

A CHANGE IN SELECTORS.

The Family Influence in School Cricket.

H. D. G. LEVESON-GOWER (Chairman), J. W. H. T. Douglas, and A. W. Carr will be the cricket selectors this season, and will nominate the teams for the trials. These have a bearing on the visit to South Africa at the end of the season. Those who wonder why there should be a change when P. F. Warner, Percy Perrin, and A. E. R. Gilligan found a winning team on the post last year, will derive consolation from the fact that Douglas and Carr have knowledge of Australian cricket—from personal contact. And Australia is the land the cricket public has in eye.

THE MUZZLE.

THE Hon. F. S. G. Calthorpe is the selectors' "fourth man," and the sub-committee has power to co-opt two professionals—one from the North and one from the South.

This year there is a Press ban on selectors and players. But after the experiences of recent years it will not be surprising if the ban again is just a decision, as distinct from a fact. Last year it was a joke.

In 1928 it is proposed to play three trials:—

- England v. The Rest.
- England v. West Indies.
- Players v. West Indies.

All will be played before June 23. This programme is pleasing. We hope the trial match has come to stay.

LIKE FATHER—

THAT there is something in heredity in cricket is proved by the number of sons, brothers, and nephews of famous cricketers who have been attending the public school-boy practices at Lord's and the Oval. One of the most promising is Walter Brearley's son, a well-set-up boy who possesses the same easy action as his father, and sends down a good-paced ball with plenty of spin on it.

Among the very young boys, L. Hall, of Lancing, impressed everyone at the Oval with his possibilities as a bowler. He is only 14 years of age, but can spin the ball both ways, and even now his wily slows require careful watching.

AND OTHERS.

AS an all-rounder much is expected of R. W. Skene this term. He headed the Sedburgh batting and bowling averages last year and took part in the first Surrey trial match at the week-end.

M. C. Bird's nephew is a promising batsman, as is A. W. Carr's nephew, while E. M. Dawson's brother and H. C. Pilkington's son are other talented youngsters.

The Hon. J. H. Yarde-Buller, of Eton, was about the fastest bowler at either ground, and as he is only 17 he has plenty of time in which to develop.

WHAT SURREY NEED.

EXCEPT that the Oval authorities think they have at last discovered a young wicketkeeper who may prove a worthy successor to Strudwick, Surrey's prospects are much the same as last year.

The same amateurs and professionals will be available, with E. R. T. Holmes assisting after he has finished captaining Oxford.

The most likely of the young bowlers

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AROUND the WORLD'S PLAYGROUNDS

is Lock, who has filled out considerably in the past twelve months, and can really spin the ball. His present weakness is that he is apt to bowl too short.

THIRTY YEARS WICKET KEEPER.

PAT GILMARTIN, one of the oldest cricketers in the Lancashire League, has decided to retire after more than 30 years' service. During that time he has acted as wicket-keeper with credit to himself and to his club.

On one occasion he played for Warwickshire, where his brother was on the ground staff. Vogler, the South African, who has played first-class cricket in three countries, declared before leaving Lancashire that, with the exception of Halliwell, the South African, Gilmartin was easily the best keeper he had seen.

Gilmartin's average covering one period when Rishon were making a bid for the championship of the League worked out as high as 34 wickets per season.

NOVEL, BUT DOOMED.

WHEN Reece came forth in the first heat of the championship against Inman with a thousand break for that tourney, by means of a "corner" in cannons, the authorities were content to wait and see how far the freak would develop in his force.

The challenge round of the championship in which Davis has given himself a chance of winning the title by this means, was decisive by a narrow measure of the need for banning the stroke, or at least making it restrictive. Davis has created a record for the competition by aggregating a sequence of 2,500 points.



T. Hoce.

This is merely the numerical significance in this which beat all records, until Reece came along with a prodigious run of 3,964, eclipsing the only other legitimate break outstanding—W. Peall's spot stroke run of 3,504.

CHAMPIONSHIP BEST.

THE fact remains that the championship best must be credited to Davis, as it has been made according to the rules in existence under standard conditions.

In this way he made the first four-figure break of his career.

Apart from the action which the authorities will take, the stroke was doomed to failure, as something that bore the spectator stiff after the novelty has worn away.

How to deal with it is something of a problem remembering the ordinary top-of-the-table game, which can easily be affected by amending the cannon sequence rule.

For this position the stipulation which would be a way out is a ball-cushion-ball cannon instead of a cushion-ball-ball-cannon.

THREE BIG CLUB EVENTS.

FOR the first time in history London and Southern club cricketers will this season have a representative match with Colonial cricketers.

On the Ealing Club's ground on June 2 and 3, the New Zealand team, captained by T. C. Lowry, will meet a carefully selected representative side of club amateurs in a two-day match.

In addition to this attractive game the club players will also play the M.C.C. at Lord's on May 25 and the United Hospitals on the Great Western Railway ground at Castlebar Park, Ealing, on July 6.

The eleven chosen do well it is the intention to try and arrange representative fixtures with the Australians and South Africans to visit England in the future.

SEARCHING FOR BOWLERS.

IN the arrangements and selection of the club teams to meet the New Zealanders, such notable personalities in London cricket as T. G. Grented, W. H. Long, G. W. Hammond, E. C. Kirk, C. E. Honeyball, E. C. Thomson, C. P. Coode, R. M. Denning, R. W. Thorpe, and S. J. Croft are taking a prominent part, so the strongest

A CANDID COMMENTARY:

Conducted by Felix.

possible club side is certain to be chosen for each match.

There is a doubt about the bowlers, so the form of C. Capes, A. Matthews, W. Hazelton, W. Gray, W. Hands, C. Burgess, and H. Faircloth will be carefully watched in the early matches.

The last-named, who assists J. Lyons and Co.'s team, is one of the best cricketers in London. Last season against the strongest club sides he scored 1,238 runs and captured 89 wickets, his batting average being 48.07 and bowling figures 14.8.

THOSE FOUR PLACES.

MUCH has been written about the candidates for the four remaining places in the Cambridge cricket team, and probably the best chance of a Blue belongs to T. C. Longfield (Aldenharn and Pembroke).

Longfield is an excellent and stylish bat, but it is an account of his bowling that he should gain his place.

Only two of the seven old Blues are regular bowlers, so that some new material must be found in that direction, and a man who can bat as well should have the best chance of inclusion.

The Old Aldenharnian bowls right arm medium pace, and has met with considerable success in the Kent second eleven matches.

CAMBRIDGE LACK BOWLERS.

IT is quite evident Cambridge will be hard put to it to find the necessary bowlers for this season.

Of the eleven Blues who remain only R. G. H. Lowe and L. G. Irvine are bowlers, and of these the latter is just recovering from a broken leg, and will not play before the end of May at the earliest, and even that is by no means certain.

Most of the other Blues, E. W. Dawson, F. J. Seabrook, K. S. Duleepshinji, R. W. V. Babins, and M. J. Turnbull can bowl a little, and from the form which was shown in the seniors match it would appear that the Blues are as good as any of the others.

The side should be capable of getting any amount of runs, but that is not much good if they cannot get the other side out.

CHALLENGE TO SENIORS.

Cricket Outlook at Oxford.

E. R. T. Holmes (Malvern and Surrey) leads the Oxford side this season, and will be able to command the services of the following members of last year's side.

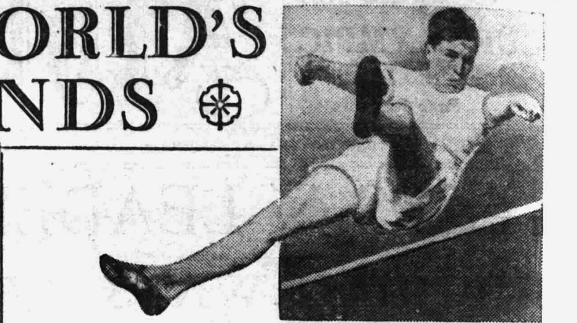
J. A. Nunn (see), J. W. Greenstock, G. E. B. Abell, G. C. Newman, N. A. McCallis, and W. N. McBride, as well as G. W. F. Lyon, of the 1925 eleven.

It is very doubtful if they will all keep their places, as there are so many good cricketers both among the Seniors and the Freshmen.

Among the former the best-known are L. R. Serrurier (South Africa), E. Snell (Winchester), Lord Hyde (Eton), R. E. C. Butterworth (Harrow), T. B. G. Welch (Malvern), J. A. de Silva (Ceylon), P. G. Nash (St. Paul's), and G. O. M. Taylor (Monkton Combe), the latter last year's Derby captain. Any one of these is good enough to oust an old Blue.

WANTED: A KEEPER.

A WICKET-KEEPER has to be found, and R. S. Machin was favoured for the position but he will have to develop a greater consistency if he wishes for the distinction. There were times in this match when



WELL OVER: J. D. S. PENDLEBURY, the Cambridge University high jump champion.

he was very ordinary, and other times when he was quite good, but the sounder all-round performance was given by K. D. Gibson, who looks like living up to the reputation he made for himself at Rossall, although he fell off somewhat last season.

It is to be hoped that the Freshmen will prove themselves good enough to make these seniors take things a little more seriously than they appear to do.

LEIGH BENEFICIAIRE.

FEW of the Rugby League forwards have had such a great career as Joe Cartwright, of Leigh, who takes a well-deserved benefit on Wednesday evening at Leigh when the Leigh team play a team of internationals and county players got together by Mr. R. Gale, the Lancashire County centre.

OXFORD'S CRICKET COACH.

FORMERLY of Tottenham Hotspur and now of Fulham, Charles Walters, the centre half-back, is cricket coach to Oxford University this season.

J. T. Heams and J. T. Fowler are at present bowling at the nets, but soon Harrow School will play in the county matches the other.

When the summer term expires Walters will assist Oxfordshire in the Minor Counties Championship.

MR. STEEN RETIRES.

MR. TOM STEEN, hon. treasurer of the Scottish Football Association, has tendered his resignation as a director of Ayr United.

In September last the Ayr club decided that Mr. Steen had ceased to be a director on the grounds of non-attendance at a board meeting. The matter was taken before the Court of Session in Edinburgh, and Lord Moncrieff decided that Mr. Steen was still a director of the club.

The letter of resignation will come before the Ayr United board this evening. Mr. Steen was one of the trio of directors who retire by rotation at the forthcoming annual meeting.

TRAVEL TELLS.

IT is interesting to note, in view of the recent controversy, that the Cambridge University Association team which toured on the Continent, won three out of their five matches, which is a fair record for a touring side.

The two matches which were lost were those which were played on days following a previous match, and after a long railway journey.

The Cambridge University Rugby team, which toured in France at the same time, won all of their matches.

TITLE FOR PERKINS.

THE English amateur close championship goes to T. P. Perkins, of the Castle Bromwich club, Birmingham, who defeated another representative of the Midlands, J. B. Beldard (St. Staffs) by two and one over the Little Aston course on Saturday.

It was a distinct feather in the cap of Perkins, who was figuring in his first national event against a man who once beat Cyril Tolley in the British Amateur championship.

To-night Doncaster Rovers play Derby County at Doncaster in a friendly match, the proceeds being for the benefit of W. "Beardman," outside-left, who has played for the Rovers for five seasons.

RULES FOR TOURISTS.

Rugby Teams Tired of Functions.

THE short list of warnings issued by the New South Wales Union to the members who will be chosen for the Rugby tour of Great Britain next season are not, so experience has proved, so frivolous and unnecessary as they may sound.

A man who applies for a place in the side will automatically agree to complete the full tour, to attend all official functions, to keep a silent tongue, and his pen in his pocket so far as communications to the newspapers are concerned.

He is not to expect his wife or any other present or prospective relative to accompany him.

Members of a touring side as a rule get tired to death of set functions, and the kindest thing that clubs and county organisations who entertain them can do is to make the ceremonial side as brief as possible.

HUMOURS OF TRANSIT.

THE Maoris who were here last winter appreciated more than anything else on the tour the plan adopted by the Somerset Union when they were at Weston-super-Mare.

The tourists were invited to attend private houses in small batches, and the homely entertainment appealed to them more than any elaborate feasting.

British teams on tour have sometimes arrived at a town after an all-night train journey about six o'clock in the morning and found waiting on the platform the Mayor or some other local dignitary prepared to deliver an address of welcome.

Response was once made by a captain who had only had time to shave one side of his face after a hasty scramble out of his bunk, while the proceedings were listened to by several members of the party still comfortably encosed in their beds.

THAT REFERENCE.

THE intimation that the Rugby team to go out from England at the end of June to play seven or eight matches in the Argentine will be accompanied by an official referee, has aroused a lot of interest.

It will probably lead to the South African Rugby man wondering whether there is anything more in the announcement than lies behind the surface. This, in view of certain discussions during the British tour of that country three years ago.

ARTISAN GOLFERS.

THE selection of the Cheshire County golf team has often given rise to controversy, and it is rather unfortunate that on the occasion of the County Championship meeting at Little Aston the reigning champion of the county, W. Sutton, of the West Cheshire Artisans' Club, was not invited to play, though he was asked to "stand by" as first reserve.

It may be said that with T. F. Ellison and J. E. Hassall (both ex-internationals), I. Sidebottom, who has played an important part in many Cheshire Championships and who is very experienced both in the Amateur and Open Championships, and G. B. Farrer, who was the surprise of the Cheshire team in the corresponding tournament at Formby last year, available there was no room for Sutton, but the omission of a player who has been mentioned as a possible for England this year has given rise to an uncomfortable feeling that artisan golfers are not welcome in the higher walks of the game.