

Stoachouse Tennis Club.

Presentation of Challenge Trophies.

Principal week-end event in town was the local tennis club's social and presentation of prizes to the 1942-43 champions. This took place last Friday evening in the Welfare Hall in the presence of a large and enthusiastic gathering.

It was the first occasion in the history of the club that silver trophies were available for presentation (thanks to several local gentlemen) and this, no doubt, was largely responsible for the added interest in the annual end-of-season social and dance.

Following games an tea, Mr John Sheeran, proprietor of the Rex Cinema, was introduced to the gathering by Mr James McNiven, president of the club, and Mr Sheeran, in a delightful little speech, paid tribute to the large-heartedness of the local gentlemen in donating such beautiful silver cups for annual competition. He had, therefore, great pleasure in extending the club's best thanks to the donors, and would ask Mrs Daniel M. Smith to make the presentation. Loud applause followed.

Mrs Smith then handed over the following cups, all recipients being loudly cheered: — The Avonhaugh Cup, presented by Thomas Wilson, J.P., C.C. (ladies singles), Miss May Thomson; the Smith Cup, presented by Mr D. M. Smith (gent's singles), Mac Leggate; the Summers Cup, presented by Mr John Summers (girls' singles), Margaret Scott; the Wilson Cup, presented by Mr James Wilson (boy's singles), Barr Robertson; and the Miles Cup, presented by Mr John Miles (mixed doubles), Flora Shenkin and James Wilson.

The success of the evening was in no small measure due to Mr James McNiven and his enthusiastic committee, all of whom kept the fun and frolic of the evening at a good tempo. A word of thanks, too, to the band; to the caterers who gave and served the

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Merchants and Black-out Shopping.

Monthly Holidays for 1943.

Motherwell Merchants' Association, at its annual general meeting, held in the Y.M. Institute last Thursday night, recommended its members to close at 6 p.m. on Saturdays from the period November 1, 1942, to March 6, 1943. This will also be the closing time for week days. At the present time shops in the town are closing on Saturdays at various times between 6 and 7 p.m. During the winter period the Association desires to have uniform closing of shops on Saturdays. Mr John Lyle, president presided. There was a fair attendance, and at the outset the chairman made sympathetic reference to the death of a number of members during the past twelve months.

Office-bearers for the new session were appointed as follows:—Hon. president, ex-Provost William Macneill, O.B.E. J.P.; president, Mr John Lyle; secretary and treasurer, Mr Robert T. Ballantyne, solicitor, Windmillhill Street. Committee—Messrs D. Taylor, W. McPhee, J. Fulton and H. MacDonald.

The treasurer submitted a financial statement, which was considered satisfactory, and the following donations were approved:—Glasgow Royal Infirmary, £6 6s; Glasgow Western Infirmary, £2 2s; Victoria Infirmary, £2 2s; Samaritan Hospital, £2 2s; Motherwell and District Nursing Association, £5.

Monthly Holidays.

It was agreed to observe twelve monthly holidays in 1943 (on the third Wednesday of each month) and that New Year's Day also be a holiday. Christmas Day of this year is to be a holiday, but it was agreed to make no decision for Christmas of 1943 until next annual meeting.

Drive for Non-Ferrous

—The local authorities have started its campaign for the salvage of non-ferrous metals.