

Nevertheless it tends to crumble, and bad bounces are fairly common.

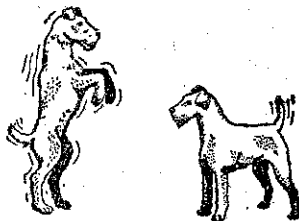
The essential difference between the Australian and the New Zealand game is their skill at doubles. The whole game is played at a greater speed. Even comparatively mediocre players cultivate fast services and smashes and storm the net at every opportunity. They miss some shots both hard and easy, but never an easy smash, and by the sheer persistence and speed of their boring in they win many points. This was very evident in the International Doubles Match, in which Crawford and McGrath beat Perry and Hughes 6-1, 6-2, 7-5. With beautifully placed and fiercely offensive services the Australians stormed the net. Crawford was magnificent in this match. Overhead he missed nothing, and in manner reminiscent of Geoff Ollivier at his best, finished rally after rally with all four players at the net by acutely-angled volleys or smashes straight down the centre of the court. His stroking in the singles in which he beat Perry 6-0, 6-4, was perfection itself.

MR. W. H. CARSON (4YA)

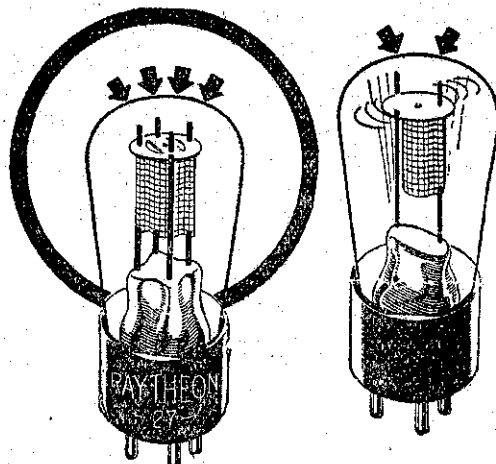
The name of Oscar Slater has been prominently before the public for more than 25 years. It will be remembered that as long ago as 1909 he was tried for the murder of Marion Gilchrist, an elderly lady who resided in West Princess Street, Glasgow. The Crown's case against Slater was based almost entirely upon evidence of identity. I have previously mentioned that such evidence is not to be relied upon, except when supported by other facts. A consideration of Slater's case amply supports this statement. This case is noteworthy also for the fact that the accused man was arrested on what was subsequently admitted to be an entirely wrong clue. In spite of this circumstance and many other weak links in the chain of evidence, Slater was convicted upon a majority verdict. Five jurors were in favour of a verdict of "Not Proven," nine declared the prisoner to be guilty, and one solitary jurymen was of the opinion that the verdict should be one of "Not Guilty."

Slater was sentenced to death, but afterwards reprieved and sent to Peterhead Goal. Practically from the time of his conviction there were agitations against what was openly stated to be a miscarriage of justice. An official inquiry held in 1914, five years after the trial, served only to deepen the mystery. In 1927, after serving 19 years in Peterhead, Slater was released. He immediately appealed against the sentence and his conviction was quashed. Strangely enough, however, his appeal was upheld upon the ground that the judge at the original trial had misdirected the jury, and not because the Appeal Court considered that the evidence upon Slater was convicted failed to establish that he had committed the murder. Finally, Slater received a pardon and a Government grant of £6,000. These are the brief facts of the famous Slater case. The case for the prosecution depended almost entirely upon the evidence of witnesses who swore as to the identity of the accused man. This evidence referred to two separate sets of circumstances: Firstly, occasions upon which a man, supposed to be Slater, was observed watching the house in which Miss Gilchrist lived and wherein she was murdered, and, secondly, evidence concerning the man, identified as Slater, who was seen running from the direction of Miss Gilchrist's house upon the evening when she met her death.

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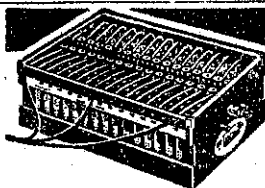
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