AROUND THE WHIST TABLE

MUDDLE AMONG THE SCORES AT THE WOMAN'S WHIST CONGRESS.

The Conditions Governing Some Prizes Were Changed During the Matches—The Scoring Was Go-As-You-Please—A Dummy in the Championship Match—Leading Weak Suits.

The women's whist congress in Philadelphia, if it did nothing else, taught us one very valuable lesson, by emphasizing the absurdity and unfairness of the match system of scoring pairs, and it is to be hoped that we shall never hear of it again. Several men who are prominently identified with the movement to secure better methods of scoring pairs were present—Walter Barney, Warren Hawley, E. T. Baker, Mark Forest, and others. What they saw probably took their breath away, but they were powerless to change it. The only successful schemes tried seem to have been Howell's schedule for teams of four, which was used in the contest for the Toledo trophy, and his new system of scoring pairs, which was tried in the finals for the Brooklyn trophy. Both of these have the great virtue of being capable of proof, and the pair score should have a great future.

Of all the other scores kept at the congress not one could be proved. There was no press bureau, and no one had any authority to give out scores for publication as officially correct, so almost every paper had its own returns.

There were quite a number of valuable prizes offered for competition at the congress. In some instances, unfortunately, these prizes were accompanied by no deed or gift specifying the conditions under which they were to be played for, and great injustice was done to some persons by the committee taking upon itself to change the conditions of the match after the preliminary rounds had been decided. It is quite possible that the Washington trophy, representing the championship of the league, went to the team that won it, and it is known that the last round of the Toledo trophy was fairly decided; but it is very certain that no one knows, or ever will know, who actually won any of the other prizes at the congress.

In the first place, no one seems to have known upon what conditions the various matches were to be played, how the scores were to be kept, and what was to be done in case of ties. If the results of the preliminary rounds were not satisfactory to any individual, and that person had influence enough with the committee to get the methods of computing the scores changed, it was done, regardless of the rights of others.

Take the case of the mixed pairs, which was played in three sections. This match was started with the announcement and under the distinct understanding that the high scores N and S and E and W each evening should go into the finals. When this list was posted it did not suit Milton Work, who was left out, and he used all his influence with the committee to get the rule changed, so that instead of those who had made high scores going into the finals it should be those who had made the best averages on the preliminary rounds taken together. This would let him in, and, although it was a little late, he thought it worth while to try for the change, just as he persuaded his team to change the order of the rotary discard on the train on the way to the match in Boston. Then he wanted to play about fifty hands, but was finally induced to agree to thirty-two. It took so long to play these that some of the women absolutely had to leave before the match was over, in order to catch trains. Substitutes were proposed, but Work objected to them, as probably strong enough to beat him out, although there were only three hands to play. It was finally settled that Mrs. Andrews should take the place of the absent pair and play dummy for the remaining deals! Imagine a player who had nothing to do with the game coming into a contest for the championship of the United States and playing dummy! The prize finally went to Mrs. Reeves and Thomas Whelan, who are the mixed pair champions for 1898, Mrs. Hawley and Dr. Church being a close second. Who would have won the prizes if the original conditions had been insisted upon and no dummy had been introduced will never be known.

The Brooklyn trophy, which was one of the handsomest and most valuable prizes of the congress, being a solid silver Tiffany vase, presented by the Women's Whist Club of Brooklyn, was to be competed for by the women making the highest score at each of the sessions of the open pairs in the mornings. It was very properly objected that such a system might allow a pair to get into the finals by a lucky shot on one round, and might shut out pairs who had made high scores steadily all through. On account of the value and importance of the trophy, it was suggested that it would be much fairer to have those in the finals who had made the best average for the three days' play. In spite of the fact that the committee had just made such a change the night before to accommodate Milton Work, nothing on earth would induce them to do so in this case, and the original arrangements stood. Had the arrangement been changed, the pair that eventually won the trophy would not have been in the finals at all.

Of the contest for the Philadelphia trophy, which is supposed to represent the pair championship of the league, the less that is said the better. It was expected that exactly thirty-two pairs would enter, and a beautiful but unclastic schedule had been arranged by an English mathematician who knows nothing of the uncertainties of duplicate whist. When the thirty-two pairs did not show up the schedule would not work, and the contest seems to have been decided by the scorers according to some method known only to themselves.

In section 2 of the open pairs for women, in the morning of the second day, it was found that the positions of many of the tables had been changed, and most of them had been renumbered without properly erasing the old numbers. The consequence of this was that when players came to a table and filled out Formey's slips they put down the number they found on the table as that of their antagonists and handed it to the scorers. After the game had run along for some time the scorers began to notice astonishing gains and losses made by various pairs on certain hands, sometimes as much as eight or nine tricks being recorded. It was then found that the scores were being posted to players who had not played the hand at all. THE SUN would like to know how this was straightened out in the scoring room—if it was straightened out at all—and will be glad to publish the explanation, which would be extremely interesting to several hundred women who played the game of their lives and did not get anywhere near the finals.

The most extraordinary and unfair proceeding of all was the manner in which the averages were calculated for the match scores for pairs. Instead of taking the greater half as nearer the truth, and referring to the fractions only when necessary to decide ties, the fractions were taken as the exact average of the hand and all scores decided accordingly; not by fractions, however, but by matches won or lost. As an example, take deal No. 22, played at twenty-three tables. Only six tricks were made by every pair but one, and that pair made seven. The fractional value of that hand, therefore, is six and one twenty-third. This being more than six, every pair that made six tricks on that hand were charged with the loss of the whole match. The average the other way being six and twenty-two twenty-thirds, every pair that got seven tricks on it won a whole match. All this difference because one player among ninety-two lost a cold trick on a piano hand by mistaking a jack for a king!

Is this the way to decide championships? It has been repeatedly pointed out in these articles, in discussing this very important matter of scoring, that if the fractions are to be considered at all, they must be taken exactly and on every hand, and each pair must be credited with the fractions they win and with those they lose. This manifestly kills the element of a match score altogether, because the result must be a trick score, carried into fractions.

The committee failed to make the usual announcement that the revoke penalty must not be added to the score, but that the actual number of tricks taken must be put down, followed by the sign plus or minus it, to show that the revoke penalty was due or payable. This rule, first urged by THE SUN as the only fair way to settle revoke penalties in duplicate whist, has been adopted almost everywhere, and it is now the custom to give the players entitled to the revoke penalty no more than the maximum made on the hand played by pairs in the room. In one round of the women's pairs two revokes were made on one hand at one table, and the four tricks which were added to the score not only made every pair in the room holding those cards lose that match, but gave a clear match to every pair on the other side except the unfortunates who made the revoke, because it changed the value of the match four twenty-thirds of a trick.

Under this absurd system of scoring we find several pairs making high trick scores right along, but always behind in matches. Take the case of some of the Brooklyn and New York pairs. Mrs. Wade and Mrs. McConnell were reported to be six tricks ahead of the pair that made high score for matches one day, and made a uniformly good score every day, yet did not get any credit for it. Mrs. Walker and Miss Worth made very good scores, second one day and third another, but could not get the tricks to hit the right place for the match score. On the second day of the women's pairs Mrs. Irish and Mrs. Foster were high in trick score, but behind in matches.

We have had some absurd systems of deciding on the possession of trophies ourselves here in New York, especially in the contests for the Utica cup, but there never was, and probably never will be again, such a catch-as-catch-can style of wrestling for prizes as prevailed at the second congress of the Women's Whist League in Philadelphia.

LEADING WEAK SUITS.

Several correspondents have written to THE SUN criticising the opening of the second hand published April 24 in which A and B each held a suit headed by A, Q, J, 10, and neither of them lead it, preferring to open two-card suits, nine high. One of these correspondents sends to THE SUN a hand played at the Brooklyn Whist Club some time this winter, in which an exactly similar lead from a suit of two cards, nine high, in preference to a suit headed by A, Q, J, loses five tricks. Elwell and Taylor held Y—Z's cards, and played the defence to the short-suit attack, which probably accounts for most of the difference in tricks. Z dealt and turned the heart 9.

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

A—B make two tricks only.

Trick 2. It does not take Z long to infer that his partner has the ace of diamonds, for A would not have led the 9 if he held it, nor would B play the jack with the ace in his hand. Although he has no card of reëntry, Z must make an effort to protect the suit with his four trumps. A's play of the king is ill considered, for while it may be a good rule to play the king second in trumps, it is not a good rule to try to take the lead when you don't want it, and have just led a short suit to get rid of it.

Trick 3. The finesse against the jack on the return is in accordance with the general principle of refusing to win the second round of trumps unless you can win the third also.

Trick 4. Partner having returned the higher of two only, must hold the 3 of trumps, and the J 6 must be with B, so Z's play is to get his partner into the lead to come through the minor tenace in trumps again, which he accomplishes by taking advantage of the inferred position of the ace of diamonds.

Trick 7. The discard of clubs by A should have told B to keep his clubs and let go his spades. B's discards are evidently what tempt A to keep his club queen guarded.

Trick 10. The lead of the club 9 practically announces that Z's hand is dead, and that Y must take up the running for the rest of the tricks. A—B having discarded the 6, 7, 8, Z must hold the 3 and 2, so Y passes the 10 in order to avoid having to lead up to A's strength in spades. B jumps to the conclusion that his partner must have the A, Q of clubs, so he returns the suit, allowing Y to get a trick with the 5.

Here is the overplay which makes the difference of five tricks:

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

A—B get seven tricks, a gain of five.

Trick 4. Having been forced once, and being without any reëntry cards and the whole spade suit marked against him, Z cannot risk the trump lead, although it would be much better to do it now than at trick 6.

Trick 6. This is a very bad lead, and loses two tricks. Z knows nothing of the club suit, nor of the trumps, but certainly knows that the whole spade suit is established against him.

If this hand is carefully analyzed it will be found to contain five tricks for A—B, no matter which suit is opened, spades or diamonds. In the first place, when the short suit is opened in order to have the other suits led up to, A runs counter to his own plan of the hand by putting up the king of trumps. If A passes this trick, he will win the next, and having found his partner has nothing in diamonds, can lead either clubs or spades, which will make five tricks very easily. In the overplay given A—B get seven because Z gives them two tricks by his trump lead at trick 6. The fact that A—B make two only on the original is partly due to Taylor's taking prompt advantage of his opportunity to lead trumps, and is helped out by very bad discarding and worse placing of the cards by A—B.

OUR PROBLEMS.

Hearts are trumps, N is to lead, and with S for a partner to win all six tricks against the best defence of E and W.

CLUB NOTES.

On last Wednesday the Women's Whist Club of Brooklyn brought off a most successful compass game at the Germania Club, in which 120 women took part. The guests were from Bayonne and New Jersey chiefly, but included many of the women who had been in Philadelphia for the congress, among them being Mrs. Clarence Brown of Toledo, Mrs. S. Jenks of Chicago, Mrs. J. A. Inslee of St. Louis, Mrs. George Walls of Washington, Miss Cornell and Miss Thayer of Ithaca, and Mrs. Frank Pleasonton of Philadelphia.

The confusion and delay in arranging the players, and the errors and injustice in the scoring at the women's congress in Philadelphia had made such an impression on the Brooklyn women that they determined to profit by the lesson, and to see if they could not manage a big game without waiting for two hours after the appointed time to begin, and without having to publish scores which no one could either check or prove. Mrs. Horace G. Plimpton, Chairman of the Whist Committee, called up the services of two men who thoroughly understood organization, and were more willing to work than anxious to have their names published, and this is what they did:

They provided for the maximum attendance possible, duplicating the deals and arranging the tables in two sections, of which a diagram was made. White and pink slips, such as are used in card indexes, were used to distinguish N and S from E and W. On these were printed the section letter, the number of the table, and the point of the compass. Upon these slips the players themselves filled out their names and that of their club, after taking their seats at the table.

The game was to begin at 2:30, and at 2:25 the players were asked to take their partners and pass to a certain point, an assistant stationed there giving each pair one of the printed slips as they passed. Unless the partners were together no slips were given. The usher then took the players to their proper tables, at which they sat down and filled up the slips with their names. Eleven tables were completed in one section before touching the other, and then eleven tables in the second section were filled, after which a table was filled in each alternately, until all the players present were seated. This kept the two sections exactly balanced, and it took just six minutes to distribute the slips and get every woman in her place.

The ushers moved the boards from table to table before the players changed places. Each had charge of a certain number of tables, and as fast as the boards became vacant he also compared the scores, which were entered on the ordinary score sheets, so that any error was seen and corrected immediately. In the intervals the slips with the names and positions of the players were entered on a large sheet, and at the end of the game their scores were posted opposite their names, and the averages found and tabulated. It is hardly necessary to say that the game went off without a hitch or mistake of any kind. There was no hunting for seats, or getting at the wrong table, or waiting for a belated player whose seat was being held for her. All the scores proved, and everybody went away convinced that running a big game or any number of them together without delay, confusion, or error, was simply a question of management, and the women of Brooklyn are certainly to be congratulated on their success.

The A. W. L. trophy is back in Chicago, St. Paul having lost it to George P. Wells. W. L. Taylor, W. E. Trainer, and J. H. McIlwaine of the Chicago Whist Club, who won by three tricks in forty-eight deals.

The prediction has been made that there would be an influx of foreign titled individuals at Newport this season, such a flock as has not been seen there since Count Boin de Castellane was there. That was the summer that Count Bela Cziray drove a tandem, with Hungarian jingling harness, up and down Bellevue avenue, and Count Hadik gave cotillions. Some of those who returned yesterday from the resort report that it is simply bleak and dreadful just now, with no one in sight.

Among the somewhat unexpected arrivals from Europe last week were Mr. and Mrs. John R. Drexel and Fitzhugh Whitehouse. Mr. and Mrs. Drexel had been cruising in the Mediterranean on their yacht Sultana, and had intended summering abroad. They will now go to Newport. J. Neilson Howard, who was their guest on the Sultana, improved decidedly in health. His marriage to Miss Edith Rook, daughter of Mrs. Edward F. Rook, will be an event of the summer at Newport.

Despite the weather, the coach "Good Times" has made its daily runs between the Waldorf-Astoria and Woodmansten Inn, West Chester, well loaded with passengers. It seems that coaching has come to stay. The "Good Times" will make daily trips between Edgemere and Garden City, L. I., during July and August. In September again the trips from the hotel here to Woodmansten Inn will be resumed.

BANG THE CATHEDRAL CHIMES.

A Promise Made Long Ago by Bishop McCloskey to Peter J. McGoldrick of Albany.

In connection with the celebration of Archbishop Corrigan's episcopal jubilee a promise made long ago was fulfilled. The chime of nineteen bells that rang forth for the first time at St. Patrick's Cathedral last Wednesday morning was played by Peter J. McGoldrick of Albany. It seems that Mr. McGoldrick handled the first set of bells put in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception at Albany when Bishop McCloskey was head of that diocese. The two were very close friends, and when Bishop McCloskey became Cardinal he promised Mr. McGoldrick that if ever the Cathedral in New York was favored with a chime of bells, the privilege of being the first to play the chime should go to him.

Cardinal McCloskey died many years ago, but Archbishop Corrigan did not forget the fact that twenty-five years ago, when he was consecrated Bishop of Newark—the event which the people of New York have just commemorated—Mr. McGoldrick was also the chimer.

Mr. McGoldrick has a national reputation as a bell chimer. He has erected sets of chimes all over the country, including those of Grace Church and St. Thomas's Episcopal Church in this city, St. Ann's in Brooklyn, St. James's in Chicago, and St. Patrick's Cathedral in San Francisco.

WHAT SOCIETY IS DOING.

There have been two prevailing factors in the pervading dulness socially of late—the damp, chilly weather and the war scare. The impression is that these will have lost weight by June, and some festivities and weddings will assist in driving dull care away. Even about the Westchester section, where the residents usually contrive to hold their own, they are practically afraid to do anything. Two coaches were to have been run from the club to the Morris Park races. Even this is now doubtful, as every one says that any appearance of levity while battles may be going on must be avoided.

There will be a start made this week or next by such relatives of Miss Edith Stuyvesant Dresser and George Vanderbilt as intend to go over for the wedding of the couple on June 1. Miss Susan Le Roy Dresser is now in Paris. It is not now likely that either of the other sisters, Mrs. George Grenville Merrill or Mrs. John Nicholas Brown, will be present at the marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Brown gave up a plan they had to summer abroad some time ago and now intend to remain at Newport with Mr. Brown's mother, Mrs. John Carter Brown. Daniel Le Roy Dresser will go over to give his sister away. It is not yet decided how many Vanderbilts will be present at the first Vanderbilt wedding in three years. Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt, who have been doing Sicily and Italy thoroughly of late, will be on hand. It is said, in fact, that all the brothers of the bridegroom-elect will be present, and that at least two of his four sisters will go over. It is expected that George W. Vanderbilt will bring his bride over here not long after the marriage and will again occupy his Bar Harbor cottage. Mr. and Mrs. Ernesto G. Fabbri, the latter of whom is one of Mr. Vanderbilt's favorite nieces, have taken a cottage at Bar Harbor for the summer.

Duncan Elliot is now waiting in Philadelphia for an army commission, said to have been promised him while at Washington recently. If this does not come to hand, and he can do no better, he will join Barclay Warburton's Battery A.

Cards are just about to be issued for the wedding of Mrs. Cannon, widow of Henry Le Grand Cannon, and Theodore Frelinghuysen. It is to take place in the chantry of Grace Church at 3 o'clock in the afternoon of Thursday, June 2. There will be fully 125 bridal guests, that being about the number that can be comfortably accommodated in the little edifice. The reception afterward will be given at Mrs. Cannon's home at Fifth avenue and Twelfth street. There is still a lease of several years to run on this spacious dwelling, so artistically fitted by the late H. Le Grand Cannon. Mrs. Cannon, whose first marriage took place on June 9, 1891, in St. Thomas's Church, has three little children. Mr. Frelinghuysen, one of the best known society and club men of New York, is a son of the late Secretary Frelinghuysen. Mr. Frelinghuysen's first wife was Miss Coats. He has been a widower for ten years, and has one child, a son, and is a good twenty years the senior of his bride-elect.

Mrs. James Lounsbery was among those who arrived last week from Europe. Since she became a widow, a year or more ago, she has been in Paris, where she kept up a fine establishment of her own. Now she has gone, for a while, at least, to her country place, "Aspetony," at Bedford, N. Y.

Mrs. Adolf Ladenburg, who has been riding to hounds in England and Italy, is expected home immediately. Mrs. Ladenburg has rented her country place, "The Oasis," to Mr. and Mrs. Herman B. Duryea. Mr. and Mrs. Duryea have but recently returned from a trip of several months in California. They will be among the numerous young couples located at Newport during the gay season, having taken the cottage there of Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Chickering. Mrs. Duryea was a Miss Weld of Boston, and is very popular in Boston and New York society.

The wedding of Miss Katherine Duer and Clarence H. Mackay is one of the nearest in prospect. It will be celebrated at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. William A. Duer, on Tuesday, May 17. There will be fully 200 guests, and all the appointments of the affair will be as smart as possible. An orchestra of ten pieces will furnish the music, and an elaborate breakfast will be served. As Father Ducey will perform the ceremony the impression is general that Miss Duer has embraced the Roman Catholic faith of her future husband, as has been stated. This will not be an altogether new departure in the family. Already two of her relatives, of the Van Rensselaer family, have taken this step. One is a priest and the other a nun. The arrival, earlier than was expected, of Mrs. John W. Mackay, Principessa Colonna-Galatro, Countess Telfener, and the Misses Telfener, makes all in readiness for this wedding at the date set. The hurried departure from the other side of Mr. Mackay's immediate relatives was no doubt due to the river scene. The Misses Telfener, both pretty girls, are to assist as bridesmaids. Mrs. Mackay, before coming over, lived very quietly for a long time at the Hotel Domenici in Paris. Both she and the Princess Colonna-Galatro brought over many superb jewels and laces for Mr. Mackay's prospective bride.

Miss Sarah Duer and Miss Amy Duer, maiden aunts of Miss Katherine Duer, are still travelling in Europe, as they have been for several months. They had decided when last heard from to remain abroad all summer. Early in the autumn they will return for the wedding of their nephew, John Duer, son of George Xavier McLanahan of Washington, D. C. Miss Alice Duer is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Denning Duer of New Haven, Conn. Denning Duer is one of the three brothers of William A. Duer. He was once Consul-General at Rome. James Duer lives in Rome, and Edward Duer, the eldest brother, still resides at the old Duer place, Hawkhurst, in Weehawken. It is said that all the family will be well to do when the old Weehawken estate, which has been held for 250 years, is divided up and sold.

Mr. and Mrs. Ogden Mills and the latter's mother, Mrs. Maturin Livingston, were among the passengers on the steamship Teutonic when it sailed for England last Wednesday. Mr. and Mrs. Mills have made a practice of passing the season in London for a number of years. Mrs. Mills's mother, Mrs. Cavendish Bentinck, has occupied for some years one of the fine big establishments on Carlton House Terrace. She has there several American neighbors, including Lady William Beresford, formerly Mrs. Louis Hamersley, and Mrs. John W. Mackay. Mrs. Bentinck has not paid a visit to this side for quite a long time. Mr. and Mrs. Mills are expected to return for the Newport season.

INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORT.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES LIKELY TO BE HELD SOON.

Athletes of the Long Island League Ready for Their Annual Struggle on Track and Field Next Saturday—Objections to the System on Which the Baseball Schedule Is Arranged.

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Interscholastic Athletic Association has been called for this week. From one of the officers of the association it is learned that the purpose of the meeting is to make arrangements to hold the annual championship field and track meet the latter part of this month or the first week in June. For some months past various rumors have been current that this year the annual championship would not be held, but it now appears that at this late date it has been decided to live up to the custom of previous years.

On next Saturday afternoon the annual championship field meeting of the Long Island Interscholastic Athletic League will be held at Eastern Park. There are thirteen events on the programme, and over 175 entries have been received. Everything is propitious for a successful meet. The schools are represented by some of the best athletic talent hereabouts, and the different events should be keen and exciting. The outcome of the high jump is causing considerable speculation among the youngsters across the big bridge. It is expected that the struggle will narrow down to a duel between Kearnan of "Poly Prep" School and Serviss of the Brooklyn Latin School. All the events are well filled, and as the games will wind up the outdoor season of the association the boys will put forth their best efforts.

The two games already played in the local baseball championship series have demonstrated to the satisfaction of everybody concerned the fallacy of the present system under which the games are played. In the first game Berkeley School defeated Columbia Grammar School in a close game by the score of 5 to 4. De La Salle Institute had an easy time with Cutler School, winning by the score of 41 to 4. As the four teams are in the first section, both Cutler and Columbia Grammar School are out of the race, leaving Berkeley and De La Salle to fight it out for the championship of that section. Now one of them will have to lose, and the successful team will meet the winner of the second section for the championship of the association. One of the instructors at the De La Salle Institute, interested in athletics, says of the section system:

"While we are confident that our team is the best in the league and will make a strong bid for the championship, we are opposed to the way in which it is decided. By losing a single game a school forfeits all chances for the pennant. A good team is liable to lose on a fluke and is out of the race. According to the way things are run now weak teams do not receive a fair deal."

Now that the local athletic championships are close at hand, more than usual interest is being displayed among the students of the sixteen schools regarding the possible outcome. This year finds a new cup in the field, the last one having been won by Berkeley School. From present indications the struggle will be a most interesting one, with the chances of a dark horse looming up at the last moment.

Work on the new track of Pratt Institute is progressing rapidly. The track team is hard at work on the old track and steadily rounding into good form for the Long Island championships. The team on the whole will be much stronger than last year, and the youngsters comprising it are better and earlier developed. In the various events already decided the team has made a satisfactory showing, and Dr. Voorhees is confident of success. The baseball team is in a flourishing condition.

In both track athletics and baseball Erasmus Hall High School has thus far proved that it is worthy of membership in the Long Island Interscholastic League. The students display the keenest interest in the work of the athletic association. The result is that a track team has been organized that will make some of the other teams in the league hustle this season. The boys have excellent facilities for training, and they are making good use of their opportunities. The first field day was held last week, and all the members of the team did good work. The baseball team is strong. The tennis tournament to pick the team for the interscholastic championship was interrupted by the bad weather. The successful players in the doubles were Andrews and Harrison.

From the form shown by the Adelphi Academy boys in the recent dual games with the Brooklyn Latin School they should be heard from at the meet next Saturday. The youngsters have been in active training at their grounds for some time past and are in good trim for a hard battle.

The Brooklyn High School Athletic Association has organized strong track and baseball teams. The baseball team has thus far played five games, coming out with flying colors in each.

Lane, Chadwick and Allyn in the sprints and distance runs and Serviss in the broad and high jump and hurdles are about the only capable athletes at the Brooklyn Latin School this year. There is also plenty of good material which only needs developing. The baseball team has cancelled several games lately, owing to the illness of its battery.

BOWLING.

The Washingtons took part in two interesting games in the Harlem League tournament on Friday night at Thum & Kahlsdorf's Harlem alleys, losing to the Orientals by five pins, but defeating the Rollers by four points. The scores:

FIRST GAME.

Washington—J. Zenn, 180; Cohn, 154; S. Zenn, 167; Steinberg, 156; Shiman, 204. Total, 861.
Oriental—Cordes, 196; Bodine, 167; Schultz, 160; Stumpfel, 172; Starr, 173. Total, 868.

SECOND GAME.

Washington—J. Zenn, 177; Keller, 131; S. Zenn, 190; Steinberg, 156; Shiman, 150. Total, 804.
Roller—Hotaling, 140; Crowe, 146; Denlen, 159; Lehrbach, 184; Pump, 171. Total, 800.

THIRD GAME.

Oriental—Cordes, 171; Bodine, 247; Schultz, 199; Stumpfel, 172; Starr, 162. Total, 951.
Roller—Hotaling, 165; Crowe, 131; Denlen, 164; Lehrbach, 165; Pump, 193. Total, 818.

The first game in the Arcade tournament at Frerck's alleys on Friday night required eleven frames, the Rosedale No. 1 team winning on the roll-off by fifteen pins. All remaining three games were won by the Fidelia players. The scores:

FIRST GAME.

Rosedale No. 2—Tadman, 161; Bellmer, 148; Kessler, 208. Total, 517.
Fidelia—Foege, 200; Gerth, 151; Amann, 166. Total, 517.
Eleventh Frame—Rosedale No. 2, 47; Fidelia, 32.

SECOND GAME.

Rosedale No. 2—Tadman, 169; Bellmer, 174; Kessler, 157. Total, 500.
Fidelia—Foege, 165; Gerth, 150; Amann, 195. Total, 510.

THIRD GAME.

Rosedale No. 2—Tadman, 197; Bellmer, 154; Kessler, 156. Total, 507.
Fidelia—Foege, 194; Paulson, 206; Amann, 203. Total, 603.

FOURTH GAME.

Rosedale No. 2—Tadman, 155; Bellmer, 161; Kessler, 204. Total, 520.
Fidelia—Foege, 183; Paulson, 200; Amann, 181. Total, 564.

The List of Referees.

The following is a list of the referees appointed in cases in the Supreme Court last week:

By Justice Bischoff. Cases.	Referees.
Germania Life Insur. Co. vs. Broadbelt, two cases	Vernon M. Davis.
Matter of Darrow	Thomas F. Donnelly.
Kingsbridge Savings Bank vs. Matthews	Daniel C. Briggs.
U. S. Fire Ins. Co. vs. Robinson	Louis B. Hasbrouck.
Kempner vs. Fine, two cases	Joseph McElroy.
Ledgard vs. Robinson	Max Altmayer.
Van Sicklen vs. Russell	Charles L. Guy.
Hassey vs. Schultz	Samuel Beardsley.
Byrd vs. Jacobs	Francis B. Delahanty.
Mulligan vs. Sieferd	John A. Straley.
Mann vs. Saward	Hy. P. McGown.
Defendorf vs. Defendorf	Edward Jacobs.
Caffrey vs. Mason	Joseph McElroy.
Brandon vs. McMongal	Louis F. Doyle.
Gen. Trust Co. vs. Von Gauther	A. S. Hammersley.
Brown vs. Cutting	John A. Straley.
Matter of 170th st	M. C. Milmor.
Kingsland vs. Gill	Louis B. Hasbrouck.
Matter of Kasemeyer	William H. Heaton.

By Justice Pryor.	
Hays vs. Hays	Clarence W. Francis.
Millar vs. Jones	J. Cuthbert Palmer.
Daves vs. Haywood	Silas B. Brownell.
Menke vs. Goldmark, two cases	Samson Lachman.
Matter of Seller	Norman T. M. Mellis.
Matter of Roberts	Porte V. Ransom.
Wood vs. Steiner	Obed H. Sanderson.
Coutts vs. Cutter	S. L. H. Ward.
Sage vs. Carpenter	Sauel. S. Paul.
Rutherford vs. Wallach	Donald McLean.
Littau vs. Sigl	Wm. H. Ricketts.
Knoll vs. Guygols	Thomas C. Kinney.

By Justice Chase.	
Kertscher vs. Jacobs	Joshua M. Fiero.

By Justice Russell.	
Fruit Auction Co. vs. Lawless	David Murray.

By Justice Cohen.	
Buchanan vs. Schmidt	Julius H. Seymour.

By Justice Scott.	
Matter of Maurer	James M. Ward.

By Justice Gildersleeve.	
Robinson vs. Loewenberg	Arthur Smith.

OUR CHESS CORNER.

PROBLEM NO. 642—BY V. CIGAR.

BLACK—SIX PIECES.

K on Q B 8; R on Q B 8; Kts on K B 4 and K Kt 5; B on Q R 5; P on Q B 4.

K on Q R 7; Q on K B 4; R on Q 5; Kts on Q B 8 and K 6; Ps on Q R 5 and Q Kt 2.

WHITE—SEVEN PIECES.

White to play and mate in three moves.

PROBLEM NO. 643—MOTTO, "PAR EXCELLENCE."

BLACK—EIGHT PIECES.

K on K B 4; Kts on Q R 6 and K R 7; B on K R 5; Ps on Q B 4, Q B 5, K B 3 and K Kt 4.

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

WHITE—NINE PIECES.

White to play and mate in two moves.

Problem No. 642 is by a Russian composer, and is copied from the Russian chess magazine *Schachmatny*. Problem No. 643 is from our first international problem tournament. Last week a problem, under the motto of "Long range guns," came to hand, which was registered as No. 39.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM NO. 640.

1. Q—R3, Kt—B5; 2. BxKt ch, K—K3; 3. Q—Q5, mate.
1. Q—R5, Kt—K5; 2. BxKt ch, KxB; 3. Q—Q5, mate.
1. Q—B5, Kt x P; 2. B—B3 ch, K—K3; 3. Q—Q5, mate
1. Q—B5, same Kt elsewhere; 2. B—K4 or x Kt, and mate accordingly.
1. Q—B5, Kt—K6; 2. Q—Q4 ch, KxQ; 3. B—B6, mate.
1. Q—B5, Kt—K2; 2. Q—Q6 ch, KxQ; 3. B—B4, mate.
1. Q—B5, Kt—K2; 2. Q—Q6 ch, K—Q3; 3. Q—B6, mate.
1. Q—B5, Kt—K2; 2. Q—Q6 ch, K—B5; 3. Q—B6, mate.
1. Q—B5, Kt—K6; 2. Q—Q4 ch, K—B4; 3. Q—B6, mate.
1. Q—B5, Kt—K6; 2. Q—Q4 ch, K—Q3; 3. Q—B6, mate
1. Q—B5, same Kt elsewhere; 2. B—B4 ch, and mate accordingly.
1. Q—B5, R—K8; 2. B x B ch, KxB; 3. Q—Q5, mate.
1. Q—B5, R—B8; 2. B x B ch, K—K3; 3. Q—Q5, mate.
1. Q—B5, B elsewhere; 2. B moves and mate accordingly.
1. Q—R5, P—B5; 2. B moves and mate accordingly.
1. Q—B5, P—Kt6; 2. B moves and mate accordingly.

SOLUTION TO NO. 641.

1. Q—Kt5, R x P ch; 2. Kt x R, mate.
1. Q—Kt5, R—K4; 2. Q x R, mate.
1. Q—Kt5, R—K3; 2. Q—K5, mate.
1. Q—Kt5, R—K2; 2. R x R, mate.
1. Q—Kt5, R—K1; 2. R x R, mate.
1. Q—Kt5, R—Q3; 2. Q—Kt, mate.
1. Q—Kt5, R—B3; 2. Q—Kt, mate.
1. Q—Kt5, R—Kt3; 2. R—Kt5, mate.
1. Q—Kt5, R x B; 2. R—B4, mate.
1. Q—Kt5, R—Kt6; 2. R—B4, mate.
1. Q—Kt5, R—Kt4; 2. R—B4, mate.
1. Q—Kt5, R—Kt3; 2. R—B4, mate.
1. Q—Kt5, R—Kt2; 2. R—B4, mate.
1. Q—Kt5, R—Kt1; 2. R—B4, mate.
1. Q—Kt5, R—B5; 2. R x R, mate.
1. Q—Kt5, R—B4; 2. R x R, mate.
1. Q—Kt5, R—B3; 2. R x R, mate.
1. Q—Kt5, R—B2; 2. R x R, mate.
1. Q—Kt5, R—B1; 2. R x R, mate.
1. Q—Kt5, R—Q5; 2. R—B3, mate.
1. Q—Kt5, Kt—B4; 2. Q x Kt, mate.
1. Q—Kt5, Kt—Kt5; 2. Q—K5, mate.
1. Q—Kt5, Kt—B2; 2. Q—B5, mate.
1. Q—Kt5, Kt—Kt; 2. Q—B5, mate.
1. Q—Kt5, P—B7; 2. Q—Kt2, mate.

Correct solutions to 640 were received from Theodore R. Huyler, Brooklyn; M. S., Brooklyn; R. M. Mauser, New York; Just in Time, New York; Fred Carter, Boston; Yet Another, New York; H. W. Meyer, New York; Elek Emil, New York; Grover's Lil, Danbury, Conn.; H. W. Barry, South Boston, Mass.; W. H. Ellery, Brooklyn; C. B. Coultaus, Brooklyn; J. Roberts, New York; Charles Kennell, Brooklyn; R. Monrad, Chicago.

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