

Woman's Sports

LAWN TENNIS TOURNAMENT.

THE seventh annual tournament of the Canadian Lawn Tennis Association for the championships of Canada was concluded on Saturday on the beautiful courts of the Queen's Royal Hotel, and in no way could it have been a more complete success. There were a greater number of entries than at any of the tournaments held here during the past few years. The weather from Tuesday up to Saturday evening was literally perfect, and the tennis, from the preliminary rounds to the exciting finals, was of the highest possible order. Among those who entered for the open singles were W. A. Boyd, of Barrie, one of Canada's crack players; E. W. Fisher, Middle States and Middle Double champion; Arthur Hawes, of Boston; J. P. Paret, M. D. Whitman, E. Rapelyea, R. H. Carlton, D. J. Davis, R. P. Davis, J. G. Lay, W. A. Bethel, B. C. Rumsey, C. M. Pope, F. G. Anderson, A. C. McMaster, R. V. Beach, J. T. Walker, R. H. Carlton, of Harvard; B. Wright, of Boston; C. A. Voight, of New York; Scott Griffin, of Toronto; A. N. Macdonald, H. H. Syer, Royal Military College, Kingston, and R. D. Wrenn, ex-champion of the United States. Among the ladies who entered were Miss St. John and Mrs. Barrett, of St. Catharines; Miss Bessie Moore, United States champion, and her sister Miss May Moore, Miss Juliette Atkinson, ex-champion of the United States; Miss Kathleen Atkinson, and Mrs. Sidney Smith, of Ottawa, who won the Canadian championship from Miss Osborne (now Mrs. Eustace Smith) last year. With two champions and three ex-champions on the courts, putting aside the names of many of the others who have distinguished themselves at the net, the spectators who assembled in hundreds every day to watch the games rightly looked for some of the best tennis ever witnessed at a tournament in this country. In the preliminary on Tuesday, Bethel, of West Point, who plays a good strong game, beat Lay rather easily in two straight sets. Whitman, of Harvard, another young player rapidly climbing to the top of the ladder, had little trouble in disposing of Rumsey, of Buffalo, in two sets, 6-1, 6-1. Fisher defeated Davis, of West Point, in one of the most exciting games of the day, 6-4, 6-4. Pope and Anderson played a close set that was watched with interest, resulting in a victory for Anderson, 6-1, 8-6. Another of the most exciting matches of Tuesday was that between D. F. Davis and Arthur Hawes, the latter winning two sets to one. A. E. Wright beat Voight, 6-3, 6-3, and Paret beat A. McMaster, 7-5, 6-1.

On Wednesday the best games of the day were those between Fisher and Bethel, and Paret and Wrenn. In the first, Bethel played such a strong game that, although Fisher finally won, at one period of the game the West Point man stood a splendid chance of coming out victor. At the start few doubted what the end would be, but as the game proceeded Bethel seemed very much the dark horse. Both played splendidly and won round after round of applause. The match between Scott Griffin and R. V. Beach was another good one. There was some remarkably good play on both sides of the net, but what the onlookers enjoyed most was the fun that went with the game. Here and there on the courts could be found the sober kind of player, who seemed too much

in earnest to spare time for a smile or an unnecessary word. A pleasant contrast to those were Mr. Griffin and Mr. Beach. Scarcely a ball went over the net that a witty say and a return retort did not go with it, and the laughter of the spectators did not in the least disconcert these two social favourites. The match went finally to Beach, 6-4, 6-3.

In the match between Paret and Wrenn the constant applause of the spectators showed their appreciation of good play. Paret was at his best and played pluckily against the ex-champion, but he stood no chance at all against Wrenn's wonderfully strong game, the latter winning two sets, 6-1, 6-2.

On Thursday the play during the morning and afternoon was positively brilliant. Irving Wright, of Boston, a little chap of twelve, was one of the greatest surprises of the tournament. He was scarcely double the height of his racquet, and yet his quick judgment, his strength of arm, and the cool, quiet way he played, won the hearts and prolonged applause of the spectators. He defeated Davis, of St. Louis, after rather a lengthy struggle. The game of the day, however, was between Wrenn and Whitman. From all over the terrace the spectators crowded to No. 1 court, and the excitement and enthusiasm ran high. Whitman played marvellously well. His long arm seemed to reach all over the court, and no ball seemed to be too far away for him to get. Wrenn was too much for him, however, and won both sets, after a match which aroused as much interest and as great applause as any during the whole tournament. Beals Wright, another small chap of fifteen or sixteen, also played a really splendid game, and is counted upon for a crack player in the tournaments of the next year or two. In his match with Beach he won 4-6, 6-1, 6-3.

Aside from the cup-holder, Mrs. Sidney Smith, the only Canadian ladies playing were Miss St. John and Mrs. Barrett. Both were defeated in the singles on Thursday afternoon, Miss St. John losing to Miss Moore, and Mrs. Barrett to Miss Kathleen Atkinson.

On Friday, as the finals drew nearer, the crowd of spectators increased, and every event was watched with the keenest interest. The only grievance the onlookers had was that so many splendid matches were going at the same time and at different ends of the ground. There were six or seven courts, and on each one a match was being played which everyone present wanted to see, and it was obviously impossible to be everywhere at once, consequently one-half of the crowd had to miss one-half of the matches. The match between Fisher and Wrenn on Saturday outclassed anything of the week. The play on both sides was magnificent, but Wrenn's wonderfully accurate eye, his keen judgment in placing his balls in the exact spot most difficult for his opponent to reach, and the utter absence of nervousness went far towards his victory. On the other hand, Fisher, who in all his other matches had kept his head well, lost nerve in the finals, and although taking it altogether, he played a wonderfully strong game, sometimes equalling Wrenn, occasionally even outplaying him in all-round play, he smashed his balls into the net, or sent them outside so frequently that the result of the match was anticipated before it was finished.

The mixed doubles were intensely exciting also. Mrs. Sidney Smith and Whitman played against Fisher and Miss Atkinson. It was a wonderfully strong match on all sides, Mrs. Smith finally losing to the American cracks.

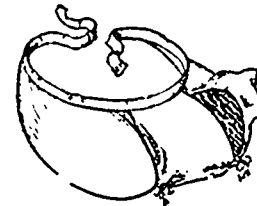
In the match between Miss Bessie Moore and Miss Atkinson better tennis has never been seen. Both played a game that few men could equal. Miss Moore has wonderful strength, and smashes from the net in a perfectly amazing way. Her judgment is good, and her eye almost as accurate as Wrenn's, but Miss Atkinson, who held the championship of the United States last year and lost it to Miss Moore, again won back her laurels, defeating Miss Moore three sets to two. She serves a very strong ball, and her returns are so swift and placed so well that her opponent requires the alertness of two to prove equal to the emergency. In the finals for the championships on Saturday the excitement of the week culminated. Wrenn and Fisher on one court, and Mrs. Sidney Smith and Miss Atkinson on the next, fought long and well for the coveted cups. The terrace was crowded with fashionable enthusiasts, and for an hour and a half the results hung in the balance. Mrs. Smith played bravely against her strong little American opponent, but was evidently not up to her usual form, and lost. In the other match Wrenn came out victorious, all four receiving constant applause and encouragement from the spectators. Miss Atkinson is small, and as light as a feather on her feet, and yet she manages to smash her balls with the strength of a Samson. The men's doubles were won by Fisher and Whitman, who in the finals defeated Bethel and Davis 8-6, 6-4, 6-3. The mixed doubles fell to Miss Atkinson and Fisher against Paret and Miss Moore, 6-4, 6-2, 6-4. Wrenn, with over 30, defeated Davis, of West Point, in the handicap.

The prizes were presented at the ball on Saturday evening, when speeches were made by the secretary of the L. T. A., Mr. Scott Griffin, Mr. Houston, and Professor Goldwin Smith. Mr. Griffin and Mr. Houston, who managed the tournament in such an able way, may justly be proud and pleased at the complete success which crowned their efforts.

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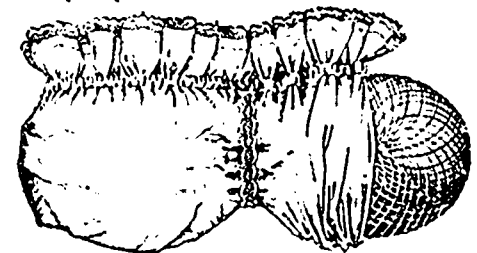


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