
NOTICE

The consensus of opinion of the 170 Ramblers who took the field on one or more occasions was that they—and their opponents—had enjoyed their Cricket and the various amenities connected with it, and that they had acquitted themselves with reasonable distinction. This is as it should be, and I agree with their judgment. For the first time for many years, probably ever, all the 54 Matches on the Card were played. Curiously enough the results, as shown in the statistics circulated herewith, are almost identical with those of 1958, the wettest season on record: which may indicate that Rambler technique is unaffected by the state of the wicket! Our successes are greatly indebted to the all-round support of J. C. L. Jenkinson and W. K. Hedley, the former taking 50 wickets in addition to fielding brilliantly and making nearly 600 runs, and the latter contributing—in addition to a considerable amount of conversation—901 runs in 25 innings, the highest aggregate for many years. The holder of the record assures me that he will be delighted to yield his title to any Rambler who can make 1046 in a season. R. V. C. Robins (18) defeated I. R. Lomax (11) in the “most wides” competition, but both rendered very valuable services.

It would be of benefit to all if a more even distribution of our Matches could be arranged. Some week-ends are very overcrowded, thereby adding considerably to the labours of the Managers. There is scope and demand for more matches in September, a pleasant month when plenty of players are available. Will Managers, to whom as always we owe so much, try and help, please?

Complaints of Rambler unpunctuality have been received from our Match Managers, and from opponents. This is in most cases inexcusable. It is the duty of every Rambler, if only in courtesy to his opponents, to make every effort to be present on the ground, changed, and ready to take the field at the hour scheduled for the start of play. I hope that 1960 will show a great improvement.

It is noteworthy and, from the point of view of the Club Records, extremely annoying that the *Eton College Chronicle* did not trouble to provide adequate reports of our Fourth of June Matches, which are of interest to Ramblers all over the world.

It has been suggested that The Ramblers might hold a Ball, or Dance, either in connection with or in addition to the Centenary Dinner which is due to take place in 1962. As holders of balls it is to be hoped that they would prove more successful in the ball-room than on the Cricket field! It is also suggested that the Club might have another Dinner this Autumn. This could be in the nature of a big “get-together,” without bread rolls, whose primary function appeared to have been misappreciated by some of the 240 present at the 1957 Dinner, or formal speeches. The Hon. Secretary would be pleased to receive the views of members on these suggestions.

I am aware that the "Colours" situation is not satisfactory, and that attempts to standardise what was thought to be a correct version of our beautiful, though difficult, "Colours" has not been entirely successful. The Blazer situation, however, should be easier and Eton tradesmen should soon be able to supply one at a cost of about £15, with the Club buttons extra. The Hon. Secretary is still very glad to receive any unwanted "Colours" of any sort from veteran Ramblers.

Our new Hon. Treasurer, T. G. Denne, is shaping well and is always happy to receive further Donations and Annual Contributions, which are most helpful. He hopes to build up a fund to pay for the expensive publication of our next Book of Members.

I had not intended further publicity for the Norman clan but cannot refrain from congratulating them on their lightning response to my exhortation—in my 1958 Notice—to provide another representative in the Eton XI where, despite the unique Family record, they had lacked representation since 1891. May he carry on the Family tradition.

Amongst other casualties we regret the loss of the Earl of Halifax, more distinguished in fields other than Cricket, who was elected a Rambler late in life "honoris causa" and by reason of the great support that he and his sons provided from Garrowby Hall in the early days of our Yorkshire Week. P. R. Johnson (XI 1897 and Cambridge 1901, mainly as a fast bowler), an effortless stylist who could make run-getting appear very easy. For Somerset he scored 12000 runs in first-class Cricket and toured the Antipodes with P. F. Warner 1902/3. A century for the old Etonians against the old Harrovians at Lords in 1914 will always be remembered by the few who saw it. H. T. H. Foley, a loyal Rambler and lovable character, will be greatly missed by his many friends. He made a lot of runs including the dominant portion of a remarkable last-wicket stand (with Sir John Dixon) of 119 in a Cheshire Week in the Thirties. Though nearly 6 ft. 6 in. he was a very useful wicket-keeper, but did not favour bowlers who "kept low."

In conclusion very many thanks to our hard-working Hon. Secretary, G. E. C. Pease, who is, I expect, like all good Secretaries more accustomed to kicks than half-pence.

FLOREAT ETONA

G. H. M. CARTWRIGHT,
President.