



**AUTUMN MEETING AT HOYLAKÉ:** Perfect playing conditions marked the two-day Autumn meeting of the Royal Liverpool Club, Hoylake. Charles Timmis, on the opening day, equalled the competition record for the course with a fine 71. This return decided the tie on the first day between himself and C. H. Harvie, the latter taking the Hall Blyth Gold Medal with a 75. The memento for the second scratch score on the second day was won by J. A. Graham, his 72 being the lowest return with which the Stewart Govane Cup has ever been won. The photograph shows Harvie putting on the Cap Green. He holed this very missable putt.

## Pavilion Parade

By E. W. SWANTON

SINCE the appointment of J. P. Mann to five offices at Eton this Half was mentioned here last week, the *Eton College Chronicle* has referred to the fact. It congratulates him on a record.

### Cross Arrows and the Nursery.

In all the talk about the possibility of the Harlequins playing football in Lord's Nursery, little consideration has been given to the Cross Arrows Cricket Club which plays there until the end of September. But M.C.C. itself is not likely to forget the Cross Arrows, whose captain is Mr. "Ronnie" Aird, the Assistant Secretary.

The Cross Arrows' programme in September fulfils the valuable function of giving match-practice to the junior members of the staff, who get little opportunity nowadays to play in M.C.C. out-matches. In the season the only match-playing these boys get is on Sundays with the side known as "The Nippers."

Nobody can become a cricketer in a net, and it is most important that the opportunities of the ground staff should not be restricted. That is why Middlesex have done well to decide (not without considerable discussion on the grounds of expense) that they will continue to compete in the Minor Counties' Championship.

### The Harlequin Rumour.

As for the issue of the Harlequin rumour, no more may profitably be said at the moment. If M.C.C. do receive overtures (it must be remembered that the "news" was revealed as prematurely as could be), they will examine the possibilities with all sympathy. But there are many practical snags, not the least of which is that the

Nursery would have to be drained—at a cost of, perhaps, £2,000.

It is true, I believe, that the first suggestion came from within M.C.C. There is a meeting of the committee on Tuesday next.

### A Sigh for "The Morning Post."

The sad eclipse of *The Morning Post* will be a particular blow to followers of cricket and Rugby football, the reports of which steered a course between *The Times* austerity and the extravagance of the "populists."

For one could turn from a technical report on the greater matches to the most delightful and amusing essays, devoted, maybe, to an occasion which papers whose space was more valuable could not afford to cover.

The author of many of these unsigned accounts was Mr. Kenneth Rankin, and, if I may say so, I trust his powers continue to receive their proper outlet. A few years ago in *Punch*, Mr. Rankin did justice most brilliantly to a perfect subject for parody: "Mr. B\*rn\*rd D\*rw\*n wins the open"—by the Golf Correspondent of *The Times*.

He has also been a successful assistant collaborator in collected works, notably Captain H. B. T. Wakelam's book, "The Game Goes On," and Peter Lawless's new book, "The Golfer's Companion."

### The Schools Begin Soccer.

The soccer schools have all begun their season—except for Winchester, who play Winchester football all this term. The fact that Winchester come into action only at the tail end of the school's season is unfortunate in a way, for of late years they may almost be said to have led the field

as regards quality of play. Perhaps it would be impracticable to make a change round, as Harrow did when they reverted to rugby.

However, though one could look down the list almost in vain to find victories by the schools against the clubs last week-end for instance, there was not often much in the margin, and I imagine the various old boys who oppose them tend to be stronger now than the Corinthian "A" side, which was the congenial back-water patronised by many good but unambitious players.

Repton inherits seven colours, which might mean an exceptional season, and there is the prospect of good sides at Bradford, Charterhouse and Shrewsbury.

### Are Coventry the Best Side?

Coventry's big win over Leicester rather confirms the impression that they are the strongest team in the country just at the moment. Not, mind you, that Leicester are the power they were, or anything approaching it. Tom Crumbie's days are far away.

Still, Coventry have that magnificent pack, which manages to combine weight, and the willingness to use it, with speed and combination in the open. The backs are not great players, but there are some opportunists

among them, and behind such a rampart they are in clover. The lapse at Weston-super-Mare I am inclined to overlook.

As regards the London clubs, it is early yet to catechise or to praise. London Welsh are clearly full of merit, and I would not be surprised to see the Harlequins becoming a really formidable side. Like Coventry, their foundation lies at forward.



**CAPTAIN OF THE CROSS ARROWS:** Mr. R. Aird, who is the captain of the Cross Arrows C.C. and assistant secretary of M.C.C., is concerned in the suggestion that the Harlequins in future play on the Lord's Nursery.