

BILLIARDS PERSONALITIES IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

George Frederick STEINTHAL

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A brief collection of the Sporting life of George Steintal

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Amateur Billiards Association of South Australia

Committee member 1913

Treasurer 1914 - 1932

Secretary 1915 - 1930

Australian Amateur Billiards Council

South Australian delegate 1926 – 1929

Born 1857 in Adelaide, South Australia

Died 1934 in Adelaide, South Australia

The Sporting Mail 19 April 1913 Page 6

A meeting of those interested in the formation of a South Australian Amateur Billiard Association was held at the Exchange Hotel on Friday evening. Mr. S.J. Jacobs was elected chairman, and the following were present: — Messrs. George Hassall, E. G. Crespin, H. R. Harley, Angelo Demodena, F. C. Stempel, J. T. Malone, P. J. Brady, and C. P. Moody. Mr. Moody moved that the South Australian Amateur Billiard Association be formed. He thought the time was ripe for such a step. This was seconded and carried unanimously. It was then resolved to form a committee to draw up a constitution and prescribe rules and regulations, and the following nominations were submitted: — Messrs. S. J. Jacobs, C. P. Moody, R. W. Bennett, T. S. O'Halloran, E. G. Crespin, J. H. Pellew, **George Steintal**, and Dr. A. H. Bennett. It was decided to recommend that the annual subscription be 5/. Already many names of intending members have been submitted, and it is expected that when the association "gets into touch" it will have a large roll of enthusiasts. On behalf of Messrs. Alcock & Co. Mr Hassall offered to do anything his firm could to further the objects of the association, and announced that if at any time the new body was in need of a standard table to play tests Alcock & Co. would be only too pleased to lend one. Other matters in connection with the association were discussed, and it was resolved to convene a meeting for Thursday to draw up the constitution. The primal objects of the association are:

1. To generally control the game of billiards in South Australia after affiliation with the Billiard Association of Great Britain and Ireland.
2. To promote and carry out annually an amateur championship tournament in South Australia.
3. To work with other kindred associations in carrying out the Australian amateur billiard championship tournaments. Mr. C. J. Graves was appointed secretary pro tem, and would be glad to receive communications at this office from players anxious to become members of the association.

FIRST GENERAL MEETING – FRIDAY 2 MAY
AMATEUR BILLIARDS ASSOCIATION SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The Register Saturday 3 May 1913 Page 13

AMATEUR BILLIARD ASSOCIATION.

The first general meeting of members of the Amateur Billiard Association of South Australia was held at the Exchange Hotel on Friday. Mr. S. J. Jacobs presided over a satisfactory attendance. A draft of constitution was adopted, and the following officers were elected:—President, Mr. S. J. Jacobs; Vice-Presidents, Dr. A. H. Bennett, and Messrs. W. B. Carr, T. S. O'Halloran, and C. Irwin; Committee, Messrs. C. P. Moody, R. W. Bennett, H. Trevorrah, G. Steinthal, W. J. Denny, H. R. Harley, Napier Birks, and J. H. Thompson; Treasurer, Mr. E. G. Crespin; Secretary, Mr. C. J. Graves. A hundred members were enrolled, and there is every prospect of the number being swelled to 200 now that the association has been properly formed.

G.F. Steinthal - Article

The Register Wed 7 Jul 1926 Page 14

Photo

News Tue 31 Jul 1923 Page 12

MR. G. F. STEINTHAL. Prominent Billiards Enthusiast.

There is, perhaps, no sportsman better known in South Australia than George Steinthal, known to his friends as "Steiney." Mr. Steinthal at the moment is actively engaged in supervising the arrangements for the State amateur billiards championship, which will begin at the Queen's Hall, Grenfell street, next Monday night. He spent a considerable portion of his commercial life in the northern areas, and has seen the best and worst seasons from the seventies onwards. He went to Melrose to live in 1874, and seven years afterwards operated for John Dunn & Co., at Booleroo Centre. He has been prominent in the cricket field, has been a first-class rifle shot, and was in the foremost ranks (under the pseudonym of "Haydon"), as a pigeon shot and has been all his life a billiards enthusiast. Outside his sporting proclivities, he was associated with the volunteer force, having joined the Mounted Rifles under Brig-Gen. Owen in 1887, and obtained his captain's commission under Major-Gen. Downes in 1889.

Booleroo Mounted Rifles in the Eighties.

In Mr. Steinthal's office at Louis Dreyfus & Co., King William street, are two documents which are highly prized. One is his lieutenantcy commission, signed by the then Chief Secretary, Hon. J. G. Ramsay, in July, 1887, and his captain's commission, which bears the signature of Chief Secretary Dr. (now Sir John) Cockburn. Mr. Steinthal belonged to F Company of the Booleroo Mounted Rifles, and the writer has vivid recollections of the training operations on various properties between "The Centre" and Melrose in the early nineties. Men thought nothing in those days of a big day on horseback.

In the Rifle World.

As a rifle shot he was prominent in the north, and on returning to the city joined the Commercial Travellers' Club, of which organization he was secretary for a number of years. He won the C.T.C. championship in 1910, and secured the 50-guinea Dawson Cup, presented personally by Mr. Peter Dawson, of whisky fame. He also won the Simpson, Buchanan, Glen Ewin, Basse, and Adelaide Chemical Works Trophies, while a member of this club.

As a pigeon shot, he proved successful with the northern team, and Messrs. Malcolm Murray, Neil Clark, Murray Ewins, and Harry Copas were formidable rivals at the Metropolitan Gun Club competitions.

cont.

An Enterprising Cricketer.

Mr. Steinthal started his cricketing career back in the seventies with "Jimmy" Gooden, W. O. Whitridge, and others, of the East Torrens Club, but he did not play seriously with the metropolitan clubs. When he went into the country, however, he joined the Northern Areas Cricketing Association, and threw in his lot with the Gladstone team, with which club he was most successful with the bat. At this period he was living at Booleroo Centre, and every Saturday he travelled 100 miles for a game, often leaving home at daybreak, riding to Gladstone, a distance of 30 miles, having lunch with Col. Catt, then journeying to Caltowie, Jamestown, Georgetown, or Yongala, returning to Gladstone for tea, and riding home the same evening. His best performance was when playing for Booleroo Centre against Tarcowie, for he scored 110 out of 118 made by the Booleroo eleven. This innings is recorded in Whitridge's annual, in which the late Mr. W. O. Whitridge describes him "as a slogger, but generally makes runs off loose bowling."



MR. G. F. STEINTHAL.
Secretary S.A. Billiard Association.

Present-day Hobbies.

Mr. Steinthal has been secretary of the South Australian Amateur Billiards Association since its inception, and under the direction of the President (Mr. S. J. Jacobs) has assisted in bringing this association to its present happy position. Of late years he has given up the cricket bat, the rifle, and the gun, and taken to bowls. He is still as keen as ever on billiards, and occasionally puts in some double-figure breaks.

He has been a justice of the peace for more than 30 years, and for a considerable period took an active part in Freemasonry. He is a past member of the Grand Lodge, and is also a Past Master of the Areas Lodge, No. 22, and the Semaphore Lodge, No. 33. Even with advancing years he still possesses a keen eye. His remarkable activity may be ascribed to a life-long love for healthy recreative sport. This has assisted to preserve a correspondingly hale and hearty constitution.

BILLIARDS SECRETARY

Work of Mr. G. F. Steinthal

EFFICIENT SPORTSMAN

(By "Marker")

With the exception of a few months Mr. G. F. Steinthal has been secretary of the South Australian Amateur Billiards Association since its inauguration.

A foundation member of the South Australian Amateur Billiard Association when it was formed on April 19, 1913, Mr. Steinthal relieved Mr. E. G. Creswin of his secretarial work in August of the same year.

Since then he has followed the fortunes of the association, and with the co-operation of Mr. S. J. Jacobs (president of the association and a foundation member), and assistance of fellow-enthusiasts, has been largely responsible for its present happy position.

The association began with a membership of about 50, but now about 180 names are written on its rolls.

Mr. Steinthal himself is no novice with the cue, as numerous trophies testify. He has played billiards for approximately half a century.

He still plays once or twice a week and frequently produces double figure breaks. He is a member of Toorak, Tattersalls, and Commercial Travellers' billiards clubs.

He acted as handicapper to the Commercial Travellers' Club for several years, and handicaps now for Toorak.



MR. G. F. STEINTHAL

secretary and foundation member of the South Australian Amateur Billiard Association, who has fostered the interests of that body for 16 years.

Managed Tournaments

As manager of tournaments he has accompanied South Australian touring teams in every State except Western Australia.

In 1874 this sportsman, better known to his friends as "Steiney," went to Melbourne to live, but returned in the early 'eighties and represented John Dunn and Co. at Booleroo Centre.

When he went into the country he threw in his lot with the Gladstone team, which played in the Northern Areas Cricketing Association. He proved successful with the bat.

Other sports which have attracted his attention are cricket and rifle and pigeon shooting.

HAWKER, March 3.

The Hawker Cricket Club still have the honor of saying that they have never been beaten. Yesterday they added another victory to their long list, this time a regular squeezer. A match was arranged between the Hawker team and a combined team of Wilson and Gordon, and secured a very easy victory. Mr. Steinthal, the captain of the Hawker team, won the toss, and elected to take the field. The Wilson and Gordon team succeeded in making 40 in the first innings; the Hawker team then handled the willow, and were not disposed of till they had made a score of 207. The Wilson again took the bat and were very quickly disposed of for 21. For the Hawker team Steinthal made 83, but at the beginning of the innings he played very fluky, until he got set, and then went at it with a will, several fivers being credited to him. Martin's score of 44 was got by good cricket, he not giving a single chance, and was unfortunately run out. The bowling of Sclanders and Gilbert for the victors was very good, Sclanders securing 12 wickets for 29 runs, and Gilbert 5 wickets for 15 runs. The fielding of Jackson, Martin, and Denford was exceedingly good. For the losers Captain Twopenny and Abrams carried off the palm, both as regards batting and bowling. Subjoined are the scores:—

**WILSON AND GORDON.
FIRST INNINGS.**

J. Hole, b. Sclanders	...	...	0
F. Finch, b. Gilbert	...	...	0
S. Canny, b. Gilbert	...	...	0
E. Twopenny, c. Rowe, b. Sclanders	...	...	4
R. Abrahams, b. Gilbert	...	...	14
Simcock, b. Sanders	...	...	0
H. Mason, c. Steinthal, b. Standers	...	...	3
Lavington, b. Rowe	...	...	15
Robram, b. Gilbert	...	...	0
H. Cowie, not out	...	...	3
H. Beckmann, b. Rowe	...	...	1
Sundries	...	...	0
			—
			40

SECOND INNINGS.

J. Hole, b. Sanders	...	...	0
F. Finch, b. Sanders	...	...	2
S. Canny, b. Sanders	...	...	0
E. Twopenny, b. Sanders	...	...	6
R. Abrahams, b. Gilbert	...	...	3
Simcock, b. Sanders	...	...	0
H. Mason, not out	...	...	2
Lavington, run out...	...	...	1
Robram, b. Sanders	...	...	0
H. Cowie, b. Sanders	...	...	5
H. Beckmann, c. Kirwan, b. Sanders	...	...	0
Sundries	...	...	2
			—
			21

Grand total, 61.

HAWKER.

FIRST INNINGS.

W. Hill, b. Abrams	...	...	12
A. Sclanders, c. Cowie, b. Abrams...	...	...	4
G. Jackson, b. Abrams	...	...	3
G. F. Steinthal, b. Finch	...	...	83
W. Martin, run out	...	...	44
F. Gilbert, b. Canny	...	...	10
W. Rowe, b. Cowie	...	...	4
W. Nicholls, b. Cowie	...	...	3
S. H. Treloar, b. Cowie	...	...	17
R. Kirwan, c. and b. Cowie...	...	...	0
Denford, not out	...	...	2
Sundries	...	...	25
			—
Total	...	...	207

CALTOWIE.					BOOLEROO.				
S. Williams, b Patterson	...	...	...	6	J. Stott, run out	...	...	...	2
P. Lee, b Patterson	...	...	...	4	C. Fuller, b Burden	...	...	...	34
J. Burden, b Cadd	...	...	...	21	S. Patterson, b Finey	...	...	...	10
E. Robinson, b Steinthal	...	...	...	5	G. F. Steinthal, b Burden	...	...	...	36
— Finey, b Cadd	...	...	...	10	T. Cadd, b Burden	...	...	...	0
E. Levick, b Cadd	...	...	...	10	C. Degenhardt retired hurt	...	...	...	8
P. Kitson, b Patterson	...	...	...	2	T. Coalthard, c Robinson b Finey	...	...	...	38
H. Robinson, not out	...	...	...	0	W. Hanley, c Wornum b Levic	...	...	...	6
E. Wornum, b Cadd	...	...	...	10	A. Stanton, b Wornum	...	...	...	15
— Golding, b Patterson	...	...	...	0	J. Gold, run out	...	...	...	0
T. Murrie, b Patterson	...	...	...	0	W. Wilson, not out	...	...	...	0
Sundries	...	...	...	9	Sundries	...	...	...	12
Total				77	Total				161

	Bowling Analysis.					Bowling Analysis.			
	balls	maidens	runs	wickets		balls	maidens	runs	wickets
G. F. Steinthal	48	3	37	1	E. Robinson,	54	1	27	0
S. Patterson	99	2	31	5	S. Williams	30	0	19	0
T. Cadd	42	4	6	4	— Finey	54	1	30	2
					E. Levick	60	2	22	1
					H. Robinson	30	1	13	0
					J. Burden	30	1	18	3
					P. Kitson	12	0	16	0
					E. Wornum	12	0	4	1

Obituary

The Advertiser Fri 18 May 1934 Page 27

Mr. G. F. Steinthal, who died at Toorak yesterday, aged 77, was one of the best-known sporting enthusiasts in the State. He was a first class rifle shot, and in 1899 obtained a commission as captain in the Mounted Rifles. He was also secretary of the C.T.A. Rifle Club for some years. Mr. Steinthal started his cricket career with the East Torrens Club, and later joined the Northern Areas Cricketing Association, playing for the Gladstone and Booleroo Centre teams. He was the first secretary of the S.A. Amateur Billiards Association. He spent a considerable portion of his commercial life in the northern areas. He went to Melrose in 1874 and seven years later was representative for Dunn & Co. at Booleroo Centre.