

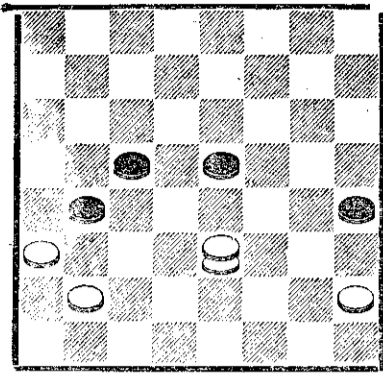
DRAUGHTS.

(Conducted by F. Hutchins.)

PROBLEM 8.

A STUDY FOR THE AMATEUR.

Black 13, 16, 18, 19.



White 5, 8, 12. King 14.
White to move and win.

The above is the end of a game played between Mr Adcock and his son. Master Adcock manipulated the pieces with consummate skill and forced his dad to retire.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM 7.

Black 3, 5, 12. King on 25.
White 13, 17, 30. King on 1.

25, 21, 17, 14, 21, 17, 14, 10, 17, 14, 10, 6, 12, 16, 20, 11, 3, 7, 11, 2, 14, 9, and black wins.

SAFE LIMIT OF BRAIN CAPACITY.

In a leading New York paper we find the following: "Mental activity, instead of being an exhaustive process tending to shorten life, is in the highest degree conducive to longevity. Second, a consensus of opinion among the leading scientists of Great Britain shows the best way to keep the brain in good condition is to use it to the safe limit of its capacity."

The following is another trap for the amateur to avoid in the Paisley opening. It is generally credited to Leggett and Powell, but there is reason to believe it was known to the players over 100 years ago.

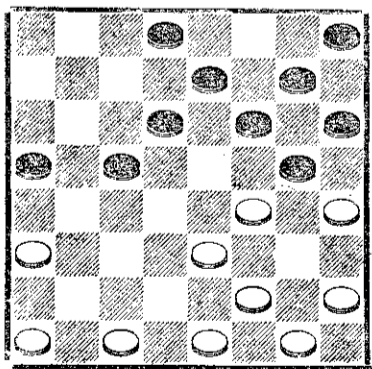
11.15 10.14 11.16 7.10 5.14 6.15
24.19 25.22 28.24 26.22 19.15 22.17
8.11 16.20 4.8 9.15 10.26 White
22.18 30.25 22.17 18.9 17.10 wins.

(a) 3.7 here and black gets an even game by 19.15, 10.26, 17.3, 26.30, 18.14, 9.19, 22.15, 6.10, 15.6, 1.10 drawn.

(b) 16.19, 25.22, 19.28, 15.10, 6.15, 31.26. W. wins.

Draughts is both entertaining and instructive, giving both mental exercise and mental recreation, which is as important a factor as physical exercise and recreation in the development of the whole man.

BLACK, 2, 4, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16,



WHITE—19, 20, 21, 23, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32.

The above is an end game played in the recent championship tourney between Beck (black), and Hilliker (white). Hilliker played 23.18 and won after sacrificing a man.

The Invercargill Draughts Club meets in the Athenaeum smoke room every Wednesday and Saturday evenings. Visitors are always welcome.

Entries for the winter tournament close on Wednesday, May 12. The handicappers intend to give every encouragement to the younger and weaker players by liberal handicaps. This should induce a record entry.

It would take 120 years, without sleep or meals, to read through all the books on Napoleon now in the British Museum.

R. S. A.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION BY SOUTHLAND'S M. S. P.

The following is published for general information:—

Dear sir,—In accordance with the suggestion by the Southland Members of Parliament to the deputation of returned soldiers who waited on them recently, we now forward you, a list of reforms which our Association, as well as the New Zealand Returned Soldiers' Association, is endeavouring to get carried into immediate effect.

We shall be glad if you will inform the deputation which intends to wait upon you on the 12th inst., whether you approve of these reforms and to what extent you are prepared to support them.—Yours etc.,

SECRETARY.

REPATRIATION AND LAND.

1.—To raise the business allowance from £500 to £500.

2.—To transfer the whole matter of dwellings and building sections for returned soldiers from the Land Boards to the Repatriation Boards.

3.—To have a single Minister for repatriation.

4.—To place the administration of all soldiers financial assistance matters in the hands of the Repatriation Department.

5.—To make soldiers' financial assistance allowances in respect of rent, interest, insurance premiums, etc., payable as of right and irrespective of hardships.

6.—To make soldiers' financial assistance allowances retrospective to August 1914.

7.—To open up large estates for soldier settlement, beginning with largest estate of say a value of £100,000 and over and proceeding in order of magnitude until the demand is satisfied by compulsory acquisition at a price to be determined by a special board, composed of one representative of the Government, two of the N.Z.R.S.A., and three of the farming community.

8.—To increase the loan to settlers for building a home (now £250), as follows, single man £250, man and wife £400, for each child £50 extra.

9.—To prohibit the sale of rural land of the value of over £7500, unless an option to purchase be first given to the Land's Purchase Boards.

10.—To issue instructions to Land Boards to discontinue the present practice of advancing less than the Board's valuer's valuation of farms being purchased by returned soldiers.

11.—To remit all stamp duties on sales of land to returned soldiers (this to be retrospective).

12.—To exempt returned soldiers from land tax to the full extent of their mortgages.

13.—To reduce valuation fees for soldiers' dwellings and building sections to 10s 6d.

14.—To abolish the loading of 10 per cent. on properties purchased by the Government for soldiers' settlement, thus handing these properties to the soldiers at actual cost, plus expenses actually incurred.

15.—To allow the rebate of 1/2 per cent. for punctual payment of instalments, thus giving the soldier the same advantages as the mortgagee to the Government State Advances Office.

16.—To instruct Land Boards to supply each soldier applicant with a written copy of the valuation made by the Government valuer.

17.—That when necessary to assist soldiers with limited capital, the first year's rent on improved lands, and the first three years' rent on unimproved lands be capitalised.

18.—That a representative of the Returned Soldiers' Association be appointed to each Land Board.

19.—That the Government make immediate arrangements to have ample money available for the purchase of land and dwellings by returned soldiers.

PAY, MEDICAL AND PENSIONS.

20.—To support the proposed plus scheme of pension as follows:—That the schedule of pensions for specific injuries of the War Pensions Act, 1917, No. 16, be increased by the addition of plus percentages up to 150 per cent (that is £3 per week), supplementary pension and attendant's allowance to be over and above such rates.

21.—The Pension Act at present in force provides for pension for total disability suffered by the incapacitated man is of two kinds: A.—Physical, viz., suffering and general inconvenience. B.—Economic, viz., the disability which is due to loss of earning power or inability

to follow a chosen career.

Let us now take some typical cases to illustrate the necessity for assessing a with two children was before the war in an assured position earning £11 per week. At the war he lost his right arm, was badly smashed up and is slowly dying as a result. The utmost that the State can provide is a pension of £6 per week for family. This amount is the equivalent of about £4 at the pre-war cost of living. In this case in addition to dying as a result of his injuries the soldier's income has been reduced by 60 per cent., and the State says it cannot do more.

Cases of this kind might be cited indefinitely. The crudity of the present system of pensions arises from the following facts:—

A.—Any given injury is assumed by the law as it stands to have resulted in identical "disability." As has been shown, the real disability depends very largely on the occupation of the individual.

B.—Each individual pensioner is assumed to have some particular (but unspecified) earning capacity at some average (but unspecified) occupation, and his pension is adjusted accordingly.

To some extent vocational training provides alternative employment for incapacitated men but this is effective in most cases to only a very limited extent in restoring pre-war earning power, and in cases of real total disability does not apply to all. It is obvious that the departments of pensions and repatriation are both dealing inadequately and inequitably with the economic disability in nearly every case. The true responsibility of the State is thus ostensibly dealt with by two departments, but is fully discharged by neither.

The first essential of an efficient scheme of pension administration is that the functions of the two departments, which will deal with physical and economical disability respectively should be clearly defined.

The Pensions' Department should confine itself to the physical disability purely and a schedule of pensions for particular injuries would be largely applicable. Its work would then become much more simple, and the assessment would be relatively automatic. The Repatriation Department should have exclusive and exhaustive control of the economic factor in every case. Vocational, functional, and general educational training should be included under its administration.

In some cases a disabled soldier would be drawing a pension in respect to physical disability only, in others possible economic disability only, but in many cases in respect to both.

22.—To grant pensions to returned soldiers' wives, proportionate to those granted to soldiers.

23.—To forbid any medical officer or board, examining an applicant for a soldier's pension or renewal of same, to ask any question as to what salary the applicant is receiving.

24.—To establish a Pensions' Appeal Board.

25.—To make the increase of officers' pay retrospective to August, 1914.

26.—To make pensions to widowed mothers retrospective to date of son's death, and not as now from application.

27.—To make venereal disease compulsorily notifiable.

28.—To grant every soldier suffering from tuberculosis, treatment in a sanatorium until his health is satisfactory.

29.—To exempt soldiers' pensions from income tax.

30.—To make all allowances payable to soldiers or their dependants without the necessity of application being made.

31.—To place the Defence Department in the same position as all other Government Departments as regards the payment of the War Expenses Department of superannuation premium of members on Active Service.

32.—To make Defence Department bonuses applicable to members on Active Service abroad as well as to those remaining in N.Z.

33.—To have Anzac Day declared a statutory holiday.

FURNITURE.

To those in search of Quality and Value, Inspect our Stock and get our Quotations. We carry the Largest Stocks in Invercargill, all of Our Own Manufacture. . .

W. STRANG & CO.,

THE LOCAL FURNITURE FIRM,

ESK & KELVIN STREETS, INVERCARGILL.

WEDDING BELLS.

"Parkside," the picturesque residence of Mr and Mrs Donald McLaren, at Eastern Bush, was the scene of an unusually pleasant gathering on Wednesday, April 28, when their youngest daughter, Margaret, was united in matrimony to Mr John G. McIntosh, son of Mr R. McIntosh, of Orawia.

The relatives of both contracting parties are well-known and highly respected throughout the Waiau district. The bride had lived with her parents at "Parkside" from early childhood until her marriage. The bridegroom, who is also a native of the Western District, enlisted with the 23rd Reinforcements, and spent nearly 2½ years in the army. After suffering from a severe attack of pneumonia, he returned home.

The popularity of the young couple was evidenced by the distance travelled by some of the guests in order to be present. In spite of the rather dull day, Winton, Invercargill, Riverton, Otautau, Tuatapere, and Mangapiri sent representatives to add to the crowd of local people.

The bride, who was given away by her father, looked daintily pretty in a lovely gown of white merv silk trimmed with embroidery and tassels. Besides the veil and orange blossoms she wore a beautiful brooch and bangle, set with large amethysts. The latter were with a substantial cheque, the gift of the bride's father.

The bridesmaid was Miss Muriel Moir, of Riverton, who looked charming in a dress of white Jap. silk, made pinafore style, and worn with a white lace blouse, and stylish hat of white silk. Both carried bouquets of white chrysanthemums and ferns.

The bridegroom was attended by Mr D. S. McLaren, brother of the bride, as best man.

The bride and her attendants were motored from the house to the carpeted steps of the large woolshed, where the ceremony was performed in an impressive manner by the Rev. A. McDonald, of Otautau. After the showers of rice and confetti had subsided, the happy couple received the congratulations and good wishes of their friends. About 200 guests gathered around the tables, where an elaborate wedding-breakfast was set out and much enjoyed by all. The woolshed was tastefully decorated with garlands of ivy and white chrysanthemums.

Mr McDonald in a humorous speech, spoke of the helpful influence of woman on man's life. Said the speaker: "She acts as a spur to push him on to higher spheres of usefulness, when he is inclined to take things too easy." Continuing his address, he spoke of the high regard in which the parents of both parties are held, adding that they, with the other pioneers of the Waiau, had helped to make the Western District what it is to-day, and that if the young couple followed in the footsteps of their parents, they would be useful citizens of the district, the country, and the Empire. He had rarely married a couple with such a promising future before them. He concluded his address by proposing the health of "The Young Couple," which was responded to by Mr J. McIntosh.

The following toasts were also honoured: "The Bridesmaid," "The Bride's Parents," "The Bridegroom's Parents," and "The Waiau Pioneers."

Mr McDonald then read a shaft of telegrams from absent friends conveying hearty wishes for success and happiness to Mr and Mrs J. G. McIntosh.

A splendid array of costly and useful presents was exhibited in the drawing-room. Among them several large cheques were seen.

The bridegroom's present to the bride was a handsome suit-case, and to the bridesmaid a pretty wristlet watch. The bride's present to the groom was a gold-mounted fountain pen.

After a pleasant afternoon, which was

enlivened by music provided by members of the Western District Pipe Band, whose gay uniforms gave added colour to an already gay scene, the guests were entertained at a sumptuous tea, before they adjourned to the local hall, where a most enjoyable dance was held. About 50 couples took part in the Grand March, which was led off by the bride and groom. Capital march music was provided by the Pipe Band, while for the majority of the dances splendid music was rendered by Mr Henderson (violin), and Mrs Green (piano). Mr J. Scott made a very capable M.C. Songs were sung at intervals during the evening, and added to the enjoyment. The pleasant gathering was brought to a close by the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."

The happy couple left by motor car for Queenstown, where the honeymoon is to be spent. Later they will return to make their home at Orawia. The bride's travelling dress was a smart brown gaberdine tailor-made costume, with becoming brown tagel hat to match.

PASSING NOTES.

EXTRACT FROM PAGE 6

(By "Jacques.")

Like John Gilpin's wife, the South Invercargill Council is frugal even in its pleasures. At its last meeting the matter of welcoming the Prince was under consideration, when one reckless, devil-may-care spendthrift proposed that the Borough should do it in style, to the extent of Twenty-five Pounds. There was a howl of horror at such criminal extravagance (a Councillor explaining almost tearfully that one ward was a proper subject for Charitable Aid, while the others hadn't enough to pay tram fares to work) and the proposed amount was promptly and enthusiastically reduced to Fifteen Pounds, including a banner. "I don't know what a 'banner' would cost in these profiteering days, but it is safe to assume that after it is paid for, and the cost of brooding a suitable inscription, such as: 'Welcome (fifteen quids' worth of it) to our noble Prince,' is met, there won't be much left for fireworks. As one of the Councillors observed: 'he did not know much about these things, but somehow fifteen pounds has a funny look.' So by the way, has the South Invercargill Council at times. It was this same body that, on a former occasion, when invited to join a national prayer of thanksgiving, or something of that sort, said, in effect, that it had not thought much about it, and did not care a d— which way it went, but they were prepared to back up the main borough in whatever action it took. There's casualness for you! Reminds me of a Methodist Conference held some years ago in Sydney, at which, after sundry other motions had been disposed of, one gentleman moved: 'That a prayer be offered to the Almighty.' Fortunately the motion was carried but if it had been negatived —!

ANECDOTE OF WASHINGTON.

Captain Stephen Trowbridge, once the oldest male inhabitant of Milford, N.H., told the following incident of Washington's visit to that village in 1790. While the latter was walking about the town, attended by a number of his officers, a coloured soldier, who lost a limb in his service, made his way up to the general and saluted him. Washington turned to this coloured soldier, shook hands with him, and gave him a present of a silver dollar. One of the attendants objected to the civilities thus shown by the President of the United States to such a humble person; but Washington rebuked him sharply, asking if he should permit this coloured man to excel him in politeness.