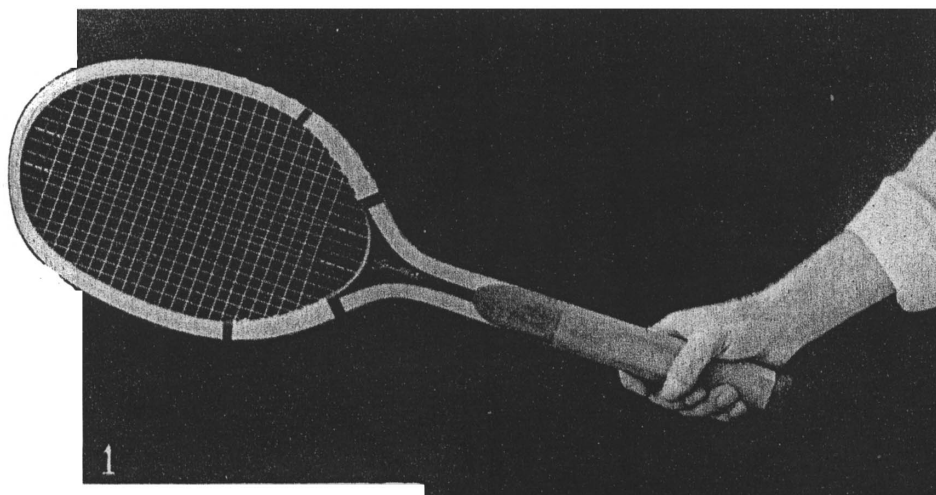


How Tennis Should Be Played

Photographed for OUTING by the Feder-Shawcross Studios

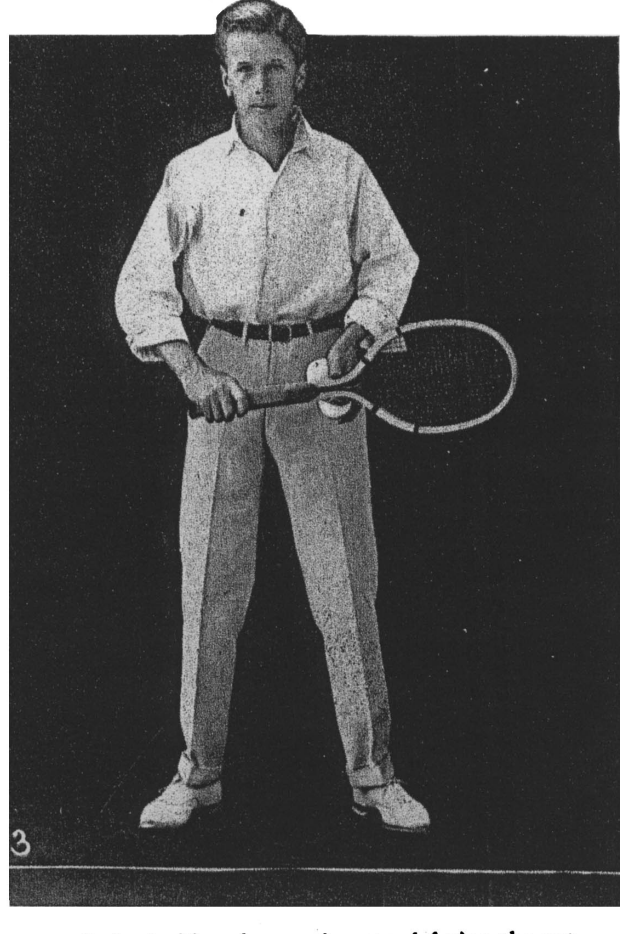
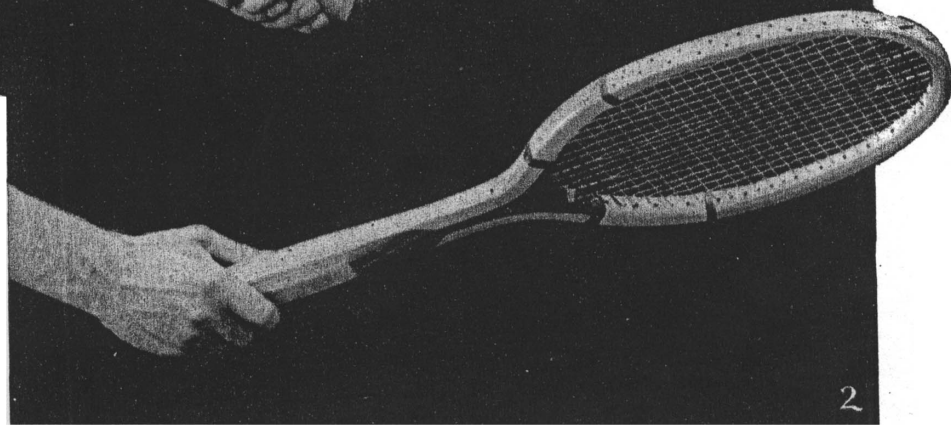
The alphabet of tennis begins with hitting the ball. It ends in the same way. But hitting a tennis ball depends on many things—the position of the feet and the body, the grip of the racket, the swing of the arms, even the behavior of the racket after the ball has been hit is important.

It is difficult to show these facts clearly in photographs of a player in action, the movement being so swift as to deceive even the eye of the camera. Therefore we secured the cooperation of George Agutter, the professional in charge at the West Side Tennis Club at Forest Hills, New York City, in making the pictures which appear on the four pages which follow. The pictures were posed specially to show the details of position. The poses shown are fundamental and on them are based practically all the strokes. If you can imitate these exactly, all you need to be a McLoughlin are the eye, the arm, the brain, and the nerve of the California Comet.

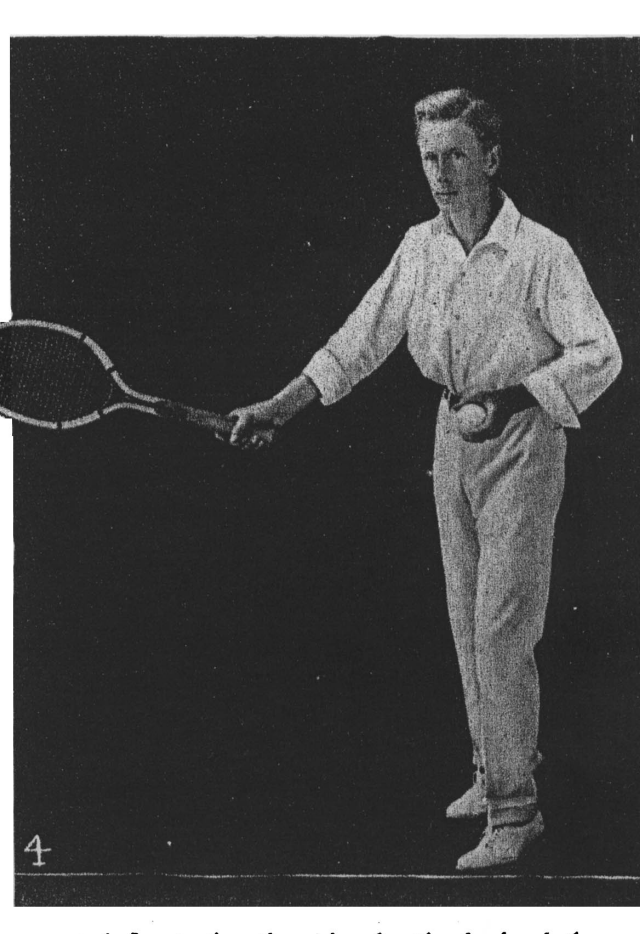


1. The proper grip for a forehand stroke. Hold the racquet at the end and grip it with the fingers rather than in the palm.

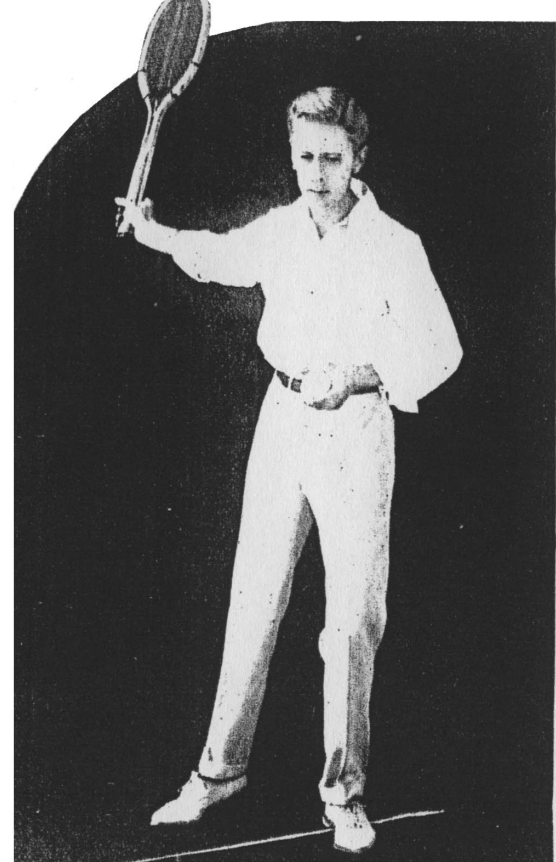
2. For the backhand grip place the thumb in a diagonal position on the back of the handle and spread the fingers so that the knuckle of the first finger will be opposite the end of the thumb. The racquet must be balanced between the thumb and fingers, avoiding the palm grip and should face the net when stroking the ball.



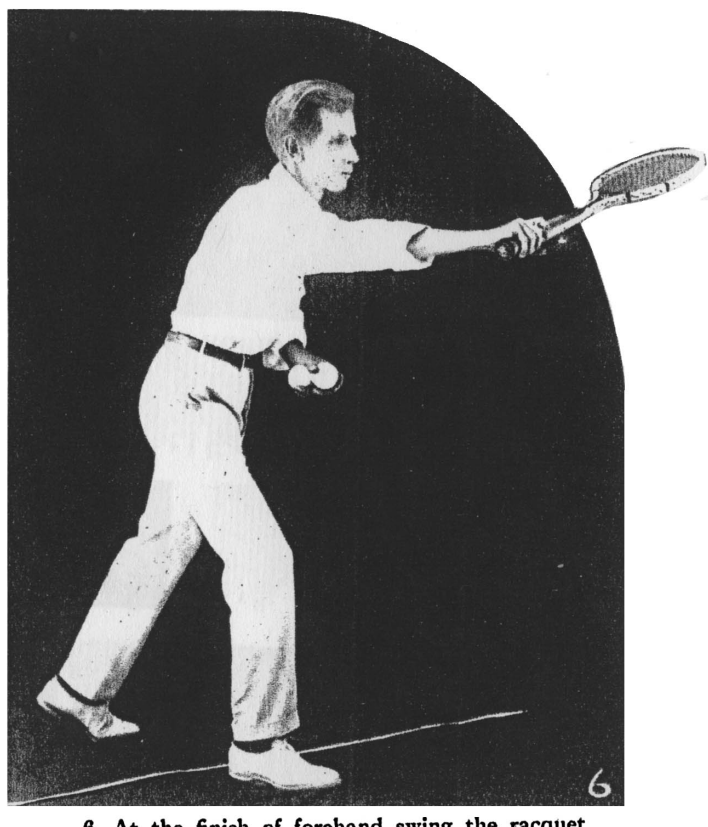
3. In waiting for service stand facing the net with the feet well apart, the racquet held in readiness for a backhand, this being generally a weak point and usually an opponent's point of attack.



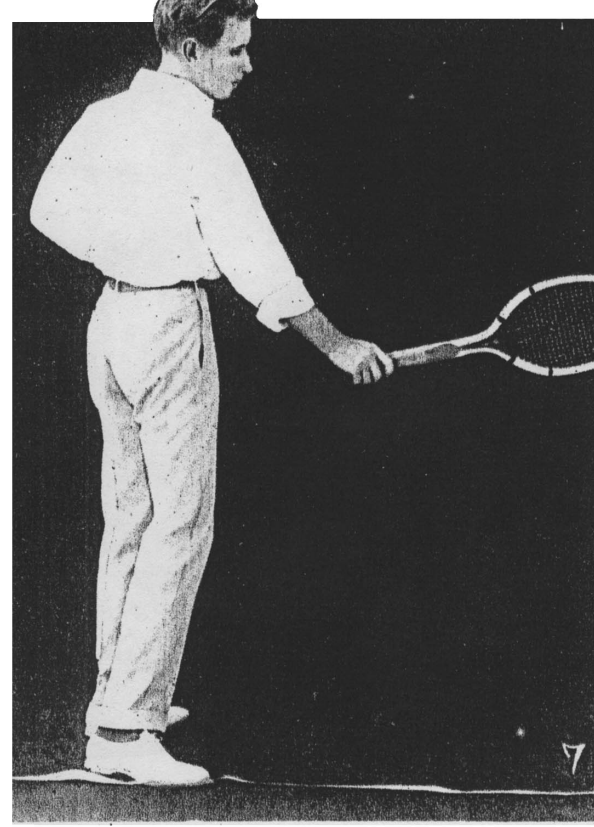
4. In starting the swing for the forehand the feet should be parallel with the sides of the court. The racquet is held high to enable player to put top cut on the ball and also to keep racquet and wrist at a fixed angle, insuring a smooth swing. Swing the racquet back with the arm out from the body in a semicircular motion, upward and around.



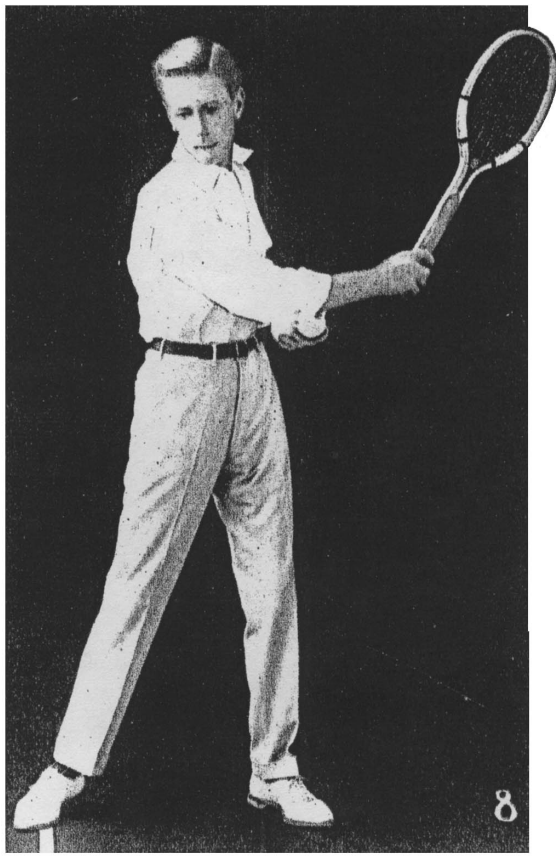
5. Position of racquet, arm, and body at middle of forehand swing. Notice how body is beginning to come through, balanced on left foot.



6. At the finish of forehand swing the racquet through as far as possible in the direction the ball is intended to take, turning face of racquet over gradually and finishing the stroke with racquet face toward the ground.



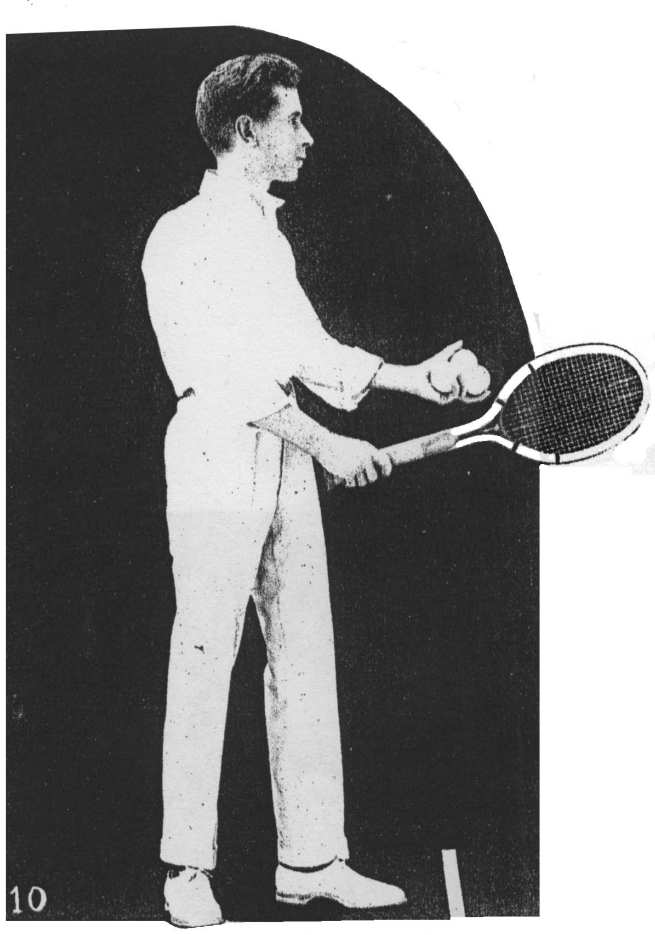
7. At start of backhand, hold racquet head well up as in forehand. The feet are parallel to the side lines, with the right foot forward, and the shoulders are turned so that the right is behind the center of swing when the ball is struck.



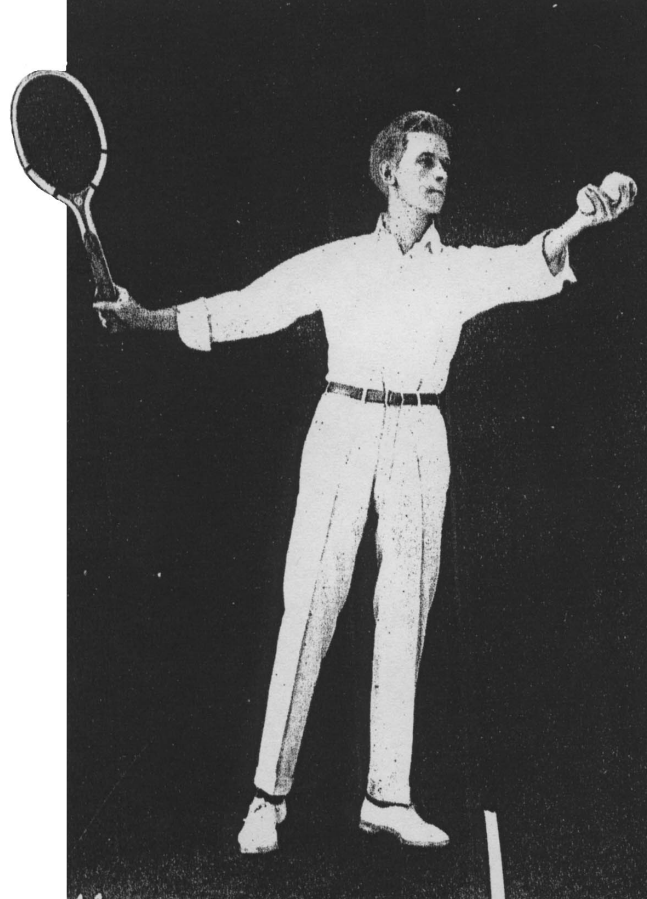
8. Middle of backhand swing with the arm well back. It is important to turn the shoulders so as to get the full amount of body swing. The ball should be played from the middle of the swing, just in front of the right shoulder when turned toward the side lines.



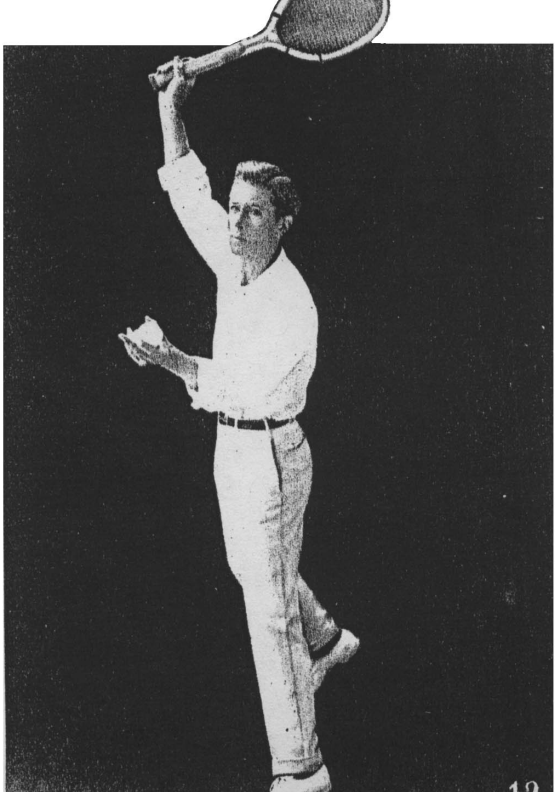
9. At the finish of the back hand, the weight should come forward on the left foot, thus getting the maximum amount of power into the shot.



10. At the beginning of the service stand with the left foot slightly advanced, the racquet held with the forehand grip and pointing on intended line of flight of the ball.



11. Swing the racquet down and well back up over the head, cutting a small circle behind the head before hitting the ball in order to get the necessary top cut.



12. At the moment of striking the ball in the service the racquet should be well up in the air above the head. The body is balanced on the left foot. Racquet in this picture is slightly lower than is customary. The eyes should be kept on the ball until the last moment before it is struck.