

April, 1934

---

### ***Fives at Newnham.***

A Jester, who has lately been playing Rugby Fives against the ladies of Newnham College, Cambridge, sends us the following account of his experiences. "At the outset I must admit my acquaintance with feminine Fives to be extremely limited. I cannot even compare this Year's form with last as rain prevented play when I was going to play there last year. I must confess I had an agreeable surprise when I saw the Newnham 'cracks' at the game this year. They hit surprisingly hard and true, but what was yet more remarkable was their footwork. Now in dancing I will admit that the woman is superior to the average man. But in games the average woman, though having a good eye and a useful pair of legs and arms does not begin to play, because she has not been taught the fundamental necessity of any game, footwork. Even quite good Lawn Tennis players I have seen playing off the wrong foot and their balance all amiss. But this was not so, for the most part, with the Newnham Fives team. They played in the classic style, left foot leading with right foot hitting and vice versa. Their court sense and craft seemed to be quite highly developed. I was given to understand that there were 80 subscribing members of the Newnham Fives Club, though a number of these do not often find their way to the courts. The more is the pity. Rugby Fives is a fine game and a very healthy one, as played in the delightful open courts at Newnham. Let women lay down their rackets and put on their gloves for the more sociable game."