BILLIARDS PERSONALITIES IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Michael Joseph Hanley

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A brief collection of the Billiards & Snooker life of M. J. Hanley

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State Snooker Championships

	Winner	Runner-up
1925	M.J. Hanley	A.V. Thomas
1929	M.J. Hanley	A.H. Hearnden
1930	M.J. Hanley	H. Pfiel
1931	M.J. Hanley	F.K. Stevens
1932	M.J. Hanley	H. Johnson

State Billiards Championships – Runner up 1931

1924 Amateur Snooker Title

News Fri 11 Jul 1924 Page 8

AMATEUR SNOOKER CHAMPIONSHIP. The South Australian Amateur Snooker championship is an innovation, but nominations show that it is appreciated by enthusiasts. The first game will be played at the Palace Billard Hall on Wednesday, July 23, between A. V. Thomas and Ross Sawers. The draw is:-Byes, P. Hutton and A. H. Hearnden: July 23, A. V. Thomas v. Ross Sawers: July 24, E. H. Hinds v. M. Hanley: July 28. P. Hutton v. winner of Thomas and Sawers: July 29, A. H. Hearnden winner of Hinds and Hanley; July 30, final. It is difficult to predict the winner, but I favor Hanley's chances. These games should prove interesting.

Note the scores are given as total points

The Register Thu 24 Jul 1924 Page 3



BILLIARDS

Amateur Association Social

Mr. S. J. Jacobs (president of the South Australian Amateur Billiard Association), supported by Mr. C. R. J. Glover (Lord Mayor), presided at the association's smoke social and distribution of prizes at the Napoleon Hotel.

In the course of his remarks, Mr. Jacobs stated that during the year the State billiard championship had been contested. W. H. Buchanan had succeeded in defeating E. H. Hindes in the final game. The snooker championship was won by J. Hanley, with A. V. Thomas runner-up.

An open handicap tournament (in two divisions) had also been conducted, and had the effect of stimulating enthusiasm among members. The first division was won by J. F. Downer with R. Wicksteed runner-up. The prize for the highest break was captured by G. F. Steinthal (74). F. Uren and A. A. Cox were first and second in the second division.

The Australian championship was held in Sydney. W. H. Buchanan represented this State, and he acquitted himself with credit. E. Eccles, the Victorian champion, proved the winner.

The Advertiser Tue 30 Jul 1929 Page 23

AMATEUR SNOOKER CHAMPIONSHIP
Three heats of the State Amateur Snooker
Championship were contested at the
Palace Billiards Halls last night, when
Buchanan defeated Washington, Hanley
defeated Dennis, and Hearnden defeated
Deckert. The best break of the night
was 35, made by Dennis. Scores:—W.
Buchanan (44, 51, 50—145) d. R. Washington(50, 56, 32—138); M. J. Hanley (71, 70,
37—178) d. C. Dennis (41, 30, 57—128); A.
H. Hearnden (70, 72, 88—230) d. D. Deckert
(21, 34, 11—66). The games for to-night
are:—J. A. Morgan v. J. Dawe, F. K. Stevens
v. J. Pfeil.

The Advertiser Wed 31 Jul 1929 Page 19

AMATEUR SNOOKER CHAMPION-SHIP The second series of games in the South Australian amateur snocker championship was played last night at the Palace Billiard Hall. The players were J. A. Morgan v. J. G Dawe, and W. H. Buchanan v. F. Baum. F. K. Stevens, who was indisposed, was scheduled to play W. Picil. but this game was postponed until tonight. The snooker championship has been revived this year after a lapse of four The last occasion it was played was 1925, when M. J. Hanley won the title. Both games last night were interesting. and some excellent winning hazards were made, especially by Buchanan, who won 157 to 100. Score -- Morgan, 65, 49, and 79-193; Dawe, 43, 58, and 22-127 Buchanan, 49. 58, and 50-157, Baum, 38, 41, and 21-100 Best breaks—Morgan, 21; Buchanan, 27

The Advertiser Thu 1 Aug 1929 Page 6

AMATEUR SNOOKER CHAMPION-

The third round of the South Australian amateur snooker championship was piayed last night at the Palace Billiard Hall, when F. K. Stevens played W. Pfeil, and A. H. Hearnden opposed A. J. Morgan Both Stevens and Hearnden won comfortably, which places them in the first and second semi-finals respectively. Scores:—Stevens, 107, 79, and 95—281; Pfeil, 30, 33, and 19—82. Hearnden, 52, 67, and 56—175; Morgan, 49, 40, and 53—142. Best breaks—Stevens, 29; Hearnden, 26. The games to-night are:—M. J. Hanley (holder of the title) v. F. K. Stevens, in the first semi-final, and A. H. Hearnden (amateur billiards champion) v. W. H. Buchanan, in the second semi-final.

The Advertiser Fri 2 Aug 1929 Page 16

AMATEUR SNOOKER CHAM-PIONSHIP

The two semi-finals of the South Australian amateur snooker tournament were played at the Palace Billiard Hall last night between M. J. Hanley and F. K. Stevens, and A. H. Hearnden and W. H. Buchanan. The games went to Hanley and Hearnden.

The first game was largely a battle of strategy with the run of the balls in Hanley's favor. If anything, Stevens overdid the safety tactics in the final game. He was so far in arrear that his only chance was to be aggressive. Owing to the safety play there were no big breaks, but Hanley was consistent with fifteens and sixteens. He won by 49.

The game between Hearnden and Buchanan was more open, and towards the finish some splendid pots were made. The first game finished even, 39—38, but from the second break up the billiard champion forged ahead to win by 59. Scores:—

Hanley (61, 51, and 48)—160; Stevens (23, 33, and 55)—111. Hearnden (39, 61, and 78)—178; Buchanan (38, 35, and 46)—119.

Best breaks:—Hanley, 22; Hearnden, 25. The final will be played between Hearnden and Hanley on Tuesday night, and will be five sets up of the balls.

The Advertiser Tue 6 Aug 1929 Page 20

AMATEUR SNOOKER CHAMPION-SHIP

The final of the State amateur snooker championship, played at the Palace Billiard Ha!! last night between M. J. Hanley and A. H. Hearnden, was an excellent exhibition of winning hazard play by Hanley, who won, 305 to 209. This is the third time Hanley has gained this title. Hearnden was the first to get going, and finished the first game 25 in the lead. In the second Hanley played excellent snooker, and allowed his opponent no openings He maintained this form to the finish. Hearnden railied in the fifth and final game, but it was too late. Scores:—Hanley (35, 92, 58, 77, and 43), 305; Hearnden (60, 24, 37, 27, and 61), 209. Breaks:—Hanley, 24, 32, 24, and 20; Hearnden, 20, 22, 25, and 29.

1930 ABASA Amateur Snooker Title

The Advertiser Fri 8 Aug 1930 Page11

SNOOKER TOURNAMENT

The South Australian amateur snooker championship is now being contested at the Palace Billiard Halls, Adelaide Arcade, There were 22 competitors, and the Winners to date are:—M. J. Hanley, G. Youles, H. Hammer, W. Buchanan, B. Ward, A. H. Hearnden, F. Stevens, and R. Dennis. The second round will be completed tonight, and the third round will begin on Monday evening.

The Advertiser Tue 12 Aug 1930 Page5

The amateur snooker championship being played at the Palace Billiard Hall has reached an interesting stage. Last night F. Stevens defeated B. Ward, M. J. Hanley won from G. Youles, H. Hammer defeated W. Buchanan, R. Dennis defeated F. Stevens, and H. Pfeil defeated A. H. Hearnden. The two semi-finals will take place tonight, when M. J. Hanley will meet H. Hammer and R. Dennis will play H. Pfeil.

The Advertiser Fri 15 Aug 1930 Page 8

HANLEY WINS SNOOKER CHAM-PIONSHIP

M. J. Hanley won the South Australian amateur snooker championship at the Palace Billiard Hall last night, defeating H. Pfiel by 90 points, the scores being— Hanley, 288; Pfiel, 193.

News Fri 22 Aug 1930 Page 8

M. J. HANLEY
winner of South Australian amateur billiard association
snooker championship. He is one of
the leading billiard
alayers in the State.





COMPETITORS IN AMATEUR BILLIARD CHAMPIONSHIPS—Left to Right—A. H. Hearnden (amateur State and Australian champion), and M. J. Hanley (amateur State snooker champion), with cups and shields, which will be presented at the close of the State championships.

News Tue 2 Jun 1931 Page 3

SNOOKER CHAMPIONSHIP

South Australian Amateur Billiards Association will begin the State snooker championship at the Palace Billiard Halls on Thursday night. The first round will be concluded next Tuesday night, and on the following Wednesday and Thursday the semi-finals and finals will be played. The draw, which took place last night, is as follows:—

Thursday Night-M. J. Hanley v. W. Buchanan, H. L. Goldsmith v. R. Mulroney. Tuesday Night-C. Mallen v. H. Pfeil, F. K. Stevens v. R. M. Gibson.

Advertiser and Register Thu 11 Jun 1931 Page 11

SNOOKER CHAMPIONSHIP TONIGHT

M. J. Hanley and F. K. Stevens will meet tonight for the final of the amateur snooker championship at the Palace Billiard Halls, Adelaide.

Last night Hanley (192) beat H. L. Goldsmith (140), and P. K. Stevens (182) beat H. Pfeil (92) in the semi-finals.

Snooker Championship to M. Hanley

M. Hanley retained the State amateur snooker championship, at the Palace Billiards Hall last night, by scoring 300 in the final match of five games to 219 by F. J. Stevens.

Stevens showed excellent all-round form in the early part of the play, scoring the best break of the night—27. Hanley missed many easy shots, but had some brilliant periods. He led by 28 at the end of the second game, and was 14 in front at the finish of the third. He increased his lead by six in the next and in the fifth scored 88 while Stevens added 19.

1932 ABASA Amateur Snooker Title

News Tue 9 Aug 1932 Page 2

Billiards (By "Cue")

Pfeil Wins Snooker Championship Tie

In the first tie of the State snooker championship conducted by the Amateur Billiards Association of South Australia. H. Pieil defeated F. K. Stevens, the scores at the end of the third game being 162 to 156.

When the first game ended the scores were Pfeil 75, Stevens 38, and at the conclusion of the second Pfeil 120 and Stevens 96.

News Wed 10 Aug 1932 Page 2

SECOND SNOOKER TIES

In the second ties of the snooker tournament conducted by the Amateur Billiards Asociation of South Australia at the Palace Billiard Han last night Larson (227) defeated Buchanan (126). Rossiter (189) defeated Morgan (93). Pullman (149) defeated Matthews (140).

News Tue 15 Aug 1932 Page 3

Billiards (By "Cue")

Snooker Semi-finals Tonight

The semi-finals of the amateur snooker championship will be played at the Palace Billiard Hall tonight. M. J. Hanley (holder of the State amateur championship) will meet R. Larson, and H. L. Goldsmith (State amateur billlards champion) will play H. Johnson.

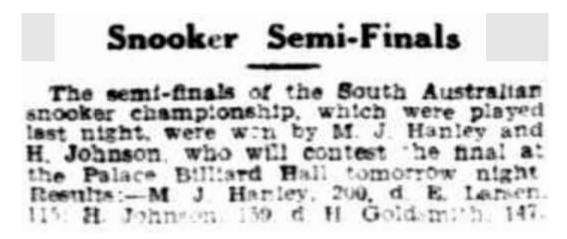
The finals will be played on Wednesday night.

This will finish the list of events conducted by
the Amateur Billiards Association of South
Australia for this season.

Australia for this season.

Howard Brady and Horace Lindrum will play an exhibition game at the Payneliam Billiards Saloon tonight.

The Advertiser Tue 16 Aug 1932 Page 12



The Advertiser Thu 18 Aug 1932 Page 10



Hanley Wins Snooker Championship

M.J. Handley won the final of the State
Amateur Snooker Championship from H.
Johnson last night. Scores:- Hanley 284
Johnson 235. Hanley has held the
championship since 1924. Johnson made a
break of 53, an amateur record for S.A.
Hanley held the previous record of 32.

The Register Tue 15 Jul 1924 Page 11

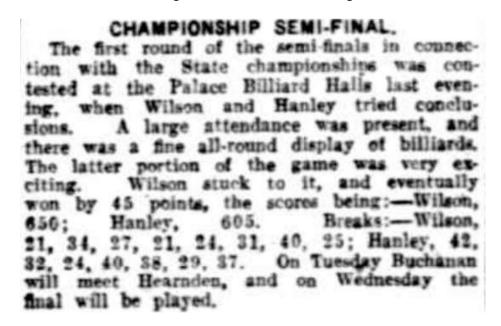
BILLIARDS.

By Hazard. The Palace Billiard Hall was the scene on Monday of the opening of the 1924 amateur championship. The standard table prepared by Mr. P. Brady was indeed a credit to him, and to the S.A. Amateur Billiard Association, under whose auspices these games are played. The curtained off playing arena, the special lighting effects of the table, the white coats of marker and scorer, and the referee (Mr. W. McFee) standing by, gave quite a businesslike air to the proceedings. Hinds, last year's champion, met M. Hanley, and though the game proved a runaway for the former, it was interesting as an opening bout of this important annual tournament. The final scores were: -Hinds, 630; Hanley, 324. Hinds's best breaks were, in the order they were made, 31, 45, 20, 28, 34, 28, 27, 43, 25, 33, his average per stick for the game being 8.03. Hanley made only two breaks of over 20, viz., 44 and 24, his average being 4.05 per He could not strike form, but he is confident of turning the tables in the snooker tournament next week. To-night at 7.30 p.m. A. H. Hearnden will meet Pat Hennessy, and a good game should result.

The Register Fri 24 Jul 1925 Page 9



The Register Fri 31 Jul 1925 Page 13



The Register Wed 14 Jul 1926 Page 13

HANDLEY DEFEATED SHARP. As anticipated, the second series of the amateur championship games in connection with the annual tournament provided an interesting contest between Hanley and Sharp on Tuesday night at Queen's Hall. The lastnamed led to the first hundred, but Hanley, with useful breaks of twenties and thirties, went shead. Features of the game were Hanley's pots and Sharp's long jennies. Sharp ran to 444 with a break of 54, and got within 35 of his opponent. The race to 500 was won by Hanley. He compiled 62, which was the highest break made. The same billiardist had reached 575 when Sharp passed the half-thousand mark, and he continued in front, winning by 112. The final scores were:-Hanley, 650; Sharp, 538, There were 93 visits to the table, the winner's average being 7.83.

The Register Tue 20 Jul 1926 Page 12

AMATEUR BILLIARDS.

WIN FOR BUCHANAN.

There was a large attendance at Alcock's Parlour, Queen's Hall, on Monday night to witness the game bet teen W. H. Buchanan and M. Hanley, the occasion being the sixth series of amateur championship billiards. Hanley led until 150 was signalled, when Buchanan found true form. The issue was beyond doubt when he put on breaks of 62 and 60. Hanley's best effort was 43. There were 10 breaks of 20 and over by the winner, and four by the loser. Final scores were:—Buchanan, 650; Hanley, 464.

Breaks:—Buchanan—30, 46, 24, 20, 62,

Breaks:—Buchanan—30, 46, 24, 20, 62, 22, 38, 25, 30 and 60. Hanley—26, 20, 43 and 20. The winner occupied the table on 72 occasions, his average being 9.

The Advertiser Mon 9 Jul 1928 Page 14

AMATEUR BILLIARD CHAMPIONSHIP.



From left to right—F.K. Stevens (Billiards Trials Champion) - M.J. Hanley (Amateur Snooker Champion), and W. H. Buchanan (Amateur Billiards Champion 1927

The Register Sat 14 Jul 1928 Page 7

BILLIARDS NOTES.

STATE AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP.

The annual contest for the amsteur billiard championship of South Australia has progressed to the second round. In the first round then were some good contests, especially the gam between Hanley and Morgan on Wednesday night

The appointments at the Palace Billiard Hall are ideal. Mr. Brady has spared no expense o effort to give the players the best condition under which to show their top form, and to give spectators comfort. The table and balls wer tested in every way in the presence of Mr. 5 J. Jacobs (president of the association) and hi committee before the opening game; and th players are unanimous in their praise of the con ditions generally. The cushions are playing The arena is well appointed an beautifully. lighted, and the seating will accommodate 35 persons.

On Monday night the championship was opene when F. Stevens (winner of the trials) me H. Goldsmith and defeated him after an it teresting coptest. At one stage Stevens wa 200 points in the lead. Goldsmith, findin his length, scored within 10 of him, but th practice of the trials stood Stevens in good stea and he won. On Tuesday night W. H. Buchans (present champion) met A. Benson. Althoug on paper, it looked an easy win for the champion, as the game progressed Benson shows that he was a rugged fighter. He reached the

100, 200, 300, and 400 marks shead a Buchanan, and only in the last stages could the latter fake the lead. The fact was demonstrate that a long game finds the weakness in your players. Most of them play 500 up, at most in practice, and 650 finds them tired and list less towards the conclusion. Buchanan compile a pretty break of 60 and followed it with most than 50. Both breaks were made possible to Benson opening up the game when a litt caution would have been better. The fine scores were:—Buchanan 650, Benson 557.

Wednesday night was the most thrilling when M. J. Hanley was opposed to T. Morgaanother promising junior. As was the case i the previous night's contest, all the good judge expected Hanley to win comfortably. said that it was his hardest fight. must be given to both players—Hanley becam he fought like the seasoned players he is, at Morgan for a steady and talented display. E reached 400 when Hanley was 350. of the most interesting expositions of the tourn The table produced a 4 ment happened. break, which brought him to within one pot of Morgan, who followed with 52. Hank replied with 60, and Morgan compiled 56 i his next visit. From that stage Morgan seems his next visit. to tire, and Hanley won.

The games so far have been keenly watche by a large number of spectators, the most regular being the association's president, Mr. S. Jacobs. The South Australian body is particularly fortunate in having such a keen sportage at the head of affairs.

The Register Wed 18 Jul 1928 Page 16

The Amateur Championship.

The second semi-final game in connection with the amsteur State championship was played at the Palace Billiard Halls, Ade laide Arcade, on Tuesday night, in the presence of a large attendance. The contestants were A. H. Hearnden (champion in 1926) and M. J. Hanley, The pretnamed won the match after a scientific display. Hearnden was quickly into touch, and he established a commanding lead. Wiith a break of 43 he held a lead of 100, his score being 167, and the advantage was maintained to 350. Although Hearnden played in confident fashion, he however adopted "safety first" tactics on several This somewhat cramped his occasions. game. When he had reached 466, Hanley Hanley was applauded for a WRS 333. break of 51. Hearnden stood at 514, and Hanley ran past the fourth century and on to 426, when he broke down on an east winning hazard. Hearnden, with a break of 70 passed 600, and went on to win the came of 650 up by 181 points.

Hearnden will meet F. K. Stephens tonight, when a game of 1,500 up fin two sessions) will begin at 7,30 o'clock.

Hearnden averaged 8.6, and his best breaks were 70, 46, 43, 43, 43, 42, 35, 29, 27, 26, 25, and 24. Hanley's best were 56, 51, 46, 40, 30, 27, 25, 21, and 21.

The Advertiser (Adelaide, SA) Wed 10 Jul 1929 Page 20

The second game for the State amateur championship was played at the Palace Bilplayed J. G. Dawe. Hanley won by 255 the scores being 650 to 417. Both were slow to begni. Hanley had many opportunities in the early stages, but he did not take advantage, while Dawe had an unfortunate run right through the game. Hanley's best break was 61, and his average for the whole game was only 7.5. last 20 shots averaged nearly 11 each. Dawe's best break was a 37, made early Scores:-Hanley, 650; Dawe, in the game. 417. Breaks:—Hanley—35, 21, 61, 28, 35, 40, 43, 22, 33, and 22. Dawε—37, 25, 29, 20, 26, 20, and 33. To-night's game 20, 26, 20, and 33. To-night's game is between W. H. Buchanan and H. W. Pfeil.

The Advertiser Tue 16 Jul 1929 Page 17

STATE AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI-FINAL The first semi-final of the State amateur billiards championship was played at the Palace Billiard Hall, Rundle-street. Monday night, when A. H. Hearnden defeated M. J. Handley. The match was of a high standard, and the closeness of the scores throughout made it an exciting game to watch. The players were equal at 155, 292, 386, 411, 497, and 534. Handley was 615 and Hearnden 577 when the latter made a break of 66, which brought him within a few points of the requisite 650. and he went out at his next turn at the table. Best breaks were:-Hearnden. 33, 22, 54, 31, 36, 52, 35, 37, and 66; Handley. 55. 37. 22, 25, 29, 20, 32, 35, 35, and 20, W. H. Buchanan wil meet P. K. Stephens to-night, and the winner will meet Hearnden in a game of 1,500 up on Wednesday and Thursday.

The Advertiser Fri 18 Jul 1930 Page 10

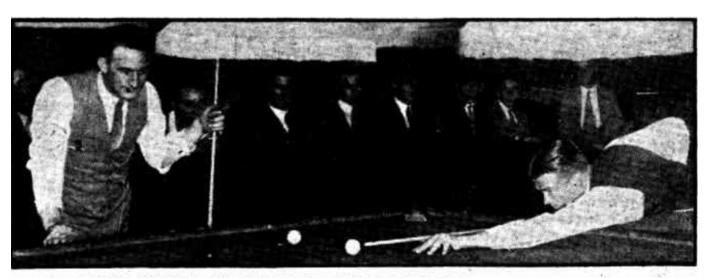
In an amateur championship match played at the Palace Billiard Hall last night, A. Benson (650) deteated M. Hanley (647). Best breaks were - Benson, 37, 20, 33, 30, 31, 31, 20, 36, 21, 43, Hanley, 27, 74, 22, 31, 28, 28, 34, 23.

1931 ABASA Amateur Billiards Title

News Thu 12 Feb 1931 Page 3



News Fri 27 Mar 1931 Page 7



STATE AMATEUR BILLIARD CHAMPION WINS TOURNAMENT—H. L. Goldsmith about to strike: He defeated M. J. Hanley (State snooker champion) last night at Palace Billiard Halls in the final of the exhibition contests between four leading amateurs.

Advertiser and Register Wed 6 May 1931 Page 10

In the second match of the first round of the amateur billiards championship, played at the Palace Hall last night, Hanley, 750, defeated Mulroney, 632.

Principal breaks:—Hanley, 28, 33, 28, 31, 41, 28, 42, 21, 43; Mulroney, 22, 38, 35, 25, 29, 28, 58, 31.

Tonight, F. K. Stevens will play R. M. Gibson.

Advertiser and Register Tue 12 May 1931 Page 9



Advertiser and Register Thu 14 May 1931 Page 10

In the final of the amateur billards championship of South Australia at the Palace Billiards Hall last night. H. L. Goldsmith, the leader, scored 750 and is in play with an unfinished break of 54. N. J. Handley's score at the close of play last night was 603. The match will be finished tonight.

Advertiser and Register Fri 15 May 1931 Page 8

NOTES ON THE GAME

By "HAZARD"

The matches in the semi-finals and final of the State amateur championship provided some very solid billiards, perhaps not so spectacular as last year, but, nevertheless, sound.

Buchanan, in his game with Hanley, fought back from 150 behind to a winning lead, only to throw the game away in the last 10. I gave this player an excellent chance of a come-back this year. His practice work was good.

Goldsmith in his game with Stevens made a 100 break, the only flaw being a fluke when about 60. His losing hazard striking was good, as were his winners. This was his first appearance in the championship games.

Stevens played his usual solid game, but could not produce his best form.

State Amateur Billiards 1932

News Tue 21 Jun 1932 Page 2

News Mon 28 Jun 1932 Page 2

HANLEY DEFEATS. MATTHEWS

The second tie of the amateur billiards championship of South Australia resulted in a victory for M. J. Hanley over W. Matthews. the scores being Hanley 759, Matthews 504.

On his third visit to the table Hanley compiled a break of 167, but Matthews, fighting back gamely, equalled the scores at 200. Hanley then scored a break of 76, giving him a commanding lead, which he maintained throughout. His two breaks of more than 160 were excellent efforts.

Hantey's red ball play was a feature. His first 500 was scored with a fine average of 22, and had he been consistent enough in obtaining the remainder of his score, he would have broken the record for the highest average (18.5), which is held by H. L. Goldsmith (Australian champion).

Apart from the early stages of the game, Matthews failed to show any of the form which gained him victory in the championship trials. His breaks of 60 and 42, which were scored by all red ball play near the end, were good efforts.

Chief breaks by Hanley were 107, 33, 76, 109, 33, 39, 40, and 34, and by Matthews, 31, 55, 68, 37, 60, and 42.

Billiards (By "Cue")

GOLDSMITH AND BUCHANAN TO PLAY TONIGHT

H. L. Goldsmith (Australian and State champion) and W. Buchanan tonight will meet in the second semi-final of the amateur championship being conducted by the South Australian association.

Playing in the first semi-final, F. Bick-more made a record break of 140. He easily defeated M. J. Hanley, the scores being 750 to 408.

Bickmore is the youngest competitor in the championship, being only 23 years of age. He was runner-up to W. Matthews in the amateur championship trials. He defeated an experienced player in F. K. Stevens in the first tie. Should he maintain the improvement he has shown in the last few games, Bickmore should prove a worthy opponent for the State champion.

The Advertiser (Adelaide, SA) Fri 10 Nov 1933 Page 7

Michael Joseph Hanley, billiard hall proprietor, of Oakley street, city, and James Edward Goldsmith, mechanic, of Goodwood, were each found guilty by Mr. E. M. Sabine, P.M., in the Adelaide Police Court yesterday of having, on May 13, been the occupiers of the Hutt street Billiard Hall, which premises were used for the purpose of unlawful gaming. Hanley was fined £10, with 12/6 costs, and Goldsmith £3, with 12/6 costs.

The Advertiser (Adelaide, SA) Sat 14 Jan 1939 Page 16

HANLEY.—On the 13th of January, at hospital. Michael, dearly beloved husband of Eileen Hanley, and brother of Will. Dick (deceased), Frank, and Doris. Aged 40 years