



# SPORTS and PASTIMES

A Weekly Review

## IPSWICH TENNIS

### Junior Men's Singles a Marathon.

(By "Smash.")

It is not a new thing for Davis Cup singles matches to last several hours, but it certainly is a rare experience for Ipswich lower grade contests to last so long. In the final of the junior men's singles championship on Saturday, the Byrne brothers (Peter and Frank), made history by taking nearly two hours to play one set. They began their match at 2.55 p.m. and finished the set at 4.40 p.m. Both players kept the ball in play for interminable periods in the decision of a single point, and neither seemed to be able to outmanoeuvre the other. Such a display of determination and persistence has not been seen here for a long time. Noticing the length of the rallies, two onlookers took the trouble to count the number of times the ball crossed the net. In one game of seven points, the ball was hit 482 times. One point took 134 strokes, another 103 strokes, and another 82 strokes. Some of the games prior to this, when the players were fresher, were even more protracted. Peter took the first set at 6-4; but his brother turned the tables on him in the second at 7-5. Frank led 5-2, but Peter brought the score to 5-all, only to lose the next two games. The match will be completed next Saturday. Byrnes Bros. show plenty of promise, and next year should see them playing in a higher grade. Both are models of consistency, and have an almost uncanny knack of retrieving balls from all sorts of angles and positions. They are not fast players, but are difficult to pass.

In the final of the C-grade men's doubles, K. Laimmer and V. Datioff defeated V. Cassidy and J. Lawrence, but only after 35 games had been played. There was very little between them, the final scores being, 7-5, 6-8, 7-6. By a strange coincidence, the semi-final of the C-grade ladies' singles championship was another family affair, in which the participants were May and Thelma Fielda. May won 3-6, 5-3, and then went on to win the final from E. Gibson at 6-3, 7-5.

An interesting position arose in the Pennant, A-1, and A-2 ladies' doubles handicap. The event was not completed on the first day, and when the remaining match was played last Saturday, it was found that two couples had tied with 20 games. The contest therefore will have to be finalised next Saturday, when Miss

contest therefore will have to be finalised next Saturday, when Miss V. Williams and Mrs. H. Brown meet Mrs. E. Gennon and Miss V. Fielda.

The B, C, and D mixed doubles handicap was won by Miss Meta Fitzpatrick and L. Cribb. Details—Mrs. Hall and R. Wilkinson v. Miss Fanton and L. Shanks, 4-6; Miss Meta Fitzpatrick and L. Cribb v. E. Wray and Miss Merna Fitzpatrick, 6-3; Shanks and Miss Fanton v. Wray and Miss Fitzpatrick, 3-6; Wilkinson and Mrs. Hall v. Cribb and Miss Fitzpatrick, 1-6; Shanks and Miss Fanton v. Cribb and Miss Fitzpatrick, 2-6; Wilkinson and Mrs. Hall v. Wray and Miss Fitzpatrick, 5-6.

F. Beale won the Pennant, A-1, and A-2 singles handicap.

Nominations for the Summer fixtures will close on October 17. Officials are anxious to make the 1939-40 season the most successful on record, and would appreciate solid support. Players not already associated with clubs who would like to be placed, should get in touch with the Association Secretary (Mr. E. Ridge-way).

