks county is hatching twelve eggs in a nest built in a cherry tree seventeen feet from the ground.

A cow on the farm of J. W. Dance, near Kelton, gave birth to a calf a few days ago that has only one eye and is entirely minus a tail.

August Miller, an Easton teamster, has a young chicken that has four well-developed legs and is as lively as any other fowl in his hennery. Its feathers grow toward its head.

Reuben D. Walter found a turtle on his Tinicum (Bucks county) farm with "W. S., 1822," carved on the back. The initials stand for William Spear, a boy in the employ of Mr. Walter's father in 1822.

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