

SECOND GREAT TEST.

SPRINGBOKS MEET IRELAND AT BELFAST TO-DAY.

The Belfast ground is unlikely to be able to accommodate half the crowd of eager Irishmen who will assemble this afternoon in all their impetuous enthusiasm to see the South Africans play the eighteenth match of their tour and their second great international struggle.

The South African team is a strong one, and the substitution of Hirsch for De Villiers, who has not been showing his best form, should strengthen their three-quarter line.

However, it was in the pack that the Springboks were bested by the Scotsmen, and being overrun early in the game, the Springbok pack seemed to lose their heads, and consequently suffered greatly from lack of cohesion and combination.

This weakness should be speedily remedied by the return of Paul Roos to the head of his team. Though not strikingly brilliant as an individualist, the African captain is a fine leader, and his presence makes all the difference in the world to the rest of the forwards.

Should they be beaten on one tack to-day, they will have his master brain to counsel some fresh scheme to court success.

The Springboks were beaten at Glasgow as much by the heavy ground as anything else, and though the Belfast ground will be far from dry, it is highly probable that the conditions will be more favourable to good football.

Irish football is almost as famous for the strength of its forward play as that of Scotland, but it is unlikely that the Irishmen will show that preponderance of weight forward that proved a winning advantage to the Scotsmen a week ago.

The Springboks are at least confident, and whatever be the issue of this great struggle, our visitors are this time prepared, and know what to expect.

It is interesting to note with reference to this match that the New Zealanders found Scotland the harder nut to crack. For, whereas the All Blacks only defeated the Scotsmen by 12 points to 7, Ireland went down by 15 points to nil.

IRELAND.

BACK.

H. J. Henneberry (Garryowen).

THREE-QUARTER BACKS.

H. Thrift (Dublin University).

B. Maclear (Cork County).

J. C. Parke (Dublin University).

G. Gotto (North of Ireland).

HALF-BACKS.

E. D. Caddell (Wanderers).

T. H. Robinson (Dublin University).

FORWARDS.

C. Allen (Derry).

J. J. Coffey (Lansdowne).

G. Hamlet (Old Wesley).

H. Sugars (Dublin University).

A. Tedford (Malone).

H. A. Wilson (Glasgow University).

M. White (Queen's College, Cork), and

M. McIlldowie (Wanderers).

SPRINGBOKS.

BACK.

S. Joubert.

THREE-QUARTER BACKS.

A. C. Stegmann. J. D. Krige.

J. G. Hirsch. J. A. Loubser.

HALF-BACKS.

H. W. Carolin. D. C. Jackson.

FORWARDS.

P. Roos. W. S. Morkel.

W. A. Burger. H. C. Daneel.

A. F. Burdett. W. C. Martheze.

P. Le Roux. D. J. Brink.

MACLEAR'S HEROIC EFFORT.

IRISHMAN SCORES A WONDERFUL TRY.

SPRINGBOKS JUST WIN ON TIME.

SPRINGBOKS, 15 pts.; IRELAND (h), 12.

After scoring 52 goals and 50 tries (389 points) against 4 goals 5 tries (30 points), the Springboks won the second international match of their tour at the Balmoral Grounds, Belfast, on Saturday by the narrow margin of a try. The Springboks scored 4 tries and a penalty goal against the Irishmen's 3 tries and a penalty goal, the try which gave them the victory being only obtained in the last five minutes of the game.

If such games as this were frequent Rugby football would soon oust its Association sister from popular favour. It was indeed a soul-stirring contest, and the try scored by Basil Maclear in the second half of the game, when Ireland were to all intents and purposes a badly beaten side, was one of the most remarkable ever obtained in the history of the game. There is certainly no other player in Great Britain at the present time who could have scored such a try.

He was well inside his own "25" when he got possession of the ball from a loose mêlée. He promptly disposed of his opponent, and handed off Loubser, who tried to stop his progress. Getting up steam at once, he made for the left touch-line, with the view of beating Joubert for pace. The Springbok full-back, however, is no mean sprinter, and getting level with his man he promptly threw himself at the burly soldier as he dashed past. Maclear, however, adopted his favourite tactics of handing off, and these were repeated when Joubert made a second attempt to bring him down. With indomitable perseverance, however, the plucky little South African tried for a third time to stop the now almost inevitable score, but the Irishman had by this time got up a terrific speed. He was too fast and too strong for Joubert, and he crossed the line and grounded the ball, having run fully eighty yards and handed off three opponents—one of them three times. It was an epoch-making event, and it is safe to say that the run will live for ever in the annals of the game.

The spectators cheered as only Irishmen can cheer, and so great was the enthusiasm and the noise that people who heard it for many miles around were surprised when they learned after the match that Ireland had after all been beaten.

Within three minutes Steve Joubert took advantage of off-side play by Robinson to put the ball over the bar and three points on the Springbok slate. The Irish forwards in a body then took charge of the game for a space, and Sugars sweetened matters for the Shamrock with a try. Parke was not able to convert.

Directly the Stellenboschers began to get the ball the Irishmen had as rough a passage as most people did who went over to see the game. They were raced off their legs, and twice Maclear was left with Krige in possession and Loubser lying handy. Of course, the result was in each case a score, which it was impossible under the circumstances to prevent. Loubser's pace and swerve beat Henneberry the whole way for the first try, but for the second the Springbok had to jump over Henneberry's arms.

CONTENT WITH THEIR LEAD.

During the interval it was 10 to 1 against Ireland. They were a beaten side, especially as the Colonials had to play for the second half with the wind at their backs.

The Springboks, however, once again made the huge mistake of being too content with their advantage. Ireland got 3 points nearer when Parke placed a penalty-goal for an infringement by Jackson, but, pressing as they did for the next twenty minutes, the Colonials did badly not to score, and in this were lucky to win the game.

Then came Maclear's great run, which once again gave the Irishmen a hope of victory.

The Irish forwards went at their work again harder than ever, and a round of passing saw the centres—at last convinced that in Maclear lay their salvation—actually parting with the ball to him with the result he was only stopped a few feet from the line by Loubser. Sugars, however, managed to scramble over the line with a try, but Parke again missed goal.

With five minutes to go the sides were level again. Every inch gained by the Irishmen was wildly cheered, but the joy was short-lived, for Krige, punting across, had the satisfaction of seeing his last-learned manoeuvre win the match. Stegmann, although he could scarcely manage to hobble, just got over at the corner, and the game was won. Some doubt existed as to whether Stegmann knocked down the corner flag, but Mr. T. T. Tulloch, who refereed admirably all through, decided that the try was good.

SPRINGBOKS IN ERIN.

BATTLE OF BELFAST.

BASIL M'LEAR'S MASTERPIECE.

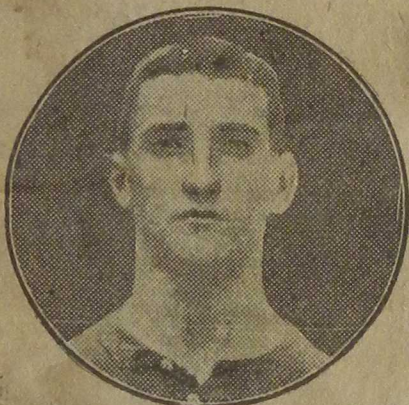
By PHILISTINE.

BELFAST was in a state of ferment all Saturday morning, and in a state of disappointment in the evening, for the South Africans had been met by the chosen of Ireland, and after a game full of excitement and fluctuating fortune the visitors had the luck to score winning points by a try that was open to doubt as to its legality. The splendid ground at Balmoral was the rendezvous of a large crowd of enthusiasts, and the game was played under ideal conditions until the final minutes of the contest when the shades of evening set in with remarkable rapidity. There were two changes in the Irish team from that selected, Wallace and Knox not being able to turn out, while on the South African side many alterations had been made from the contingent that was defeated by Scotland the previous week.

THE GAME.

After the usual preliminaries a scrum-mage in the Irish quarter led to the home side being penalised. Joubert was called upon, and kicked a goal. Following the resumption the Irish forwards came with a marvellous rush, and beating all opposition

and before the final whistle sounded the South Africans scored another try. It was a questionable score, for in the first place the three men who juggled the ball after Krige's kick were offside, and Stegmann, who gained the try, knocked against the corner flag and thereby qualified for touch in goal. But the referee ruled otherwise, and the try was granted. That point put a damper on the crowd. All the enthusiasm and excitement oozed out like streams of lava, and the game finished in a halo of despondency. Possibly the result pleased the South Africans, but it soured the spectators. Darkness was rapidly covering the ground, and even Nature appeared to look black on the proceedings, and thus a game that was remarkable for many striking episodes came to an unpalatable conclusion. The magnificent way in which the Irishmen rallied in the second half was a tribute to their ever-buoyant and optimistic temperament. Their progress in the match was undoubtedly streaky and inconsistent. They started well, and despite the fact that a penalty goal was registered against them in the first three minutes they pressed their opponents severely. Eight minutes later Sugars scored a try following a fine run by Parke, and with the points equal the forces faced with keen determination. Then Ireland struck a bad patch. Hennebry, after making one great kick, went all to pieces. His fielding was bad, his kicking poor, and his fumbling monotonous in its regularity. Instead of being safe and reliable he was indifferent and unsound. His colleagues lost confidence in him, and were obliged to back him up and cover him on every occasion. If he had left the field they could not have been more severely taxed. It was while Ireland were trembling with doubts and difficulties that the South African backs started to show their skill. The ball came from the pack, was handed by Carolin to Hirsch, who immediately served Krige, and that agile youth quickly ran to his wing man Loubser, and passing at the proper moment gave the sprinter a chance to show his back, which he did in a remarkable manner. He eluded M'Lear with delightful ease and slipped past Hennebry as if that man had neither arms nor feet. It was a pretty try, but Joubert failed to make it more beautiful. A few minutes later Krige again set Loubser into motion, and another try resulted, the same success attending Joubert's kick at goal. This was the period when the Irishmen were playing a game as far removed as possible from their regulation methods. Instead of the forwards rushing the ball and taking it away at their toes they were endeavouring to heel out and give their backs opportunities. It was a fatal mistake, for they were beaten for possession, and really played into



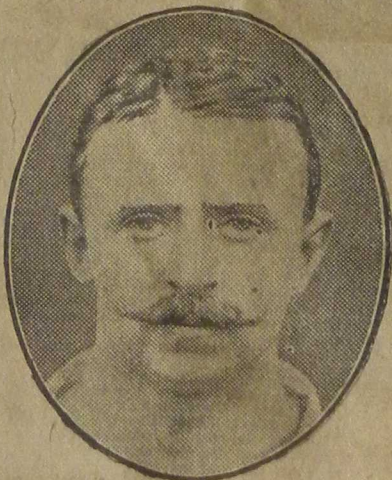
STEVE JOUBERT, South Africa.

they sent the leather over the Africans' line, where it was made dead. Ireland continued to be aggressive, and from a scramble Sugars got over the line and scored a try. Parke failed with the kick at goal. A splendid combined effort, in which Carolin, Hirsch, Krige, and Loubser were concerned, ended in the latter scoring a clever try. Joubert failed at goal. Again the South Africans gained possession, and the ball, going to the hands of the three-quarters, Krige made a clever run and at the right moment handed to Loubser, who scored a try at the corner, Joubert failing at the place. Thrift fumbling, Krige dashed up, secured possession, and got over the line at the corner. D. Morkel missed the goal, and half-time arrived with the South Africans leading by 1 penalty goal and 3 tries to Ireland 1 try.

There did not seem much hope for Ireland when the second half opened. A freshening breeze had to be faced. The Africans forced the game into the Irish quarter. The Africans were found guilty of being off-side in their own quarter, and Parke made a successful kick at goal. From a scramble M'Lear scooped the leather up, and after a magnificent sprint three-parts of the field finished by scoring a superb try. Parke took the kick but failed. Another movement by the Irish backs saw M'Lear travelling again, but he was collared near the line. From the line out Sugars scrambled over and scored another try, and he place kick failing, the points were equal. Then the South Africans became aggressive again, and following a kick by Krige, the Irish line was invaded, Stegmann scoring a try. Morkel failed with the place kick. The final result was:—

SOUTH AFRICANS 1-4...15
IRELAND 1-3...12
* Penalty goals.

CRISPY CRITIQUE.



B. M'LEAR, Ireland.

(Photo by R. Scott and Co., Manchester.)

the hands of their opponents. The South Africans were far too good for the ball

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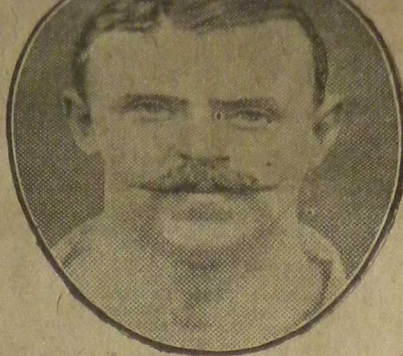
CRISPY CRITIQUES.

There was one great and illuminating moment in the match which will always be remembered. Whenever the South Africans' visit to Ireland is referred to, Basil M'Lear's try will be spoken of. We, who saw M'Lear's try at Scotland the previous Saturday thought we had seen—as we did—a brilliant individualistic effort which would never be surpassed. It was without doubt a magnificent movement on the part of a man, but M'Lear's try transcended in radiance all other memories, and the sight of the gallant player dashing along the touch line pursued by Loubser and faced by Joubert, was worth a wilderness of monkeys to watch. How M'Lear outpaced the South African sprinter, and how he brushed aside the finest full-back in the latest Colony are mere details in an historic run. It was one of those magni-



J. G. HIRSCH, South Africa.

ficent episodes which make football matches worth going to see. It raised the hopes of the Irish from the dull slough of despair to the highest pinnacle of ambition. It gave zest to men who had been struggling against a superior foe, and the impulsive Irish people, whose characteristic mercurial temperament responded to every movement on the field, felt so elated at the superlative effort of M'Lear that they literally went mad with joy and excitement. I believe they would rather be beaten and count M'Lear on their side than win and be without him. I have seen many momentous and magnificent tries gained in my career, but I think this one of M'Lear will hold first place in the recollections of great matches. The panorama of the event is printed in indelible ink on the tablets of the memory. The mental eye can see M'Lear scooping up the ball from a loose scrum in his own twenty-five. He made a start, but seemingly, was about to stumble. He broke away from several men as he crashed along, almost floundering. Then he found his feet and began to sprint. To see him covering yards and yards of the ground was an exhilarating experience. Every inch of turf compassed sent the blood throbbing up the thermometer of hope. Loubser was seen careering after the stalwart son of Erin, and we who knew the African's speed wondered whether he would catch his opponent. But M'Lear appeared to have wings on his feet. He flew along with mighty bounds, and Loubser could not catch him. Then Joubert had to be reckoned with. He was waiting warily, and the idol of South Africa made an attempt to stay M'Lear's progress. But a big man on the wing takes a lot of stopping, and M'Lear's strong right arm went out, and Joubert was among the milestones of the match. He was passed and beaten, and M'Lear continued his triumphant career to the line. He did not hesitate for a moment. Down went the ball, and up went the screams of success. The spectators went delirious with delight. Hats and umbrellas were flung in the air and recovered afterwards, while the cynical man sat and sighed and wondered why M'Lear had not gone a little further and put the ball down behind the posts. They sighed and wondered more when they saw the kick at goal fail. However, they could not get away from the fact that they had seen a mighty deed of valour done, and while the crowd was still simmering M'Lear was again served with the ball, and again made a great effort to score. He was bundled into touch near the line, but from the subsequent proceedings Sugars scored a try, which made the points twelve all. At that stage the game should have stopped. Both sides deserved to win, and neither should have lost. But Fate or Fortune ruled otherwise,



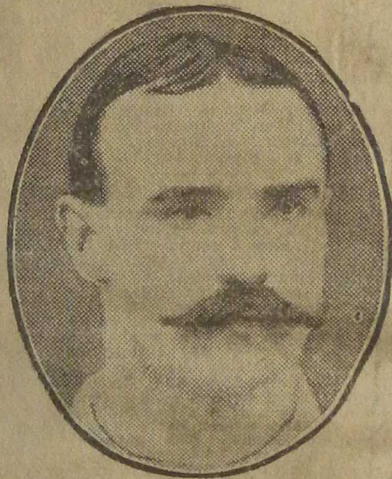
B. M'LEAR, Ireland.

(Photo by R. Scott and Co., Manchester.)

the hands of their opponents. The South Africans were far too smart with the ball to allow any liberties, and when Thrift fumbled the ball which came his way the wily Krige dashed up, seized the leather, and making a corkscrew kind of run, finished up by scoring. Thus the first half ended in the Colonials leading by one penalty goal and three tries to one try. It is a curious fact that not one of the seven tries scored in the match was improved, while a penalty given on each side provided a goal for the opponents. In the second half Ireland played their real true game. The forwards reasserted themselves, and after Parke had placed a penalty goal the try by M'Lear followed, and that put such life into the contest that it was pounds to a pinch almost that Ireland would win. It was not to be, however, and a match in which the South Africans suffered the greatest score against them so far in their tour, ended in a questionable victory for the visitors.

THE PLAYERS.

Joubert, the boyish-looking full back, and said to be the finest player in that position in South Africa, did all that could be expected from him as a fielder and a kicker. His tackling was weak, his physique being against him. The three-quarter line worked exceedingly well, and Loubser showed his speed to advantage, Krige giving his colleague many chances. The half-backs were as alert as usual, and with their Irish friends were as nearly off-side as it was possible to be on the blind side of the referee. Roos resumed his place among the forwards, and his presence and captaincy were of the utmost value. Burger, Martheze, and D. Morkel were very prominent in the pack. On the Irish side Hennebry was the one conspicuous failure. If he is the best man Ireland have got, then the other international matches will be certainties for their opponents if they play on him. Gotto, the new man in the three-quarter line, is not a record breaker by any means, and the Selection Committee might do a lot worse than pick young Allen, of Liverpool, for one of the centres. The exhibitions he has been giving lately fit him for the highest company. M'Lear wandered about too much in the first half, and got out of his place when Loubser ran in his two tries, but he redeemed everything by the glorious try he scored. Thrift was starved by Parke, and beyond some speedy runs by the latter that wing did not do much in attacking, while fumbling led to Krige scoring. Caddell and Robinson did fairly well, but they did not come up to standard. The forwards played manfully in the second half after the experience they had in trying



C. E. ALLEN, Ireland.

(Photo by R. Scott and Co., Manchester.)

to please their backs, and Allen, Tedford, M'Idowie, and Sugars were the best of a real hard fighting lot.

IRELAND.—C. J. Hennebry (Garryowen); A. V. Thrift (Dublin University); B. MacLear (capt.) (Cork County); J. C. Parke (Dublin University); and R. P. O. Gotto (n. Ireland); E. D. Caddell (Wanderers); and J. H. Robinson; C. E. Allen (Derry); J. J. Coffey (Lansdowne); G. T. Hamlet (Old Wesley); H. S. Sugars (Dublin University); A. Tedford (Malone); M'Idowie (Wanderers); H. G. Wilson (Glasgow University); and M. White (Queen's College, Cork).

SOUTH AFRICA.—S. Joubert; A. Stegmann; J. Hirsch; J. Krige; J. Loubser; H. W. Carolin and D. O. Jackson; P. Roos (capt.); W. A. Burger; W. Morkel; H. J. Daneel; D. E. Morkel; W. O. Martheze; P. A. Le Roux; and A. F. Burdett.
Referee: Mr. Tulloch, President Scottish Rugby Union.

AFRICANS v. IRELAND.

An Historic Struggle.

HOME FORWARDS' GREAT RUSHES.

A FATEFUL TEN MINUTES.

Joubert's Brilliant Work.

The South Africans played their second International, and the eighteenth match of their tour, against Ireland at Belfast this afternoon.

The fierce play of the Irish forwards is well known, and it will be remembered that last year they triumphed over Wales, who had defeated England, Scotland, and the New Zealanders, thus spoiling a record that would have been unsurpassed in the history of Rugby football. The New Zealanders, too, felt the sting of the Irishmen's rushes, but superior skill outside the scrum saved them the day, and Ireland suffered defeat by 3 goals (15 points) to nil.

The South Africans' team was very different from that against Scotland. Steve Joubert, who is said to be a greater player than Marsbur and Burmeister, took up his proper position at full-back. In the three-quarter line J. G. Hirsch played in the place of De Villiers—the failure at Glasgow. At half Jackson superseded Dobbin, and Paul Roos again assumed the command of the forwards. Douglas Morkel and Mare are on the injured list, and Le Roux and Martheze were included in the team instead of Mare, Raafi, and Brookes.

Ireland selected a powerful side, but two changes had to be made in the front rank, Knox and Wallace being unable to turn out, and their places being filled by Sugars and McIlldowie. Otherwise the team was as originally selected. The sides were thus as follow:—

Ireland.

Back, H. J. Hennebery (Garryowen).
Three-quarter backs, H. Thrift (Dublin University), B. Maclear (Cork County), J. C. Clarke (Dublin University), and Captain G. Gatto (North Ireland).
Half-backs, E. Caddell (Wanderers) and T. H. Robinson.

Forwards, C. Allen (Derry), J. J. Coffey (Lansdowns), G. Hamlet (Old Wesley), R. Sugars (Dublin University), A. Tedford (Malone), McIlldowie (Wanderers), I. A. Wilson (Glasgow University), and M. White (Queen's College, Cork).

South Africa.

Back, S. Joubert.
Three-quarter backs, A. C. Stegmann, J. G. Hirsch, J. D. Krige, and T. Loubser.
Half-backs, H. W. Carolin and D. C. Jackson.
Forwards, P. Roos (captain), W. A. Burger, W. S. Morkel, H. T. Daniel, A. F. Burdett, W. C. Martheze, P. Le Roux, and D. J. Brink.
Referee, Mr. Tulloch, president Scottish Rugby Union.

THE GAME.

The attendance was hardly so large as might have been expected, probably not exceeding 7,000. The South Africans, on appearance, were decidedly the better team. Winning the toss, Ireland played with the wind in the first half. Carolin kicking off at half-past 2 (Irish time). The game opened in the Irish 25. Ireland were penalised for offside after the second scrum, Robinson being the offender, and Joubert kicked a capital goal. On continuing the Irish forwards went away with a superb rush half the length of the field, but kicking a little too hard at the finish lost the ball, the Africans touching down. Then Carolin started a movement for the Africans, but Douglas Morkel spoiled it by kicking. The game was then contested in the centre. The Irish halves got the ball away and Parke made a brilliant run through. His pass inside, however, was knocked on by Hamlet only a few yards from the African line. Directly afterwards Sugars scored after another run by Parke, but the latter failed with the kick. The score was now three points each. After two minutes' play the Irish backs were again in motion, but Parke being promptly tackled the ball fell back to Hennebery, who found touch with a long kick. Gatto also got in a long kick, and he and Maclear collared Joubert in the South African 25. The Irish forwards went through, but again lost the ball, which went into touch in goal. Afterwards the Colonials were helped by a free kick, reaching the centre. The South Africans backs brought off a bout of passing, but Loubser was collared. Then Stegmann made a long run, but was forced into touch by Thrift and Parke. The Irish forwards quickly recovered the lost ground, taking the play to the centre, while Gatto further improved matters by finding touch with a good kick. The Irish halves had the ball away, but Parke blundered. From a free kick well taken by Carolin the South Africans passed the centre line, but the Irish pack soon rushed back, and the Colonial backs lost further ground by wild lofty passing, the game being taken into their 25. A free kick afforded the visitors some relief, and with Parke failing to gather they again passed the centre. Promptly the Irish forwards headed by Tedford and Sugars rushed back again. Then came a bout of passing and Loubser kicked across, with the result that Hennebery was tackled. Ireland were penalised, but Douglas Morkel failed to kick a goal. The South African backs were again in motion, but Stegmann was collared by Hennebery. Another fine bout ended in Loubser scoring a brilliant try, but Joubert just failed with the place kick. Directly afterwards Loubser scored again after further passing, but Joubert failed, and shortly before the interval Krige, after a clever run, scored.

Half-time Score—		G. T. P.
Africans	.....	1 3 12
Ireland	.....	0 1 3

On restarting Krige replied with a fine kick into touch, and this was supplemented by another kick by Jackson. The South Africans had Wm. Morkel in the three-quarter line, as Stegmann had fallen a trifle lame. The play was in the Ireland half when the home forwards made two brilliant bursts to quick succession almost reaching the South African line where Joubert gathered skilfully and got in his kick. Then Daniel and Le Roux came away with a fast dribble, and Hennebery kicking badly nearly let his side down. A minute later Loubser, picking up

Here, following a run by Parke, the Irish forwards rushed the ball over the line, Sugars getting a try, Parke failed at goal.

Parke lost another rare chance just after by holding on to the ball too long. The Irish forwards were getting the ball in nearly all the scrums. Unlike the Scottish backs, they indulged in passing, which was of fair quality.

Ireland with the wind had all the better of the first 15 minutes' play. At length Jackson set his backs going, but a very fine movement was checked by Mear tackling Loubser. The passing was very neat and quick.

Just after Stegmann got away on the left, but was well tackled by Thrift. The great wing seemed to be hurt by the tackle.

SMART COLONIAL HALVES.

By making good use of the wind by kicking Ireland again got to the South African 25. Here Parke lost another chance by missing a pass. Both South African halves cut it rather fine in following the ball, but they were never really off-side, though they were often able to prevent Robinson getting the ball out to his three. A great rush by the Irish forwards followed, in which Tedford alone took the ball to the South African line. The defence was exact, however, and by judicious kicking the Africans got to the centre.

IRISH FORWARDS TIRE.

From the centre Jackson set his backs going, but Loubser was tackled. In the ensuing scramble Caddell was penalised, but Morkel failed at goal, though he made a fine kick. Just after a very fine bout of the South Africans ended in Hennebery tackling Stegmann.

Another round was more successful, Loubser getting a great try after all the backs had handled. The South Africans were now getting the ball, and the Irish forwards appeared to be tiring. In any case they were taking little share in the defence, and were not playing nearly so well as at the start.

Loubser got another try from an equally fine movement, and Ireland now looked a beaten side. In any case the South Africans got the ball, and the Irish defence was easily pierced, the backs being both outmanoeuvred and outpaced Ireland showed little of Scotland's skill in the tight, and the run of the first half showed how well and pertinaciously the Scottish forwards played last Saturday.

The South Africans thoroughly deserved their half-time lead, for which the falling off of the Irish forwards and the weak tackling of the Irish backs was responsible.

The Second Half.

With the wind at their backs the general expectations were that the South Africans would make things very warm for Ireland. The backs at once showed that they would make better use of the wind than the Irish backs had done, Jackson giving them lodgment in Irish territory with a fine kick.

Stegmann was too damaged to do himself justice, however. This most decided handicap cramped Hirsch, for it was little use giving Stegmann the ball. In consequence Morkel was taken out to help the three.

The expected ascendancy was not at once forthcoming. The Irish forwards by a great rush taking the ball to the African line, Joubert just saving in time.

The Irish forwards seemed better for their rest and were certainly playing with renewed energy. Their spell of attacking was but brief, however, Joubert with a huge kick taking the game to the Irish territory. There a great tackle by Maclear of Loubser and a knock on by the latter saved the Irish line.

MACLEAR'S FINE DEFENCE.

The Africans were running all sorts of risks to get the ball to their backs, but after 15 minutes there had been no scoring, Maclear being the chief stumbling block, his spilling and tackling being most effective.

The South Africans were getting the ball as during the last ten minutes of the first half, but the Irish backs were defending better. After 20 minutes' play and several narrow escapes the Irish forwards got away with some fine passing, Joubert making a fine tackle, though the movement was stopped by a pass forward.

However, from the ensuing scrum Jackson was penalised for not putting the ball in straight, and Parke kicked a fine goal. This success seemed to put new life into the Irish forwards, who were now playing with great dash.

IRISH FORWARDS REVIVE.

Ireland pressed hotly, and the excitement was intense, but a good kick by Hirsch gave relief. Ireland were soon back again, however, and the excitement again rose high, the crowd roaring themselves hoarse.

Ireland seemed in, but Joubert made a great save and kick.

The little back had so far justified all the good things said of him.

A kick by Carolin, and a fumble by the Irish full back let the South Africans attack, but the Irish defence was now better, the forwards taking a far bigger share in the defence than during the fatal 10 minutes at the end of the second half.

MACLEAR'S GREAT RUN.

With only a few minutes left for play, Maclear picked up in the loose and got clear, easily beating Joubert and scoring in the corner. He ran nearly the length of the field.

The finish was desperately exciting, for just after Maclear scored Ireland were twice nearly in, and then scored and equalised from a line-out. Sugars getting a try. Parke just failed with the goal.

South Africa attacked again, and once had the line at their mercy.

Just after they scored, and again got the line in a match too exciting to describe in its concluding stages, and perhaps the most remarkable on record.

AFTER THOUGHTS.

"Ireland Unlucky to Lose."

The following summary gives the results of the first matches played by the South Africans and New Zealanders respectively:

SPRINGBOKS' SECOND IRISH VICTORY.

THRIFT EMULATES MACLEAR'S BRILLIANCY.

DUBLIN A MAN SHORT.

SPRINGBOKS, 28 pts.; DUBLIN UNIVERSITY, 3.

It has been left to Ireland to score the two finest individual tries against the team from South Africa, as on the Lansdowne-road ground, Dublin, yesterday afternoon H. Thrift, the Irish international, scored a grand try, running very nearly from half-way right through the whole of the opposing team.

No opening was made for him. He had to do all the hard work himself, as it was not a try in which any other of the backs handled the ball at all.

Thrift took possession by a display of great smartness and, dodging in between the scrum and outside Springbok half, he had practically only Joubert to beat.

He did this by a most remarkable swerve, leaving the little man standing while he scored near the right-hand post, a couple of reinforcing Springboks having come hotfoot from nowhere to stop the try.

It was considered another injustice when Parke missed the goal, but the onlookers did not know what a terrible shaking-up Parke had had when he flung himself a few minutes previously at Marsburg's feet, only to get a heel of "Marsey's" boot on the side of the head.

For two minutes he sat in Marsburg's lap while that sportsman held his head up for the ubiquitous Moon to sponge Parke's face.

It was some little time before this year's captain of Ireland quite recovered, and the shaking up certainly troubled him for the rest of the game. Nor were the University's troubles ended here. One of their forwards, Quinlan, badly twisted his ankle early in the game, and took no further part in it.

GRAND IRISH DEFENCE.

But for these misfortunes the score would not have read 2 goals 6 tries to 1 try, as the Irishmen's defence was grand, and not only that, but there was any amount of pace among the backs.

They were beaten for quickness and intelligence at half-back, where Smartt did not appear to relish the stern work that a half-back must be able unflinchingly to face if he is to succeed. In the other departments of the position this player did not belie his name, and should he get over the weakness mentioned he might easily be heard of again.

The tale of the actual play is soon told. The "Boers," as some of the Irish papers prefer to call them, lost the toss, and had to play the first half facing a good breeze and a bright sun. Parke made very clever use of the wind, and Young, a thin slip of a lad, who has only just left school, and who came in at full-back for O'Rorke, was not slow in following the Irish international's example.

Both were very good in finding touch down wind, but what a wonderful display Joubert gave against that element! He is the most scientific full-back that has been seen for years in Dublin, where the football authorities are using all their persuasive eloquence in order to get him to go to Dublin instead of Edinburgh when he comes over next year.

Aided by this good defensive punting, the University pack kept the game about neutral ground for quite a long time.

THE FIRST TRY.

The actual first score came from a cross-kick from the opposite wing, four or five Springboks being up with the ball when Martheze opened the account. Marsburg soon followed suit, and then "Paddy" Carolin took three points out of his fatherland. Bad cess to him!

Then came Thrift's try, and with it a revival of the University dash. At it they went, these "bhoys," but their inferiority at half-back quite put the stopper on the question of further score.

A grand try by De Villiers, who, with "Baron" Hirsch, simply walked round the Dublin right wing, gave Young no chance, and from the pace of this score the losers never recovered.

There was a lot of cross-kicking, some excellent handling by W. A. Millar, P. Le Roux, D. Brookes, and D. Morkel, and the Irishmen invariably landed the man without the ball. Martheze took three tries in the game.

The place kicking was always there or thereabouts, but in eight efforts, seven of which were within an ace of scoring, only

WILL WALES WIN?

HER CHANCES IN THE MATCH OF THE SEASON.

TACTICS VERSUS SPEED.

The South Africans have been beaten by Scotland and have defeated Ireland. Will they beat Wales at Swansea next Saturday?

I do not think they will (writes our Welsh correspondent). Let us frankly confess that the Springboks are a better team than they appeared to be when they played their first game, for only a great team could have beaten Ireland at Belfast.

It was a very much better performance than their defeat of Glamorgan at Cardiff, though the margin of points was the same. Yet, in spite of last Saturday's success, I think the Springboks will be defeated by Wales on Saturday next.

There is no spirit of over-confidence abroad in Wales. Level-headed critics recognise that Scotland did no more for the South Africans than they have done for Wales on Scottish soil, and they recognise that the Springboks at Belfast attained a success which has often been denied to Wales. Yet they think Wales will win.

There has been a change of feeling since the period immediately following the defeats of Newport and Glamorganshire. Many people who then thought that Wales would be defeated now think that they will win. This change has not been brought about by Scotland's victory—it is due entirely to a renewal of faith in Welsh football following upon the form shown in the Glamorgan-Monmouthshire match last week.

That game showed that the glory had not departed. In the first place, it showed that Gwyn Nicholls could emerge from his retirement and prove himself still the soundest centre three-quarter in Wales. What that means in moral weight, as well as in playing capacity, it is impossible to over-estimate.

GREAT FORWARD STRENGTH.

In the second place, it showed that Welsh forwards have not lost the qualities which have made them such important contributors to so many Welsh victories since 1897. The mighty scrummaging power, the skilful healing, the fire and cleverness of their work in the open were all revealed again, and there was such a resuscitation of form that it was felt that the Welsh Union ought to be able to select a fifteen which could beat the Springboks.

When the result of the Selection Committee's deliberations became known it was generally felt that they had done so.

Of course, there is not complete satisfaction. It is at least open to question whether a mistake has not been made in dropping H. B. Winfield for J. C. M. Dyke. Broadly, the majority of the committee preferred Dyke's greater sturdiness and superior tackling powers to Winfield's better judgment, greater cleverness, and longer and more accurate kicking.

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The eight forwards chosen, new men and old, are worthy of their honours. In a sense, it is no exaggeration to say that the fortunes of the game will turn upon the capacity of the Welsh forwards to play an aggressive game. It will not be sufficient for them to hold the scrum, and heel, though that will be part of their duty. They have to smash through the South Africans' forwards and halves as they crashed through the Scottish pack in 1902, and they have to be as watchful in defence as they were against Ireland in 1905.

For my own part, I have doubts as to the superlative attacking capacity of the present Welsh backs. They are the best that can be got, and there is something wonderful in the fact that in December 1906, of the six attacking backs, four should be the same men who were the first choice in 1902 (four of them played in 1901, though not together).

THREEQUARTERS BEATEN FOR PACE.

I believe they will play a thoroughly sound and clever game, but, with the exception of E. T. Morgan, the Welsh three-quarters will be beaten for pace, and, though they will probably have something to reveal in the matter of strategy and tactics, the South Africans' defence is so good and their pace is so great that this is not a case in which it can be said, "Give our three-quarters a chance."

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The place kicking was always there or thereabouts, but in eight efforts, seven of which were within an ace of scoring, only two got over the bar.

To-day, the Springboks once again invade the stronghold of Rugby away in the West, and it is not likely the fact that they do not bring an unbeaten certificate with them will seriously trouble the attendance at Swansea.

The appointment of Arthur O. Jones to referee the game is hailed with the utmost satisfaction, and everything points to a memorable match.

For a game of such importance the Springboks could have done without the mishaps which will certainly keep Mare and possibly Stegmann out of the game, but such is only the fortune which every touring team meets with and expects.

SPRINGBOKS V. ALL BLACKS.

The following tables show the complete record of the Springboks' tour to the present date.

It can also be seen exactly how the New Zealanders fared in the games where they met the same fourteen opponents as the Springboks. This brings the African score down to 69-40-279, giving the All Blacks a long lead against the same opposition:—

SPRINGBOKS.

	G.	T.	P.		G.	T.	P.
Sept. 27.—S. Africans	5	4	37	E. Midlands	0	0	0
Sept. 29.—S. Africans	5	2	29	Midlands	0	0	0
Oct. 3.—S. Africans	3	2	21	Kent	0	0	0
Oct. 6.—S. Africans	4	1	22	Durham	0	0	0
Oct. 10.—S. Africans	4	8	44	North'd	0	0	4
Oct. 15.—S. Africans	4	6	34	Yorkshire	0	0	0
Oct. 17.—S. Africans	4	2	22	Devon	0	0	0
Oct. 20.—S. Africans	2	2	13	Somerset	0	0	0
Oct. 22.—S. Africans	1	2	9	Middlesex	0	0	0
Oct. 27.—S. Africans	0	1	3	Newport	0	0	0
Nov. 3.—S. Africans	3	2	6	Glamorgan	0	0	0
Nov. 7.—S. Africans	3	4	24	Gloster	0	0	0
Nov. 10.—S. Africans	4	3	23	Oxford U.	1	0	3
Nov. 13.—S. Africans	4	4	32	Cardiff U.	0	0	0
Nov. 17.—S. Africans	0	0	0	S. of Scotl'd	1	0	6
Nov. 20.—S. Africans	4	5	35	Scotland	0	2	8
Nov. 24.—S. Africans	1	4	15	N. of Scotl'd	1	0	5
Nov. 27.—S. Africans	2	6	28	Ireland	1	3	12
				Dublin U.	0	1	3
Totals	54	61	432	Totals	6	8	47

WHAT THE ALL BLACKS DID.

	G.	T.	P.		G.	T.	P.
New Zealand	2	2	21	Midlands	1	0	5
New Zealand	3	3	16	Durham	0	1	3
New Zealand	2	7	31	Northumborland	0	0	0
New Zealand	9	5	40	Yorkshire	0	0	0
New Zealand	3	6	32	Devon	0	0	0
New Zealand	5	3	33	Somerset	1	0	4
New Zealand	1	1	9	Middlesex	0	0	0
New Zealand	0	3	9	Newport	0	0	0
New Zealand	7	2	34	Glamorgan	1	0	3
New Zealand	4	9	47	Gloster	0	0	0
New Zealand	1	3	14	Oxford Univ.	0	0	0
New Zealand	0	4	12	Cambridge Univ.	0	0	0
New Zealand	3	0	15	Scotland	1	1	0
				Ireland	0	0	0
Totals	45	50	367	Totals	4	2	23

GREAT FORWARD PROBLEM.

In the second place, it showed that Welsh forwards have not lost the qualities which have made them such important contributors to so many Welsh victories since 1897. The mighty scrummaging power, the skilful heeling, the fire and cleverness of their work in the open were all revealed again, and there was such a resuscitation of form that it was felt that the Welsh Union ought to be able to select a fifteen which could beat the Springboks.

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For my own part, I have doubts as to the superlative attacking capacity of the present Welsh backs. They are the best that can be got, and there is something wonderful in the fact that in December 1906, of the six attacking backs, four should be the same men who were the first choice in 1902 (four of them played in 1901, though not together).

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If victory is to rest with Wales the forwards and halves will have to contribute their best and rather more than their average. The Welsh forwards are of just the type to throw the South Africans off their game, and possibly in Owen and Bush they have to meet two individuals whose capacity is not to be equalled by any other two halves in the kingdom.

There is a serious element of uncertainty about Bush, it is true, but he is the one half playing to-day who is most likely to make the Springboks' aggressive defence look foolish.

Not since the days of Arthur Gould has there been a player with such a capacity for leaving the defence standing with the least apparent effort.

He is a man who has to be watched every moment of the game, for he is as elusive as he is unexpected, and if he is in form on Saturday Wales will be admirably served.

To sum up, the Welsh forwards are expected to outlast the South African pack (whatever eight are selected), to beat them badly in the open, and thoroughly in heeling. The Welsh halves should have some advantage in tactics, and a slight superiority individually; while at three-quarter there will be a great tussle, in which the Welsh defence—if watchful from the first—should be capable of coping with the South African attack.

Their supreme mastery of tactics should just land them home safely a few points to the good. The Welsh forwards, I think, will turn the scale.

TREW UNABLE TO PLAY.

W. Trew, the Swansea captain, injured his back in the Albion and Plymouth matches, and will be unable to play against the Springboks on Saturday. J. L. Williams, of Cardiff, will take Trew's place, and Wales will not be weakened by the change. Joseph and Owen are also suffering from minor injuries, but they hope to be fit. The Cardiff and Pontypridd match and the fixture between Llanelly and Neath have both been postponed owing to the great match at Swansea.

THE HOPE OF WALES TEAM TO PLAY THE SPRINGBOKS AT SWANSEA.

NEW MEN CHOSEN.

After the match between Glamorgan and Monmouthshire at Cardiff yesterday, the following team was chosen to do duty for Wales against the South Africans at Swansea on December 1:—

BACK.

J. C. M. Dyke (Penarth).

THREE-QUARTER BACKS.

E. G. Nicholls (Cardiff) (capt.).

R. T. Gabe (Cardiff).

W. Trew (Swansea).

E. T. Morgan (Guy's Hospital).

HALF BACKS.

R. M. Owen (Swansea).

P. F. Bush (Cardiff).

FORWARDS.

W. Joseph (Swansea).

A. F. Harding (London Welsh).

G. Travers (Pill Harriers).

J. F. Williams (London Welsh).

D. Jones (Treherbert).

C. M. Pritchard (Newport).

J. C. Jenkins (London Welsh).

R. Thomas (Mountain Ash).

NOTES ON THE TEAM.

By PERCY F. BUSH (Welsh International)

The new men in the side are Dyke (full back), Jenkins and Thomas (forwards). The inclusion of Dyke is a great surprise, although he is certainly an excellent man. His general play is finished, and he breaks through sometimes in the style of Strand-Jones. H. B. Winfield, who is displaced, is the last man to grudge Dyke his "cap."

Jenkins and Thomas thoroughly merit their selection. Both are hard working, sound forwards, always on the ball, good pushers, and great in the loose. It was expected that Brown and Neill (Cardiff) would have been included, but it was not to be; but like Ivor Morgan, of Swansea, their turn is bound to come.

The remainder of the team, with the single exception of Trew, who was on the sick list at the time, played for Wales v. New Zealand last season, when the All Blacks sustained their solitary defeat. The presence of Gwyn Nicholls, who will captain the side, is bound to have a great effect on the game, for besides his actual play his generalship is of the very highest class.

J. L. Williams, of Cardiff, is unfortunate in having such great players as Morgan and Trew to fight against. With less formidable opponents as candidates for places he was an absolute certainty.

The team is a good one, and ought to uphold the prestige of Welsh football.

GWYN NICHOLLS'S RETURN.

FAMOUS WELSH CENTRE AS BRILLIANT AS EVER.

GLAMORGAN (h), 24pts.; MONMOUTH, 3.

Gwyn Nicholls made his first appearance of the season in the match between Glamorgan and Monmouth at Cardiff, and as he led the Glamorgan men on to the field he received a great reception from the assembled thousands.

The game was a fine open one from the start. In the first half Glamorgan scored three tries through Maddocks, J. L. Williams, and Harding. The first one was the result of some fine passing; both the last tries were brilliantly obtained. One being converted, Glamorgan led at half-time by 11 points to 3, Monmouth having scored from a forward rush.

In the second half Glamorgan went off with a rush. The halves combined better, and the game was very bright to watch. Williams, Maddocks, and Bush scored further tries, and Dyke converting two, Glamorgan won in great style by 3 goals 3 tries to 1 try.

Gwyn Nicholls signalled his return to the field by playing a magnificent game. Both in attack and defence he was superb, and all through his work was that of a master.

Gabe, who was not at all well, performed excellently and Maddocks and Williams on the wings were both great.

The halves were practically strangers, and did not hit it off well together.

The forwards played a very fine game, the best of a good lot being Harding, Brown, Morgan, and Neill.

Dyke made a first-class custodian, his kicking and fielding being brilliant.

Monmouthshire were best served by J. P. Jones in the centre and the two halves, who played brilliantly. The forwards were a grand pack, and were admirably led by Travers the international.

PERCY F. BUSH.

SPRINGBOKS V. WALES.

WILL THEY SUCCEED WHERE THE ALL BLACKS FAILED?

THE HANDICAP OF A GREASY BALL.

The supreme moment of the South African tour has arrived, and to-day they play the full strength of Wales on the St. Helen's ground at Swansea.

It will be remembered that last season the All Blacks, after a triumphant tour through the United Kingdom, were defeated by Wales. That defeat was unexpected, except by the most sanguine Welshmen, who, of course, always believe that the magic word "Wales" spells "success" against the world.

There is little doubt that when the New Zealanders tackled Wales at the end of an arduous tour they were at a disadvantage, as some of their men were stale and others unfit.

It is different in the case of the Springboks, whose men are in the pink of condition; but, unfortunately, they have quite a number of players on the sick-list.

The Springboks arrived in Swansea on Wednesday morning, having travelled by the Fishguard route. When seen last night they looked to have completely regained their land-legs, but in conversation with a special representative of the "Daily Mail," Andrew Morkel said, "We had a terrible journey across, and most of us helped to feed the fishes, but we soon got over it."

The Colonials are far from charmed with Swansea. One of them remarked, "Of all the towns we have been in, this is about the worst." Since they arrived in Swansea the Springboks have been a source of increasing interest to the Welsh people, who follow them through the streets in little groups. They have practised assiduously on the St. Helen's ground, and the keenness with which they have carried on their work, even after dusk, has created a great impression.

The point about the South Africans' preliminary work which has chiefly impressed the Welshmen is their wonderful accuracy in picking up dropping or badly directed passes. This is high praise indeed from Wales. Everybody is remarking on their wonderful pace. Joubert is said to have been untiring in his place-kicking work, and the Africans evidently do not mean to let those two extra points go without a struggle. Rain has fallen heavily in Swansea during the last few days, and the ground will be very soft. In places pools of water are to be seen.

As to the prospects of the match there is no disguising the fact that the Africans think they have a fair chance of success, for they consider they have learned something about Welsh methods from the Glamorgan match. The Welshmen, however, will not dream of defeat, and all the experts fail to see any department in which they can be considered inferior to the Colonials.

The fact that the ground is likely to be so soft has rejoiced the Welshmen's hearts, and the general tendency is to lay a shade of odds on Wales. It is bad luck for the Colonials that there does not seem any prospect of an improvement in the weather. Local prophets promise a steady rain for this afternoon. The critics in Swansea rely on the wet ground and the local atmosphere to pull their side through, though quite willing to concede to the Springboks superiority in speed and physical strength.

Needless to say, the match is to be made the occasion of a general holiday. All offices close at twelve, and the Assize Court will adjourn at 1.30.

Arrangements have been made for a record crowd, and such is fully expected, for visitors were steadily arriving throughout the whole of yesterday, and most of the hotels are full.

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SPRINGBOKS.

BACK.

S. Joubert.

THREE-QUARTER BACKS.

A. F. Marburg. J. D. Krige.

SPRINGBOKS' GREAT VICTORY.

MAIN OBJECT OF THE TOUR ACHIEVED.

WALES BEATEN POINTLESS AT SWANSEA.

SOUTH AFRICA, 11 pts.; WALES, 0.

The great match is over. The supreme contest of the whole South African tour is a matter of history, and where New Zealand failed the Springboks have succeeded. Their most ambitious hopes have materialised into convincing fact, for Wales, the home of Rugby football, has been fairly and squarely beaten on her native soil, and under conditions favourable to a typical exposition of Welsh methods, by a placed goal and two tries to nil.

Nor does the fact that the Springboks crossed the home line three times, while managing to keep a clean sheet on the other side, fully represent the greatness of their victory.

Indeed, it was more than a victory. It was a complete triumph, and the success was the outcome of keen brains and masterly counsel.

Soon after the game had been started the Springboks made it clear that they knew as much about the Welsh game as the originators of it themselves. It was a surprise to everybody, and the fact nonplussed the Welshmen.

For a moment the home team wavered from their usual methods, and by the time the game had run little more than a quarter of its course the Springboks had seized Wales as if in the hold of a wrestler, from which the beaten team never escaped.

Having shown superb defence in the face of keen Welsh attacks, the South Africans were let in to attack through a quick and masterly punt from Raaff, after the giant of the team had brought off one of those wonderful efforts from the line-out of which he alone is capable.

The second try came just before the interval, Loubeur getting in wide on the other wing after an ideal bout of typical Welsh passing, in which the Africans always held the thirteenth trump.

The third and last try was added by Raaff, and was, perhaps, the best effort of the whole match. From a scramble near the Welsh goal he got possession. Though nearly all the Welsh pack made an effort to tackle him, he was too strong. Passing back neatly, he was able to clear himself. He then regained the ball and dashed over the line, in spite of the fact that he all but got his teeth kicked out for his trouble.

The Welshmen rose to the African giant with a tremendous cheer, and his sorrows were soon forgotten, a broad smile coming over his face as an enthusiastic miner sang out, "Never mind, sir, we'll buy you a new set."

It was quite Raaff's day out, "Kimberley"—as his friends call him—being very prominent, as much by his magnificent play as his extra inches. He seemed to be everywhere, now leading a forward rush, now, in less time than it takes to record, tackling one of the Welsh backs as he got into his stride.

The victory must be put down as one of the most masterly achievements that have ever been recorded on a football field, and was the result of perfect condition, cool calculation, and determination.

THE TASK OF THE TOUR.

Perhaps the last-named quality was the biggest factor of all in the success. When the Springboks reached these shores three months ago they made no secret of the fact that the one great object they had in view, the one prize for which they were striving, was the defeat of Wales—the accomplishment of the task that baffled New Zealand.

They left no stone unturned to gain their object, and their efforts have been crowned by a victory won by a quick, and brainy football—a victory that was acclaimed by the most bigoted Welsh partisans to have been fully deserved.

The Springboks had seen and learnt things in the Newport and Glamorgan matches, and the lessons had not gone begging. For every little trick the Welshmen knew, the Springboks had thought out some scientific move that was always as good and generally more deadly.

The key to the whole success lay with the African half-backs—Jackson and Dobbin. Jackson looks little older than a schoolboy, and in fact had not had a vast deal of experience in first-class football, but he has improved with every game he has played.

He played opposite to the famous Dicky Owen, at the base of the scrum, on Saturday. The Welshman tried all the artifice of which he is master, but Jackson was always his master, and in the end made both Bush and Owen look to be almost in a different class.

Behind the scrum Dobbin was Dobbin at his best, and he played the "stand off" game to perfection. True, he did not seem to give the ball to his three-quarters so often as Bush on the other side, but that was only another proof of his intelligence. Never, indeed, did he pass out unless he had quickly grasped that it was just the moment for the move, and something tangible invariably resulted.

Beaten in tactics, the Welshmen made a fatal mistake in adopting methods that were primarily defensive. This is just the point at which the South Africans excel, and it was simply putting the game into the Springboks' hands.

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ENGLAND V. SOUTH AFRICA.

BACK.

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F. G. Brooks (East Midlands).

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WILL THEY SUCCEED WHERE THE ALL BLACKS FAILED?

THE HANDICAP OF A GREASY BALL.

The supreme moment of the South African tour has arrived, and to-day they play the full strength of Wales on the St. Helen's ground at Swansea.

It will be remembered that last season the All Blacks, after a triumphant tour through the United Kingdom, were defeated by Wales. That defeat was unexpected, except by the most sanguine Welshmen, who, of course, always believe that the magic word "Wales" spells "success" against the world.

There is little doubt that when the New Zealanders tackled Wales at the end of an arduous tour they were at a disadvantage, as some of their men were stale and others unfit.

It is different in the case of the Springboks, whose men are in the pink of condition; but, unfortunately, they have quite a number of players on the sick-list.

The Springboks arrived in Swansea on Wednesday morning, having travelled by the Fishguard route. When seen last night they looked to have completely regained their land-legs, but in conversation with a special representative of the "Daily Mail," Andrew Morkel said, "We had a terrible journey across, and most of us helped to feed the fishes, but we soon got over it."

The Colonials are far from charmed with Swansea. One of them remarked, "Of all the towns we have been in, this is about the worst." Since they arrived in Swansea the Springboks have been a source of increasing interest to the Welsh people, who follow them through the streets in little groups. They have practised assiduously on the St. Helen's ground, and the keenness with which they have carried on their work, even after dusk, has created a great impression.

The point about the South Africans' preliminary work which has chiefly impressed the Welshmen is their wonderful accuracy in picking up dropping or badly directed passes. This is high praise indeed from Wales. Everybody is remarking on their wonderful pace. Joubert is said to have been untiring in his place-kicking work, and the Africans evidently do not mean to let those two extra points go without a struggle. Rain has fallen heavily in Swansea during the last few days, and the ground will be very soft. In places pools of water are to be seen.

As to the prospects of the match there is no disguising the fact that the Africans think they have a fair chance of success, for they consider they have learned something about Welsh methods from the Glamorgan match. The Welshmen, however, will not dream of defeat, and all the experts fail to see any department in which they can be considered inferior to the Colonials.

The fact that the ground is likely to be so soft has rejoiced the Welshmen's hearts, and the general tendency is to lay a shade of odds on Wales. It is bad luck for the Colonials that there does not seem any prospect of an improvement in the weather. Local prophets promise a steady rain for this afternoon. The critics in Swansea rely on the wet ground and the local atmosphere to pull their side through, though quite willing to concede to the Springboks superiority in speed and physical strength. Needless to say, the match is to be made the occasion of a general holiday. All offices close at twelve, and the Assize Court will adjourn at 1.30.

Arrangements have been made for a record crowd, and such is fully expected, for visitors were steadily arriving throughout the whole of yesterday, and most of the hotels are full.

WALES.

BACK.

J. C. M. Dyke (Penarth).

THREE-QUARTER BACKS.

E. T. Morgan (London Welsh).
E. Gwyn Nicholls (Cardiff).
R. T. Gabe (Cardiff).
J. L. Williams (Cardiff).

HALF-BACKS.

R. M. Owen (Swansea).
Percy F. Bush (Cardiff).

FORWARDS.

A. F. Harding (London Welsh).
J. F. Williams (London Welsh).
J. C. Jenkins (London Welsh).
G. Travers (Pill Harriers).
W. Joseph (Swansea).
C. M. Pritchard (Newport).
R. Thomas (Mountain Ash).
D. Jones (Aberdare).

SPRINGBOKS.

BACK.

S. Joubert.

THREE-QUARTER BACKS.

A. F. Marburg. J. D. Krige.
H. A. de Villiers. J. A. Loubser.

HALF-BACKS.

F. J. Dobbin. D. C. Jackson.

FORWARDS.

P. Roos. J. J. Brink.
W. A. Burger. W. C. Martheze.
H. C. Daneel. J. W. E. Raaf.
P. Le Roux. W. S. Morkel.

SPRINGBOKS' GREAT VICTORY.

MAIN OBJECT OF THE TOUR ACHIEVED.

WALES BEATEN POINTLESS AT SWANSEA.

SOUTH AFRICA, 11 pts.; WALES, 0.

The great match is over. The supreme contest of the whole South African tour is a matter of history, and where New Zealand failed the Springboks have succeeded. Their most ambitious hopes have materialised into convincing fact, for Wales, the home of Rugby football, has been fairly and squarely beaten on her native soil, and under conditions favourable to a typical exposition of Welsh methods, by a placed goal and two tries to nil.

Nor does the fact that the Springboks crossed the home line three times, while managing to keep a clean sheet on the other side, fully represent the greatness of their victory.

Indeed, it was more than a victory. It was a complete triumph, and the success was the outcome of keen brains and masterly counsel.

Soon after the game had been started the Springboks made it clear that they knew as much about the Welsh game as the originators of it themselves. It was a surprise to everybody, and the fact nonplussed the Welshmen.

For a moment the home team wavered from their usual methods, and by the time the game had run little more than a quarter of its course the Springboks had seized Wales as if in the hold of a wrestler, from which the beaten team never escaped.

Having shown superb defence in the face of keen Welsh attacks, the South Africans were let in to attack through a quick and masterly punt from Raaf, after the giant of the team had brought off one of those wonderful efforts from the line-out of which he alone is capable.

The second try came just before the interval, Loubser getting in wide on the other wing after an ideal bout of typical Welsh passing, in which the Africans always held the thirteenth trump.

The third and last try was added by Raaf, and was, perhaps, the best effort of the whole match. From a scramble near the Welsh goal he got possession. Though nearly all the Welsh pack made an effort to tackle him, he was too strong. Passing back neatly, he was able to clear himself. He then regained the ball and dashed over the line, in spite of the fact that he all but got his teeth kicked out for his trouble.

The Welshmen rose to the African giant with a tremendous cheer, and his sorrows were soon forgotten, a broad smile coming over his face as an enthusiastic miner sang out, "Never mind, sir, we'll buy you a new set."

It was quite Raaf's day out, "Kimberley"—as his friends call him—being very prominent, as much by his magnificent play as his extra inches. He seemed to be everywhere, now leading a forward rush, now, in less time than it takes to record, tackling one of the Welsh backs as he got into his stride.

The victory must be put down as one of the most masterly achievements that have ever been recorded on a football field, and was the result of perfect condition, cool calculation, and determination.

THE TASK OF THE TOUR.

Perhaps the last-named quality was the biggest factor of all in the success. When the Springboks reached these shores three months ago they made no secret of the fact that the one great object they had in view, the one prize for which they were striving, was the defeat of Wales—the accomplishment of the task that baffled New Zealand.

matches, and the lessons had not gone begging. For every little trick the Welshmen knew, the Springboks had thought out some scientific move that was always as good and generally more deadly.

The key to the whole success lay with the African half-backs—Jackson and Dobbin. Jackson looks little older than a schoolboy, and in fact has not had a vast deal of experience in first-class football, but he has improved with every game he has played.

He played opposite to the famous Dicky Owen, at the base of the scrum, on Saturday. The Welshman tried all the artifice of which he is master, but Jackson was always his master, and in the end made both Bush and Owen look to be almost in a different class.

Behind the scrum Dobbin was Dobbin at his best, and he played the "stand off" game to perfection. True, he did not seem to give the ball to his three-quarters so often as Bush on the other side, but that was only another proof of his intelligence. Never, indeed, did he pass out unless he had quickly grasped that it was just the moment for the move, and something tangible invariably resulted.

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SPRINGBOKS IN SWANSEA.

HUMILIATION OF THE WELSHMEN.

A HARD BUT UNEXCITING MATCH.

By PHILISTINE.

THE game at Swansea was approaching its completion when a member of the Welsh Rugby Union Committee came to the press stand, and, taking up my card of the names of the players, he wrote "Ichabod" across the Welsh team, and then walked away with a sad look in his eyes, and as if he were too full to express his sorrow. It was a silent but eloquent testimony to his feelings, and the feelings of many thousands who were standing round the classic enclosure of the Swansea Club. It is said that all records in the matter of attendances at Rugby matches in Wales were shattered by the crowd which thronged to see the South Africans fight the Welsh representatives. What came they out to see? "A Springbok shaken by a leak!" That was the idea, but anticipations were tinged with rosy colours that faded into a dull and dreary drab as the afternoon progressed. The only change in the Welsh team from that selected was the appearance of J. L. Williams on the left wing for W. Trew. The ground was in good condition, considering the recent rains, and though several smart showers fell on Saturday midday they had no effect upon the game or the spectators. After the usual preliminaries of photography, the men came on the field and were received with musical honours. There were no war cries, but much salvation.

THE GAME.

After Joseph started the game and the ball had gone into touch Loubser made a dodgy run through a lot of opponents, and he kicked into the Welsh half. A spirited movement by the backs, in which Gabe was prominent, nearly ended in disaster for the South Africans, a knock-on by Morgan at the critical moment spoiling the chance. Joubert made a fine run following some passing, but Morgan collared the

another streak of bad luck. The forwards were regarded as the flower of all the scrummagers in Wales, and generally speaking the team was par excellence, and it was not so much the question of winning but the enormous number of points which the Welshmen would compile. The quiet confidence with which the people referred to the expected victory was appalling. But in one short hour all the confidence had departed, and only quietness remained. Some of the leading officials of the Welsh Union expressed their views on the match with delightful and refreshing frankness. One even went so far as to say that when the next international team was selected two new three-quarters, one half-back, and two or three fresh forwards would be required. How the mighty have fallen. I don't think any blanchments of a committeeman will coax Gwyn Nicholls to don the red jersey again. Youth will be served, and the young man is knocking at the door of the Welsh Union. Of course, everybody saw that when they saw the Welshmen being beaten out of all shape and system. All their negative comments became positive compliments to the South Africans. That the game was desperately fought goes without saying. The very desperation of the men had its effect upon their play. The tackling was something to remember, and apart from the injuries which every now and then led to a momentary stoppage of the game, there will be this morning some aching limbs and stiff joints to nurse as a result of the free and frequent jamming to Mother Earth which the players gave and received. The superiority of the South Africans all round and especially in the three-quarter line, was most marked. They betrayed a finer intelligence in anticipating a movement and were quicker to seize opportunities that came their way. They were not so distinguished in their work as they were at Belfast, but they were more pertinacious. The fact that thirty-three minutes of the game had been played before Joubert scored the first try is some evidence of the determined defence of the Welsh team, and the inability of the attackers to get rough. Before the interval arrived Loubser ran in the second try, and both scores were the result of passing bouts which were quite in the Welsh style of other days, but not of Saturday. After the interval Raaf was credited with a try, the outcome of some splendid work by Brink and Krige, and when Joubert placed a goal that constituted the whole of the points registering done in this eventful match. The Welshmen had more than one opportunity in the second half, and on one occasion, when Joubert had replaced Marsburg at full back, Nicholls had a chance which a few years ago would certainly have been taken with accuracy, but the veteran unfortunately knocked forward when he had a fine opening and only a few yards to go, and this was the last straw that gave the Welsh game the hump. After that the spectators seemed as if they didn't care whether it snowed. They certainly did not care about the match, for they began to leave in droves, and there was still ten minutes more play. Perhaps if they had sung "Land of my Fathers" or "Sospan Fach" before the match they might have frightened the "Springboks." But just as they did the "All Blacks." But these international encounters have not as yet been attended by any attempt to warble war-cries. Nor do the South Africans seemingly care to be identified with anything so theatrical. If they have not beaten Scotland, they can say that Wales have been overthrown and up to the present their record possesses a beauty which the New Zealanders will envy.

THE PLAYERS.

It was originally intended, according to the official card, that Joubert should operate at full back, but when the team fielded Marsburg was discovered in that position, and the little wonder from South Africa filled the vacancy on the left wing. To say that Marsburg gave a dazzling display is to utter the most platitudinous play is to utter the most platitudinous. He was at fault occasionally, but he was a big factor in making the Welshmen run themselves to a standstill. Knowing his splendid powers as a fielder and a punter, it was curious to see how certain of the



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young African. An offside tackle by D. Jones gave the Springboks a chance of a goal, but Joubert's kick fell short. A fine movement was seen when Bush passed the leather, and Gabe, taking the ball, sent out to Morgan, who ran splendidly, but was ultimately forced into touch. With operations in the Welsh quarter the ball was passed out by Dobbin to Krige, and from him to De Villiers. That player gave to Joubert, who rounded and scored, but failed to kick a goal. The African forwards rushed the ball, and mistakes by Dyke and Williams saw the Colonials well in the Welsh quarter. Marsburg replied admirably to a reckless kick and then, from a scrum, Dobbin, Krige and Loubser handled the ball, the wing man beating his opponents by his speed, and scoring a try. Jackson failed at goal. Thus at half-time the South Africans were leading by two tries (six points) to nothing.

Nothing had been done by the Welshmen in the first half which led one to think they would overthrow their opponents. Immediately following the resumption, the South Africans made an attack on the Welsh goal. Marsburg was twice

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SOUTH AFRICANS 1 goal 2 tries (11 points).
WALES Nothing.

CRISPY CRITIQUES.

Undoubtedly one of the worst exhibitions ever given by a Welsh International team for many years. That was the general opinion of Welshmen, and they were the keenest and most scathing critics of their own side. Probably disappointment sharpened the edge of their critical faculties, for they were disappointed to the last degree. All the heroes of Welsh football were reduced to the most commonplace people, and by a turn of the wheel the South Africans were lauded to the skies. This magnanimous praising may have served to soothe the wounded feelings, for by inference it was shown that if Wales were beaten their victors must be the finest team on earth. And yet it was not correct to so describe them. As a matter of fact neither side did themselves justice, and the game was anything but a high-class exposition. The Welshmen were absolutely incompetent to take the few chances that came their way. All the beautiful accuracy and brilliant combination were conspicuous by their absence, and their vaunted strength forward and speed behind were hopelessly outclassed by the abilities of the South Africans. For all that the Colonials were faulty in their movements. They seldom did anything which might be regarded as being perfect in conception and execution, such as has been seen in other matches. But in one phase of the game they did excel, and that was in their capacity to spoil. Their defence was admirable, and their kicking and fielding exceedingly useful. It may be assumed that the players on both sides were too highly strung to give one of those exhilarating displays which an international contest affords. Certainly no other reason could be adduced to explain why the game failed so effectually to rouse the spectators to take more than a passive interest in the operations. The forwards monopolised the ball continually, but only on rare occasions did they carry the leather along by means of a skilful dribble. It

was originally intended, according to the official card, that Joubert should operate at full back, but when the team fielded Marsburg was discovered in that position, and the little wonder from South Africa filled the vacancy on the left wing. To say that Marsburg gave a dazzling display is to utter the merest platitude. He was at fault occasionally, but he was a big factor in making the Welshmen run themselves to a standstill. Knowing his splendid powers as a fielder and a punter, it was curious to see how certain of the Welsh backs continually kept kicking to him. Bush was a big offender in this regard, and any advantage which the forwards gained and which Owen enhanced would be completely thrown away when Bush obtained possession. His kick, often intended no doubt to find touch, only found the ball going into the hands of the marvellous Marsburg, and then the touch-line would be discovered. If there was one man more than another in the three-quarter line who deserves special mention it is Krige. He was everywhere, and he had evidently made up his mind to stop the Welsh backs from doing any of that deadly passing for which they hold a cherished reputation. He flung himself with glorious abandon on the Welsh centres, and followed up the movements of the ball with all the dash and energy of a superman. He will be long

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J. D. KRIGE.

remembered for his splendid work. Loubser used his speed well, and ran in a try from Krige's pass in fine style. Joubert rounded off a movement which started with Dobbin and was taken part in by Krige and De Villiers, and showed himself a clever wing. Both Dobbin and Jackson played a sterling game at half-back. They gave the referee some anxiety as to their notions about the off-side rule, and perhaps they ought to have been penalised oftener than they were. But when three-quarters are leaning up against half-backs the latter must go a bit further than Cocker considers correct just to allow their colleagues a little more room to work in. The finest forwards of the South African contingent were selected for this match, and they were, with their strength and size, better at the line-out than the Welshmen. There was not much difference between them in the packs, the victors not being quite as clever in getting possession, but in the loose they were faster and they held a big

but failed to rush the ball, and their forwards rushed the ball, and the Colonials well in the Welsh quarters. The Colonials replied admirably to a scrum, and then, from a scrum, Dobbins kicked and Loubser handled the ball, his wing man beating his opponents by his speed, and scoring a try. Jackson failed at goal. Thus at half-time the South Africans were leading by two tries (six points) to nothing.

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WALES Nothing.

CRISPY CRITIQUES.

Undoubtedly one of the worst exhibitions ever given by a Welsh International team for many years. That was the general opinion of Welshmen, and they were the keenest and most scathing critics of their own side. Probably disappointment sharpened the edge of their critical faculties, for they were disappointed to the last degree. All the heroes of Welsh football were reduced to the most commonplace people, and by a turn of the wheel the South Africans were lauded to the skies. This magnanimous praising may have served to soothe the wounded feelings, for by inference it was shown that Wales were beaten their victors must be the finest team on earth. And yet it was not correct to so describe them. As a matter of fact neither side did themselves justice, and the game was anything but a high-class exposition. The Welshmen were absolutely incompetent to take the few chances that came their way. All the beautiful accuracy and brilliant combination were conspicuous by their absence, and their vaunted strength forward and speed behind were hopelessly outclassed by the abilities of the South Africans. For all that the Colonials were faulty in their movements. They seldom did anything which might be regarded as being perfect in conception and execution, such as has been seen in other matches. But in one phase of the game they did excel, and that was in their capacity to spoil. Their defence was admirable, and their kicking and fielding exceedingly useful. It may be assumed that the players on both sides were too highly strung to give one of those exhilarating displays which an International contest affords. Certainly, no other reason could be adduced to explain why the game failed so effectually to rouse the spectators to take more than a passive interest in the operations. The forwards monopolised the ball continually, but only on rare occasions did they carry the leather along by means of a skilful dribble. It was rush and kick nearly all the time, and the amount of kicking made the game degenerate into a punting exhibition of the most wearisome character. Ten minutes of the Irish-African match at Belfast last week was worth all the eighty minutes of the game at Swansea on Saturday! It was difficult to enthuse over the tactics, for at times the football was such as would disgrace the second team of a third-class club. Misfielding, bad passing, and fumbling were the order of the day, and this game, which was supposed to be the greatest test match of the season, fell as flat as a fluke when it came to be played. The triumph of Wales over the New Zealanders had elevated the Principality to a pinnacle which made opponents dizzy when they gazed with envious eyes upon it. Wales had become a fearsome dragon whose very name was sufficient to make the enemy pause. It is said that when the news of Scotland's success over the South Africans reached Wales that the football enthusiasts became sad and sorrowful. They wanted to have the honour of dangling the scalp of the Africans along with that of the Zealanders. Their sorrow was doubled a hundred times on Saturday, when they saw their chosen warriors fail so lamely and so lamentably. The team had been chosen with care, and even the hypercritical had confessed themselves satisfied with its composition. Gwyn Nicholls had been lured from his well-earned retirement, and Percy Bush, said to be the most brilliant half-back in Wales on his day, was again included, notwithstanding the miserable show he gave against the New Zealanders. It was admitted that he was in poor form then, and his closest friends admit that on Saturday he struck

to New Zealanders all envy.

THE PLAYERS.

It was originally intended, according to the official card, that Joubert should operate at full back, but when the team fielded Marsburg was discovered in that position, and the little wonder from South Africa filled the vacancy on the left wing. To say that Marsburg gave a dazzling display is to utter the merest platitude. He was at fault occasionally, but he was a big factor in making the Welshmen run themselves to a standstill. Knowing his splendid powers as a fielder and a punter, it was curious to see how certain of the Welsh backs continually kept kicking to him. Bush was a big offender in this regard, and any advantage which the forwards gained and which Owen enhanced would be completely thrown away when Bush obtained possession. His kick, often intended no doubt to find touch, only found the ball going into the hands of the marvellous Marsburg, and then the touch-line would be discovered. If there was one man more than another in the three-quarter line who deserves special mention it is Krige. He was everywhere, and he had evidently made up his mind to stop the Welsh backs from doing any of that deadly passing for which they hold a cherished reputation. He flung himself with glorious abandon on the Welsh centres, and followed up the movements of the ball with all the dash and energy of a superman. He will be long



J. O. KRIGE.

remembered for his splendid work. Loubser used his speed well, and ran in a try from Krige's pass in fine style. Joubert rounded off a movement which started with Dobbins and was taken part in by Krige and De Villiers, and showed himself a clever wing. Both Dobbins and Jackson played a sterling game at half-back. They gave the referee some anxiety as to their notions about the off-side rule, and perhaps they ought to have been penalised oftener than they were. But when three-quarters are leaning up against half-backs the latter must go a bit further than Cocker considers correct just to allow their colleagues a little more room to work in. The finest forwards of the South African contingent were selected for this match, and they were, with their strength and size, better at the line-out than the Welshmen. There was not much difference between them in the packs, the visitors not being quite as clever in getting possession, but in the loose they were faster and they held a big advantage when it came to rushing the scrummages. Roos, Burger, Le Roux and Martheze were all in great form and the others lent a helping hand in a style that was distinctly patriotic. On the Welsh side J. C. M. Dyke, the new full back, can be complimented on his debut in international matches. He did his work soundly and smartly, and was never flustered. He did not share in the general submission to Fate and the South Africans. The three-quarters were beaten by a better contingent. Morgan put in several good runs; Gabe was instrumental in stopping some movements and he tried to initiate passing bouts. Williams only appeared to live for defensive ideas, and Gwyn Nicholls will now be sorry he was not hibernating on Saturday. Owen distinguished himself by his dexterity behind the scrum and Bush distinguished himself by his total neglect of Welsh methods. The forwards were best represented by Joseph, Harding, Pritchard, and Williams. They found a tougher, harder, and smarter lot than themselves in the South Africans and they found their masters in the art of loose scrummaging.

Wales.—J. C. M. Dyke (Penarth); J. L. Williams (Cardiff); E. Gwyn Nicholls (London); R. T. Gabe (Cardiff); E. T. Morgan (London); R. M. Owen (Swansea); P. F. Bush (Cardiff); W. Joseph (Swansea); A. F. Harding (London); J. E. Williams (London); D. Jones (Treherbert); R. Thomas (Mountain Ash); G. Travers (Pill Harriers); C. M. Pritchard (Newport); and J. C. Jenkins (London Welsh).

South Africans.—Marsburg; Joubert, De Villiers, Krige, and Loubser; Dobbins, Jackson; Roos (captain); Burger, Daniel, P. Le Roux, Brink, Martheze, Raaff, and F. Morkell. Referee: A. O. Jorje, England.

AFRICANS TOO GOOD.

COLONIALS SCORE MAGNIFICENT SUCCESS.

WELSHMEN CAME TO THE LAST.

Home Forwards Nonplussed, but Never Dismayed.

UGLY INCIDENT IN THE PLAY.

Sportsmanship of St. Helen's Spectators.

MARSBURG CARRIED SHOULDERS HIGH.

Unfortunate Accident: Barrier Forced Down.

The eagerly-anticipated match between the representative Rugby teams of Wales and South Africa was played at St. Helen's Ground Swansea, this afternoon, before an enormous crowd.

A message from Swansea this morning stated:—After a rather wild night the morning opened brightly. A slight shower of rain fell at 9.30, and a strong drying wind was blowing from the north-west.

The ground at 10 o'clock was in excellent condition, and the sun was shining brightly. All preparations for meeting a huge crowd were completed. The gates were opened at 11.30, and the kick-off was fixed for 2.30.

There were no changes in either of the teams, who therefore took the field as announced. The weather in the forenoon was "sunshiny showery," with intervals of brilliant sunshine and occasionally icy cold showers, which kept the streets muddy and unpleasant for the big crowd which thronged them.

From an early hour trains brought thousands of visitors. A packed train came from Pembroke Dock, and 500 passengers under Cook's auspices arrived from London.

Every few minutes many hundreds were detrained at the five local railway stations from north, south, east, and west.

While there was originally arranged only one train to meet the requirements of the Monmouthshire people, three had to be put on, and it seemed likely that these would not prove sufficient.

Cardiff requisitioned a record amount of train accommodation.

Message in the Yaa.

The following message in Dutch taal, written

lish notabilities. Mr Justice Walton, who has been sitting at the Glamorgan Assizes at Swansea, had a seat inside the ropes, he having adjourned the court early for the day. He was accompanied by his marshal. The High-Sheriff (Mr W. H. Edwards) and the Under-Sheriff (Mr George Isaac) were also with him. Sir J. T. D. Llewelyn (the president of the Welsh Rugby Union) was likewise amongst the spectators. There was a small army of photographers present, together with a cinematograph operator. Seats inside the ropes were found for the South Africans who were resting, and they had a cordial reception on entering the field. At ten minutes past 2 the Welsh team came out in front of the pavilion to be photographed, and the Africans followed soon afterwards to undergo the same ordeal. Five minutes before time the Africans entered the field of play amidst cheers and the playing of "Auld Lang Syne" by the band. The Welshmen immediately followed, to the strains of "The Men of Harlech."

The Kick-off.

There was not much wind, and Wales losing the toss Joseph started operations towards the Mumbles end. Kriege returned, and J. L. Williams sent the ball back to touch. De Villiers afterwards fielded in the loose and ran through, but had to kick, Nicholls making a smart mark. Wheeling the first couple of scrums the Africans gained a big slice of ground, but in trying to pass Kriege had the ball knocked from him. Several Welshmen came up with a rush, and the ball was kicked hard across past Marsburg. He, however, raced back, and fielded right on his line. Amid great excitement his kick was charged down, but the ball was unluckily knocked forward by Joseph, who actually got on it over the line. Of course, a scrum was ordered outside. The Africans got back by good footwork to mid-field, where Nicholls got hold and put in a grand kick.

Gwyn Nicholls's return was welcomed—the king of centres has no nerves, and his presence was regarded as bound to have an inspiring effect upon his colleagues. Forward, Wales were justified in considering they would outstay and beat in skill what has in every other match been a weak link amongst the Africans.

At half, too, Wales were ahead on all forms.

At three-quarter the excellent experience of the home side was expected to more than counter-balance superior speed, but at full-back there was a doubt that Dyke might fail in touch-finding and finesse when opposed to Marsburg. Wales, then, it was the general opinion, would come out on top by more than one try than playing on home ground is usually assessed as the advantage possessed by home teams.

Chance the Arbiter.

To me it seemed to be a game in which something sensational was destined to happen, and in which pure accident or fortune might also play an important part in deciding the issue. It looked like proving a critical test for mind rather than physique. Triumph, to my mind, seemed more likely to go to the side with best control over the nervous forces. It was the purely human factor which was the most uncertain.

There had been several heavy showers during the morning, but though leaden clouds hung ominously overhead and the light was naturally effected, no rain fell during the time the teams were being photographed, and there was just a chance that it would hold off for the game—a consummation devoutly to be desired as both sides affect a similarly open style with the maximum of fast running and quick, short passing.

The ground of course was not dry but to look on it and walk on it was to compel another testimonial to the quick drying of the sandy soil of St. Helen's. There was no mud and no probability of the ground churning up if further rain did not come, and so the South Africans did not complain of the conditions.

During the morning the wind had varied considerably. At one time it was so strong that one could hear expressions of regret from every quarter that a Bancroft or a Winfield was not in the Welsh team to utilise it to the full. It was a north-westerly wind, and just before the kick-off it did not seem calculated to be such an advantage to the side fortunate to win the toss as to profit decisive benefit.

A Cordial Welcome.

There was no need for the South Africans to feel any intimidation from the crowd. They were welcomed cordially; there was none of the showman war cry business about them, and their clear-cut athletic figures were admired.

To the music of the "Men of Harlech" the Welshmen, led by Nicholls, who received a special cheer, were soon ready, and in a tick Joseph kicked off for Wales. It was then seen that the South Africans had altered the arrangement of the team, Marsburg going to full back and Joubert taking up Stegmann's place on the wing.

Wales were facing the wind, and in the first five minutes there was intense silence amongst the huge crowd, which now seemed to eclipse the record at Cardiff.

J. L. Williams had coolly replied to Kriege's response to the kick off, but from the first three scrummages the African forwards heeled the ball. It was not clean heeling, and the half-backs were slow in passing and sent the ball hissing behind. Once it was fortunate for

probability of the defence being penetrated. Three-quarters of the time had gone by and yet not on a single occasion had the Welsh three-quarters brought off anything approaching a combined movement.

The visitors continued to play really good football, such as indeed to cause the crowd to forget that Wales were not in the ascendant.

A Brilliant Try.

Resourcefulness of a very high degree yielded another try to the Africans. Nicholls and Teddy Morgan tried to field the ball from a kick, but Brink dashed in, picked up the ball, and transferred cleverly to Raoff when within a few feet of the goal bar. Joubert goaled, and sent the points up to 11 to love.

To the credit of the Welshmen they were dying game. Physically they were overpowered, and it was a unique sight to see a Welsh team unable to show a semblance of combined workmanship.

There had been no exhibition of that pretty to see but always effective rhythmical passing.

Brink, picking up in the loose in the visitors' 25, where play had been sent by a kick, nearly scored. But Marsburg held him, and there was no one by for a pass.

A Bold Effort.

J. L. Williams, given a pass, made a bold effort to get in under the bar, but was not fast enough, and then, chiefly through Dobbin's instrumentality, play was removed to the visitors' 25.



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Cardiff requisitioned a record amount of train accommodation.

Message in the Taal.

The following message in Dutch taal, written by one of their most famous backs, was posted up at headquarters:—

Ons wil graag die
Welsh team speel
En Wehsch maar dat.
Die beste team zal win.

Which, being interpreted, is:—"We are very pleased to be able to meet the Welsh team, and we hope that the best team may win."

Welshmen in Cape Town.

The following cablegram from Cape Town despatched last night, has been received by the Mayor of Swansea:—

Mayor of Swansea.—Llwyddiant yfory.—Cymro.

Translation—"Success to-morrow."

At 1.25 there were over 35,000 people on the field, and they were coming in by hundreds. It was evident even then that hundreds, if not thousands, would be unable to gain admission before the kick-off. The ground was in good condition, although showers fell intermittently after 11 o'clock. The sun, however, came out at intervals and dried up the ground, which was only a little wet on the surface.

Forty minutes before the kick-off, which was timed for 2.30, there were fully 40,000 people present, and still every gate was busily engaged in passing in a continuous stream of anxious people. All positions of vantage had been taken up early, but there were a few gaps to the extreme left of the grand stand, and these were quickly filling up. The accommodative St. Helen's Field was taxed to its utmost.

At about 2 o'clock the chief of police (Captain Colquhoun) gave orders for the large main gate in Gorse-lane to be closed, as the ground was already crowded to excess. There was a great crush at one place, and a lady had to be rescued by the police and taken inside the ropes.

THE TEAMS.

Wales.

Back.
J. C. M. Dyke (Penarth).

Three-quarter backs.
E. T. Morgan (London Welsh), E. Gwyn Nicholls (Cardiff), R. T. Gabe (Cardiff), and J. L. Williams (Cardiff).

Half-backs.
R. M. Owen (Swansea) and P. F. Bush (Cardiff).

Forwards.
W. Joseph (Swansea), O. M. Pritchard (Newport), A. F. Harding (London Welsh), D. Jones (Treherbert), G. Travers (Pill Harriers), J. F. Williams (London Welsh), R. Thomas (Mountain Ash), and J. O. Jenkins (London Welsh).

South Africa.

Back.
A. S. Marsburg.
Three-quarter backs.—
R. Joubert, A. J. de Villiers, J. D. Krige, and J. A. Loubser.

undergo the same time. The minutes before the time the Africans entered the field of play amidst cheers and the playing of "Auld Lang Syne" by the band. The Welshmen immediately followed, to the strains of "The Men of Harlech."

The Kick-off.

There was not much wind, and Wales losing the toss Joseph started operations towards the Mumbles end. Kriege returned, and J. L. Williams sent the ball back to touch. De Villiers afterwards fielded in the loose and ran through, but had to kick. Nicholls making a smart mark. Wheeling the first couple of scrums the Africans gained a big slice of the ground, but in trying to pass Kriege had the ball knocked from him. Several Welshmen came up with a rush, and the ball was kicked hard across past Marsburg. He, however, raced back, and fielded right on his line. Amid great excitement his kick was charged down, but the ball was unluckily knocked forward by Joseph, who actually got on it over the line. Of course, a scrum was ordered outside. The Africans got back by good footwork to mid-field, where Nicholls got hold and put in a grand kick towards the left touch line. Morgan followed up at top speed and spoiled Jackson's return. Then Gabe made a clever mark, but the kick was a poor one. Then from a long punt the ball rolled over the line, and Marsburg touched down. Some good heeling and smart passing by the Africans gained a lot of ground after the drop-out, but Loubser was grandly tackled by Teddy Morgan when he was making tracks for the Welsh line. Then from loose play close to the Welsh quarters Dai Jones touched a visitor offside. Joubert took the kick and sent the ball wide for a minor. The Africans held Wales in their quarters for several minutes after the drop-out. Owen and Bush got the ball away, and Nicholls receiving ran on strongly. He feinted to pass, but was tackled by Kriege and brought down. Whilst on the ground he was kicked in the side by Brinck, and the crowd roundly booed the African, shouting "Lead him off the field." Nicholls lay for a moment or two as if badly hurt, but was loudly cheered on rising and resuming play. He soon put in another fine piece of work, this time beating Joubert by putting in a splendid kick. Owen and Bush, working well together, got the ball away, and Teddy Morgan ran grandly until rushed into touch by Joubert. Loose play sent the ball to the other wing, and Johnnie Williams, after missing a high pass, recovered the ball and punted to touch cleverly. Then Bush had a pass from Owen and tried a drop at goal, but the ball rebounded off an Afrikaner, and the visitors rushed to the Welsh quarter. Owen and Bush relieved, and Dyke also put in a great kick to touch. However, the Afrikaners pressed, and from a round of passing Joubert rushed in with a try, but himself failed to goal. This reverse roused the Welshmen, and on the drop-out they set to work with renewed vigour. Headed by Owen, Bush, Jenkins, and Harding, they got to the Africans' quarters, but some scrambling play lost them the advantage, and the Africans, getting to the other end, more passing put in Loubser. Jackson took the kick and failed to convert.

Half-time Score—		G. T. P.
SOUTH AFRICANS	.....	0 2 6
WALES	.....	0 0 0

Although Wales were six points behind their supporters did not give up hope of winning, or at least of drawing level, and there was promise of an exciting second half.

Burger's restart was replied to by Joseph, but the opening play was in Wales's half, and although Teddy Morgan got in a fine kick, Marsburg fielded brilliantly and ran well before being hustled into touch. The Africans were playing grand football, and got right to the Welsh line, but they were forced back to halfway. Here play stuck for a couple of minutes, neither side gaining an advantage. Gwyn Nicholls made a lot of ground with a mark and kick, but Marsburg promptly recovered it, and mulling by the Welsh backs let in the Africans, Raaff scoring a try which Dyke could not possibly stop. The Welsh forwards made a premature charge, and Joubert, taking his time, landed an easy goal. It now seemed all over with Wales, but they played up grandly, and Bush getting the ball in loose play ran splendidly for the line. He was magnificently tackled a yard outside by Marsburg. The excitement was great as Wales started a new drive, but it was

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To the music of the "Men of Harlech" the Welshmen, led by Nicholls, who received a special cheer, were soon ready, and in a tick Joseph kicked off for Wales. It was then seen that the South Africans had altered the arrangement of the team, Marsburg going to full back and Joubert taking up Stegmann's place on the wing.

Wales were facing the wind, and in the first five minutes there was intense silence amongst the huge crowd, which now seemed to eclipse the record at Cardiff.

J. L. Williams had coolly replied to Kriege's response to the kick off, but from the first three scrummages the African forwards heeled the ball. It was not clean heeling, and the half-backs were slow in passing and sent the ball blindly behind. Once it was fortunate for them that Loubser darted in and punted with remarkable skill in the teeth of the dashing forwards. It was palpable that the African backs were not steady. There was no fear whatever by the crowd that there was to be a repetition of the two scores in seven minutes, as at Cardiff. Then a sensational incident took place quite unexpectedly. Gabe cut in after slow passing between the centres, De Villiers missing the ball.

Gabe showed excellent judgment in kicking ahead, and there was a great race for the ball over the line. Marsburg got to it and risked to kick. Nicholls had come up at a great bang and took the ball three or four yards from the line, and the crowd had started to cheer. The Welsh captain just knocked on the ball in gathering it.

The spectators seemed now to think that the Welshmen had found their feet, and the sanguine were reckoning up the points. The South Africans, however, brought out W. S. Morkel to the three-quarter line in a very few minutes, though not before Marsburg had touched down in defence.

An Eye-Opener.

They were once more, however, in attacking position. Now came an eye-opening surprise. The Colonial forwards succeeded in getting the ball from almost every tight scrum. In none of their matches had the visitors shown anything like the ability they were now displaying in securing the ball, but the Welshmen, who were standing nearer up to the scrum than is customary, tackled well to a man, and the passing of the Colonial backs was too orthodox to beat the defence.

Once Loubser looked like getting in, but he was pulled down by Morgan, who had cut across to the far wing—a magnificent tackle. Then within three minutes the South Africans came within a yard of scoring. Loubser made another great single-handed effort to get through, and Dyke had a kick charged down.

An exciting moment followed, but Nicholls and another back went to his support. A long punt was sent to Joubert on the left wing, and Dai Jones was properly penalised for falling a victim to the tempting dodging of Joubert to bring about an offside tackle. The kick was taken near the touch-line and on the ten yards line of the Welsh side of the field. But with the wind behind him, a celebrated kick like Joubert ought to have come nearer to placing the goal than he did.

Spasmodically only did the Welsh forwards shine. Practically they were compelled to operate in their own quarter. Travers, Joseph, Pritchard, and Harding made great efforts to break away, but there was a strong want of harmony, and it was as a beaten side that Wales appeared.

A Brilliant Try.

Resourcefulness of a very high degree yielded another try to the Africans. Nicholls and Teddy Morgan tried to field the ball from a kick, but Brink dashed in, picked up the ball, and transferred cleverly to Raaff when within a few feet of the goal bar. Joubert goaled, and sent the points up to 11 to love.

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Bush, picking up in the loose in the visitors' 25, where play had been sent by a kick, nearly scored. But Marsburg held him, and there was no one by for a pass.

A Bold Effort.

J. L. Williams, given a pass, made a bold effort to get in under the bar, but was not fast enough, and then, chiefly through Dobbin's instrumentality, play was removed to the Welsh 25.

Here Bush was tackled after making a good save, but a tick after the Cardiff player brought off a corkscrew run and kicked safely to touch in the far end—a capital example of his initiative.

Within a minute or two Wales were pressing and for the first time they really looked like scoring.

Wales's Great Chance.

Owen, though he had hurt his wrist, fed Bush at this point, and the latter passed to Nicholls, who gave Gabe a brilliant pass taken grandly on the run. De Villiers and Kriege cut across, but J. L. Williams would have had the line at his mercy, for Loubser was out of position, but the ball fell at his toes. The pass could not have been taken, and so the greatest chance of the match was lost.

This nearness to scoring stimulated the Welshmen, and they were now playing the game they had been expected to show all the way through.

Yet another time they threw away a try, and this, too, through Nicholls. Gabe had taken the ball splendidly, but Owen and Bush had handled, and had shaken off a tackle by Kriege. Nicholls tried to beat through himself, but was brought down, while Teddy Morgan was waiting for a pass, and was unmarked.

Time was fast approaching. In the ensuing few moments no one could have expected Wales to beat eleven points, but everyone was prepared to see the home side score something. They made a praiseworthy effort, and J. L. Williams made a big run, but was tackled by Marsburg, and then passed to Harding, who was brought down by a back who swung him by the legs.

The play fluctuated with tremendous rapidity considering the strain upon the players up to date.

Brilliant work by the visiting backs, after a flying kick by Marsburg, took the ball to the Welsh 25 line, where Kriege had hard luck indeed in knocking on in taking a re-pass after fast running and accurate transferring between Dobbin, Jackson, Joubert, De Villiers, and himself.

A rush by the home forwards sent the ball back to the Colonials' twenty-five, and Nicholls designedly missing Gabe, flung out a long pass to Johnny Williams, but again the defence prevailed.

Nicholls put in a high punt, and following it up he got the ball on the rebound, but knocked it on, though Marsburg made no error in holding him when he did not have the ball.

Another Chance Lost.

Wales were now playing very hard indeed, and the defence must have been beaten but for an attempt by Gabe to break through him—moment J. L. Williams was un-

R. M. Owen (Swansea), F. Bush (Cardiff).

Forwards.

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South Africa.

Backs.

A. S. Marsburg.

Three-quarter backs—

S. Joubert, A. J. de Villiers, J. D. Krige, and J. A. Loubser.

Half-backs.

S. J. Dobbin and D. O. Jackson.

Forwards.

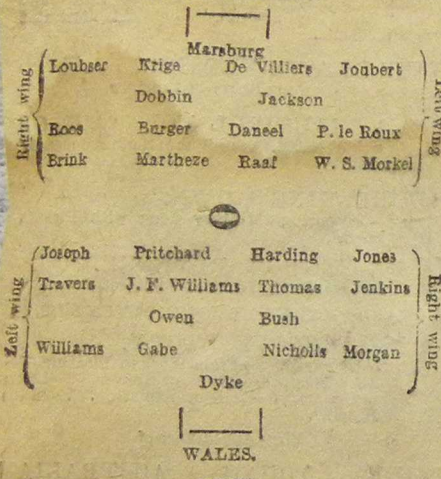
Paul Roos (captain), W. A. Burger, H. J. Daniel, P. A. Le Roux, D. J. Brink, W. O. Martheze, J. W. E. Roux, W. S. Morkel, Touch judge for South Africans, H. C. Carolin. Touch judge for Wales, Mr Geo. Bowen.

The Referee.

Mr A. C. Jones, the Notts cricketer and ex-Leicester centre three-quarter and full-back, was the referee. Mr Jones was the referee in the Glamorgan match v. the South Africans.

PLAN OF THE FIELD.

SOUTH AFRICANS.



The Game.

By "THE NOMAD."

The scene on the Swansea ground to-day recalled the wonderful sight witnessed at Cardiff when the New Zealanders met with the only defeat in their famous tour. Long before the time fixed for starting the match there was a great mass of spectators all round the ground—in fact, for an hour or more before the game commenced the only vacant places to be seen were the reserved seats on the grand stand and inside the ropes. The bright and promising weather of the early morning was maintained until just before one o'clock, when a somewhat sharp fall of rain took place. Fortunately this did not last long, and there was again a fine period, although the outlook was none too promising. Still, there was reason to hope for a continuance of bright weather. Anyway, the ground was not likely to be seriously affected, the heavy rains of the preceding few days having been absorbed in the sandy soil. Forty minutes before the kick off it was estimated that there were 40,000 on the ground, and hundreds, if not thousands, were unable to get a sight of the playing field.

The splendid arrangements made for the accommodation of the crowd did away with any fear of mishap, and although there was a lot of larking there was little or no horseplay. The crowd was in a happy mood, the general feeling being that Wales would gain another notable victory. The tedium of waiting was relieved by a programme of music excellently rendered by the Swansea Temperance Silver Band. As usual, there was a big gathering of old internationals, including

The Africans were playing grand football, and got right to the Welsh line, but they were forced back to halfway. Here play stuck for a couple of minutes, neither side gaining an advantage. Gwyn Nicholls made a lot of ground with a mark and kick, but Marsburg promptly recovered it, and mulling by the Welsh backs let in the Africans. Raaf scoring a try which Dyke could not possibly stop. The Welsh forwards made a premature charge, and Joubert, taking his time, landed an easy goal. It now seemed all over with Wales, but they played up grandly, and Bush getting the ball in loose play ran splendidly for the line. He was magnificently tackled a yard outside by Marsburg. The excitement was great as Wales started a promising bout of passing, but it was soon stopped, and the Africans promptly worked out of danger. There was a stoppage of play owing to Owen being injured, and he was led off the field with an injured hand. Harding was put in his place at half-back, and when play was resumed the Africans attacked strongly. Bush, however, saved brilliantly. Then Owen resumed play amid loud cheers, and Wales attacked. Gabe unluckily knocked on when Marsburg had been practically beaten, otherwise a try to Wales was probable. Again some smart passing was seen, and Gabe passed widely to Johnny Williams when a capital chance presented itself. Wales were doing better just now, but the effort had come too late. However, Bush gave to Nicholls, who ran grandly, but was tackled in trying to break inwards. The break-away by Dobbin gave Jackson a chance, but brought Teddy Morgan upon him, and in the repass to Krige the venue was changed through the advantage gained by a knock on, and with a brilliant rush Wales got well up to the South African line. Bush sent a pass to Johnnie Williams, who was tackled by Marsburg, but he managed to pass to Harding, who made a bold dive for the line. Keen tackling alone kept back the Welshmen, but they played up at the moment with much vigour. The ball was cleverly picked up by Dobbin, who got down the field. Dyke replied and found touch. Gwyn Nicholls made a brilliant effort, and came nearer to gain a try than almost any effort which had previously been made. He had kicked from the centre of the field, and following up had the misfortune to knock on when he attempted to regain the ball. There was another similar burst, but this time Marsburg made a mark.

Final Score— G. T. P.
SOUTH AFRICANS 1 2 11
WALES 0 0 0

Play and Players.

RUNNING COMMENTS BY "OLD STAGER."

The popular view of the match was that it was going to prove a Homeric struggle—the one outstanding game of the decade.

This was a fair assumption to make from the vast assemblage which, half an hour before the kick-off, beat all records in West Wales; and although Swansea is not so convenient a gathering centre as Cardiff, there were unmistakable indications that all the extra provision which the forethought of the Welsh Union had provided would still be inadequate for the accommodation of those keen on witnessing the game.

On the fine natural slope the people packed like herrings in a barrel; but it was a good-natured crowd—as, indeed, all Cymric crowds are at footer. The whys and the wherefores of a win for Wales were discussed, and the bulk of the spectators were optimists. They cared not to be persuaded that the Welsh players were not considerably stronger than the Glamorgan side, and they saw no good reason why the South Africans should rise to the occasion any more than the home 15, especially seeing that the Colonials were handicapped by not being able to play the flying and determined scorer Stegmann, who did all the scoring against Morgan at Cardiff—not to speak of the absence of Carolin, whose resourcefulness in attack and strength in defence has made him by common

acknowledgment the tempting dodging of Joubert. The kick was taken near the touch-line and on the ten yards line of the Welsh side of the field. But with the wind behind him, a celebrated kick like Joubert ought to have come nearer to placing the goal than he did.

Spasmodically only did the Welsh forwards shine. Practically they were compelled to operate in their own quarter. Travers, Joseph, Pritchard, and Harding made great efforts to break away, but there was a strong want of harmony, and it was as a beaten side that Wales appeared during the whole of the second quarter of an hour of play.

On the rare times when the Welsh backs drove the ball to the Colonial half, Morkel came out of the pack. As a rule the three-quarters played almost in a straight line with the scrum, and once the whole line was detected in advance of it.

An Ugly Incident.

What might have ended in an ugly scene now occurred. Nicholls had passed the ball after being brought down excellently but fairly by Krige. When the famous centre was lying full length, Brink, the forward who was cautioned for improperly charging Winfield at Cardiff, ran at him and kicked him on the shoulder. Things had not been going as the crowd had hoped, and such an act as this was tempting providence. But fortunately Nicholls soon rose to his feet and the game was continued, though obviously Nicholls had sustained a shock.

There was no doubt about it at all—the Welsh forwards were not the scrummagers they had been painted. Seldom did Owen get the ball with anything approaching a clean heel, and consequently Bush and the three-quarters had very few chances.

The line of threes never once got into play, and it is inexplicable that the home backs did not go in for short punting, so as to drive back the Colonial three-quarters.

Krige was all but over, when Gabe took him from behind and brought him down splendidly. Bush put in a couple of relief kicks and so did Nicholls.

From one punt in the open made by Bush usually so great a tactician, Joubert should have scored had he gone slick for the line instead of cross-kicking.

Dyke and Williams relieved after a trying ordeal, a long pass from Dobbin giving Loubser the ball on the verge of the line.

Fore and aft the visitors were incomparably the better team now, and scoring was imminent. Their forwards were untiring, and they played to their back division, all of whom were literally on their toes. Danger threatened from loose play in front of the goal, but Dyke fielded and found touch brilliantly.

This brought in Morgan and Nicholls from their wing, and realising that they were out of their position the South Africans showed unbeatable resourcefulness in focussing attack upon the Welsh right wing, and they thoroughly deserved the score that accrued.

Like lightning the ball went from Dobbin to Krige, who set Teddy Morgan further towards the centre by a feint and then passing to Villiers, who gave an excellent pass to Joubert. The latter took the ball well in stride, and was over without a Welshman being able to get within yards of him.

Dyke, of course, had no chance, for the line was crossed at the verge, and the movement could only have been stopped miraculously, if by a full back.

Joubert took the shot for goal, which failed. About ten minutes remained for the interval, and in this period the Africans were top sawyers, and they scored another clinking try, much in the same manner as the first.

and himself. Joubert, De Villiers,

A rush by the home forwards sent the ball back to the Colonials' twenty-five, and Nicholls designedly missing Gabe, flung out a long pass to Johnny Williams, but again the defence prevailed.

Nicholls put in a high punt, and following it up he got the ball on the rebound, but knocked it on, though Marsburg made no error in holding him when he did not have the ball.

Another Chance Lost.

Wales were now playing very hard indeed, and the defence must have been beaten but for an attempt by Gabe to break through himself, for at the moment J. L. Williams was uncovered, Loubser having dashed in to take Gabe. Nicholls punted high again and followed up, but Marsburg coolly made his mark.

A tick afterwards, however, the plucky full back was knocked over by some forwards, R. Thomas having led a dribble. The end came, and Wales had not scored at all.

None of the home backs can be said to have distinguished themselves, and even the great Nicholls failed comparatively, though how far the kick he sustained—a bad case of fouling it was too—may have had the effect of disconcerting him, affected his play, it is difficult to judge. Many things he did that were equal to his best, but there were things he omitted to do which had he been in his prime could hardly have failed to have ended in a score, had he been able to exercise the wonderful judgment that has earned for him the title of the greatest centre three-quarter that ever played the game.

Gabe played his best game of the year in a representative match, and he, too, did many a smart thing; but he was often beaten by his man, and the speed and pluck in defence of the opposing three-quarters had a great influence on the result as their really admirable play in attack.

Morgan had few chances, and did not shine as in the match against the tourists at Cardiff, though his opportunities to press home attacks were very limited indeed.

J. L. Williams, too, had little to do, and it is just to him to say that he is in no way to blame because Loubser scored.

Dyke also cannot be censured for not stopping the scoring, as some of his touch-finding was meritorious.

It will surprise me if radical changes are not made in the Welsh team to meet England on the same ground on January 12th. Certainly the forwards will need stiffening, for stubborn scrummagers must be found.

One can only speak in terms of highest praise of the South Africans. As a side they worked well to a man. There was a unison between the department which was sadly lacking in the home team, and there will be few spectators of to-day's match who will not be prepared to subscribe to my assertion that the South Africans played a greater game against Wales than the New Zealanders did, and that though their forwards have up to now not been so strong in comparison with the New Zealanders as their backs, they to-day conclusively proved that they have assimilated the best phases of forward play, and had they had the Maorilanders to face to-day the odds would be on the Africans.

WELSH SPORTSMANSHIP.

After the game was over the Africans were cheered again and again by the crowd. Marsburg was carried shoulder high to the pavilion, and was acclaimed as a veritable hero.

AFTERTHOUGHTS.

It had been a strange game, and it was humiliating to Wales, for the men had not acquitted themselves with credit except in the

G. T. MORGAN (the Welsh wing three-quarter):—
 "How Scotland beat them I cannot understand."
 HARDING (Welsh forward):—
 "It is a pity they were beaten by Scotland—a great pity. They deserved to go back undefeated."
 COLONEL MORGAN:—
 "Wales beaten at her own game. The best team won."
 R. J. DAVIES (Swansea):—
 "It is not the last licking Wales is going to have this season on such form as this. They have not even stamina."
 DICKY DAVID (Cardiff):—
 "The best team won. Dyke and Johnny Williams played well."
 BILLY NEILL was of the same opinion.

Spirit of the Great Match

BY "THE PROPHET"

Full an hour before play the spaces for the people were crowded—crowded with a tremendous shouting, cheering, singing, swinging, cheering, surging crowd. There were many long football memories on the field.

There were football "fathers"—Phillips, Livingstone, F. E. Perkins, and Geo. Bowen, men who have been identified with Welsh and South Wales football from its earliest days, but none could have remembered such a crowd as this, full—40,000, and never an inch of ground to spare for another mortal, it seemed.

But still they crowded in to get crushed up against the wall, and to join in the great uncomfortable, but jolly, crush.

At last came 2.30, the hour of the kick-off. First in the field came the South Africans, and the band played "Auld Lang Syne," while the crowd cheered lustily. Happier still was the cheer which greeted the bright red jerseys as they came on the field, led by Gwyn Nicholls, to the strains of "The Men of Harlech." Wales started off with a rush which broke up the traditional tactics of the Springboks. They were evidently not to be given a chance of rushing the game to victory in the first quarter, but the opening stages were dull enough.

Scrimmage succeeded scrimmage with monotonous regularity, and there was keenness not unmingled with roughness. The forwards were well matched. The Welsh were holding their own, but the Springboks were unsuccessful in feeding their backs.

The African backs, however, were not so fast as usual in getting away, and the Welsh three-quarters, when they got the ball, outshone them in comparison.

Davy Morgan holds a great power of strength, and he started the passing moves with that firm judgment and determination which had always characterised him. The game dragged on, mostly in the Welsh half, and there were but few incidents of open back play. Teddy Morgan shone well in a run, and once in a determined tackle. Bush was putting in a lot of useful work.

Dyke fielded well, and found touch well but the Springboks held the advantage of territory, and thirty-three minutes after the start their opportunity came. The ball came out of a scrum in the Welsh 25. It travelled in quick paces to Joubert, who landed a splendid try.

After the kick-out the game continued to open out. The superiority of the Welsh backs seemed to be wearing out, and they got in each other's way occasionally. The result was another invasion of the Welsh territory and another try, this time by Loubser brought half-time, with things looking black for Wales. The game had not, so far, been one of supreme interest or of supreme merit either, and this spirit was not strenuous. There was nothing like the intense excitement, the great human struggle, of the Wales and New Zealand game at Cardiff.

The crowd was less jubilant and far less confident when the South Africans started the second half. The re-commencement was as dull and uninteresting as the commencement. Once it seemed as if Wales would have a chance to do something. A scrum was formed in a good position for a good passing bout.

The ball came out, too, but nothing came of it, except a bungle. A few minutes later a bungle among the Welsh backs let in the Springboks' forwards with an easy try—and not a chance try, understand. This was converted.

With a goal and two tries against them and the players shaping none too well, things were looking none too good for Wales, but the spirits of everyone were cheered when out of the loose, J. L. Williams was seen travelling well for the line, only, however to be tackled by the deadly Marburg.

Another chance came directly afterwards but there was none to take a haphazard pass from Gabe, and the ball went back to Dyl who missed fielding it. These chances were not great. It was all Lombard-street to china orange against Wales scoring either try. As to the first chance, nothing further could be done with Marsburg, as the end many an heroic effort, and attack.

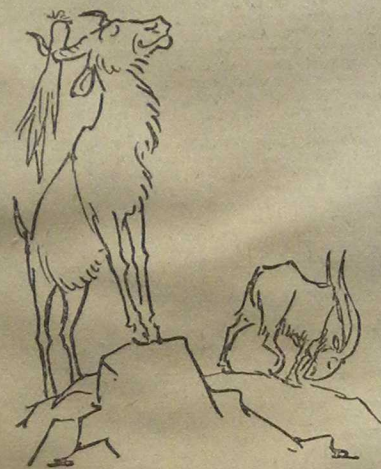
But greater things might have been made of the second chance. With only a few minutes to play, Wales were a beaten side. They played gamely to the end, but the South African defence was much too good and the Welsh back play had neither usual sting nor its characteristic combi-

Towards the end, the last three minutes we had one or two glimpses of good Welsh back play. The South Africans were on man and the ball every time. There was shaking them off, and the attack was far off more badly, perhaps, than a Welsh attack has ever been warded off before.

But these attitudes did not save him from the glances of Gwyn Nicholls in his uniform, making splendid endeavours to redress the score against his side. Here he stood as a great figure in the field, and if one were to select a companion figure it would be Marshburg. Had the spirit of Gwyn Nicholls dominated the whole of the Welsh side, game might have been different, but it was not, in fact, Marshburg's second question, superior. They played the traditional, swift and spirited in attack, and defence; but looking at the game as a whole it must be confessed that as a spectacle it was a great disappointment, not because Wales lost, but because it was uninteresting and only occasionally exciting.

There was really not much in it so far as the forwards were concerned, but Owen in the early stages was not covering himself with glory. True, Dobbin and Jackson were being given a rather excessive amount of liberty, but even then it was almost always there was not much sting in the Welsh attack, and, moreover, in the loose the South African forwards, who probably learnt a lesson or two at Glasgow, were obviously showing the Welsh forwards a thing or two, which they had not been accustomed to of late years. In short, perhaps, unlucky in the early stages for he got a nasty kick when on the floor, and seemed to be dazed and to suffer from it for a long time. The first bit of Welsh attack came from Nicholls and Morgan on the right. It was a real bit of bad luck that saw Nicholls knock on close to the line in trying to pick up an awkward pass for it only went forward inches, and he picked it up again and crossed. It had been knocked forward, however, and the chance had gone.

The Africans seemingly wasted a lot of time in this half by poor kicking, but when the chance really did come they made no mistake about it. The first chance came through Loubser being left unmarked on the short side of the scrum. He ran a dozen



yards and got in a cross punt to the left. De Villiers took it beautifully running, and threw out to Joubert, who had changed places with Marsburg, on the left wing. The "little general" was well clear of everyone and with Morgan just failing to get to him. The try of this half came about six minutes later, and was as fine a bit of passing as one would wish to see. Short, sharp passing, breast-high—and a try of Afrikaners going at top speed had the inevitable result, for Dyke, who had been trying to cover Nicholls, who had been he up in the centre by trying to stop an earlier attack, could not get near the speed of Joubert, and the second try of the game resulted, bringing on half-time, with Wall six points behind.

THE SECOND HALF

At half-time we had expected them to show a little bit of vigour. We had expected to see the dragon set on its hind legs and at least make some pretence of playing "the devil." There was nothing of the sort, however, and it was difficult to recognise the as triple crown heroes, who were looting along in a don't-care-if-I-do-or-not sort of style. They were a weary lot of dragons, and the visitors from the other countries must have looked forward with a good deal of anxiety to their chances.

Even Gurdorf must have hugged a lion, for he is pictured hugging himself with delight at the possibility of seeing the old lion once more in his tail up when he comes down to Wales next month. The Welsh Union members looked glum and dispirited. They could not even find one little item of play to cheer them, and even when Teddy Morgan, who had been on the left wing shivering for a long time, did make a straight dash for the corner there was no wild jumping and holding their breath.

The only hit they did get, indeed, was grasping and trying to twist themselves in knots when the South African three-quart were attacking, and, believe me, that was very frequently.

The culminating point came when Owen had his wrist injured and had to retire. Harding, coming out to take his place, The old Dragon flag on the Cricketers' Arm wrapped itself wearily round the flagpoles and despite the breeze, absolutely refused to look on at the shame of her sons. Presumably he would have slid down out of sight altogether had he not been nailed to the mast. George Bowen on the touchline sniffed and snorted, and had frequent use of his handkerchief, and could not even lie up when Gabe put in a real smart bit of work, and, beating both de Villiers and Kruger, gave up to Nicholls, who was, in the eyes of the onlookers, a double-edged sword. Upset by Raaf in trying to clear the centre and give a running start, Owen came back, but, unlike the Taffy who was supposed to be a "half-a-quid," little Owen's man could neither beg, borrow, or steal anything off Dobbin and Jackson. Trine J. L. Williams made a great effort to retrieve our fallen fortunes, and put in a good run down the left touch-line and up to Marsburg, and threw a pass in the centre to Jenkins, but the last-mentioned stumbled before reaching the line, although there was no one in the way of him. Ted Morgan had a try in his own after. But Joubert choked him, although he fairly tookling him, and thus came the end of a wearisome tale, in which I cannot find a word of consolation for the losers, who, compared with the Africans, were but the veriest of

If I were asked to put my finger on a weak point for Wales, I should unhesitatingly say forward and half, although some excuse may be offered for the halves by reason, first, of their forwards being beaten, and secondly, by Dobbin and Jackson being out of the game.

Dyke did all that was asked of him, but the three-quarter made, at times, heavy single-handed efforts; but their attack never allowed to be started, let alone developed.

Too much praise cannot be given to South Africans, and that in all departments. They won forward, where we never expected them to, while their three-quarter line showed they could play the game to perfection with their own way.

ENGLAND AND THE SPRINGBOKS

The Last International.

AN EQUAL SHARE OF THE SPOILS.

By PHILISTINE.

ENGLAND have gained a unique distinction. If they cannot claim a similar glory to that which is causing Scotsmen to wear a halo of self-esteem they can at least claim to have done what no other nation has accomplished in meeting the South Africans. They were able to draw, to share the honours of an exciting fight, a deed it may be said they have done before. History has, therefore, only repeated itself. It may be interesting to enthusiasts to see the results of previous contests between England and South Africa. Of course the matches took place in the Colony, and it is curious to notice the improvement which is evidenced in the scoring. The record reads as follows:—

England	1891.	4 South Africa	0
England	2 South Africa	0	0
England	4 South Africa	0	0
England	1896.	3 South Africa	0
England	17 South Africa	8	8
England	9 South Africa	3	3
South Africa	5 England	0	0
England	1903.	10 South Africa	10
England	0 South Africa	0	0
South Africa	8 England	0	0

It will be noticed also that twice the South Africans were able to defeat the touring team, a circumstance which seems to have been overlooked by many who have wondered about the calibre of the Colonials. For the match on Saturday England had selected a team in which the utmost confidence was reposed, despite the fact that in the trial match the previous week the reserves had beat the premier side. Every man accepted. The South

the interval had been of value, for a strictly bustling forward game was waged by the wearers of the rose. Cartwright was leading his men in rare fashion, and his Devonshire colleagues were giving him splendid assistance. They broke through the packs, and if the leading men did not always take the ball along at their toes, owing to the slippery state of the field, there were others behind who were sturdy and active, and very soon the South Africans were strictly on defence. They were being treated to the same kind of tender mercy which the Scotsmen gave them at Glasgow. It was unfortunate that following a fine movement of Shewring an injury should have happened to W. S. Morkel. It was so serious that he had to be carried off the field, and with a good man short the South Africans were completely at the mercy of their opponents. Very soon the equalising score was registered, and then came the struggle for victory. The wonderful defence of the South Africans was tested repeatedly, and it was found magnificent. That brilliant dribble of Kelly's perhaps deserved a better ending than a touchdown, but the speed and the sureness in fielding on the part of the African backs were just better than the attacking abilities of the Englishmen, and nothing was allowed to run loose. Nothing was left to chance or one man. The moment a man was threatened others would dash up to his assistance, and he was well covered in case of any accident. Thus it was that the game resolved itself into a contest more remarkable for its strength than its beauty. The saturated spectators grew excited as the ball was continually bounding about the South Africans' quarter. They sought to encourage the Englishmen by their cries, and if shouting could have made them score they would have run in several tries. But Marsburg was on the last line of defence, and he was in his best form. He was well aided by Joubert, who had gone on the wing in the second half, and together they proved invaluable in resisting the attacks, or in showing that touching down or kicking dead was a palpitating illustration that discretion was the better part of valour. With their depleted ranks it was no use of the South Africans trying to get into their enemy's quarter again, especially as the English forwards were commanding the ball and forcing the game, so they wisely concentrated all their powers into preserving their line against any further encroachment. How effective their operations can now be imagined, and the result says this much for the South Africans, that though they divided the honours of the game, they undoubtedly deserved to win. The fact that, handicapped as they were, they were able to resist and repel the persistent attacks entitles them to points of value which have more moral weight than the mere numerals which attend the scoring of a try. They fought manfully to the last, they defended with grim determination, and when they finished the fight they had won the admiration of their opponents.

THE PLAYERS.

The English Selection Committee will not need to have any anxious moments concerning their next international team. They have managed to get a contingent together which should be able to give any other nation a great game. The forwards, on the form shown this season, should make the Scotsmen pause, the Welshmen tremble, and the Hibernians wonder. What the backs are capable of must be left to another day when the conditions are more favourable for open play, but the few examples of individual effort by the three-quarters proved that they are not lacking in speed and skill. Jackett, at full back, gave an exhibition that will warrant his selection a certainty. It was not flawless, for the try which the South Africans scored came from a bad piece of fielding, and before he could recover from his fumbling he was pounced upon, the ball rushed over the line—the mistake was made almost on the mark—and the deed was done. But his splendid work all through the game stamps him as a full back who can be trusted. The three-quarters were so often operating more as individuals than a combination that it is difficult to criticise them as they should be treated. Simpson we all know as an experienced player with remarkable speed, good kicking powers and a resolute tackler. He was not given many chances to show his abilities, but he looked after Joubert in fine style and on one occasion he made the South African wonder what kind of cyclone had collared him with the ball when he was about to return the leather. Brooks on the other wing had a few more opportunities, the ball seemed to go more his way, and he distinguished himself by several dashing runs. There were divided opinions as to whether he or Birkett scored the try which



H. SHEWRING, England.

(Photo by W. R. Brightman, Redland-road, Bristol.)

African team was not at its strongest, for three men who are reckoned among the most brilliant of the contingent were unable to play owing to injuries. Hirsch was likewise unable to turn out and Marsburg given the place on the wing, but when the team came on the field Joubert was put in the last line position. There would be over 40,000 spectators at the Crystal Palace, and the huge crowd sat or stood in the saturating atmosphere, for a drizzling rain fell all through the match, and watched the proceedings with considerable avidity.

After Cartwright had kicked off for England against the wind, Jago dribbled the ball, and the forwards, taking advantage, rushed the leather into the Africans' territory. Brooks put in a run, and then the South Africans forced the game, and worked play into the home "25." From a line out the Africans gained ground, and De Villiers had a glorious chance after picking up and running, but he was badly supported, and in trying to pass wide threw forward. Scrummaging took place on the English line, and Marsburg was nearly over. Then a passing bout, started by Jackson, sent the leather along the three-quarter line, and Marsburg had another narrow escape for a try. Jackett and Shewring collared him on the line. Raaff requiring the ball past Jackett, a fine move back just got to the ball in time to kick the ball was kicked by Marsburg to Jackett, who fumbled, and before he could recover Miller was credited with the try. Joubert failing at goal. At half-time the South Africans led by a try to nothing. Following the resumption scrummaging dribble by Brooks transferred the game to the Africans' quarter. A daring save by Cartwright spoiled a movement of the ball. From a cross-kick by Jago, the

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Following the resumption scrummaging started in the English half. A grand dribble by Brooks transferred the game to the Africans' quarter. A daring save by Cartwright spoiled a movement of the Africans. From a cross-kick by Jago, the ball was seized by Shewring, who put in a splendid run, dodging his opponents and then giving a pass which fell low, and Brooks could only kick the ball along. W. S. Morkel was hurt, and had to be carried off the field. A rush by the English forwards forced the ball over the line, where a try was gained and credited to Birkett. Cartwright failed at goal. A fine dribble by Kelly was only saved from being successful by one of the Africans carrying over and touching down. From the ensuing scrum the game was taken to midfield, where Stoop broke away and ran to the Africans' quarters, his pass to Brooks being intercepted by Loubser. Joubert was collared by Simpson, and the ball was sent over the line, England just missing a try. Scrummaging was confined to the Africans' quarter, and Jackett got in a splendid return kick after a lucky drive from a loose scramble. After the Africans had touched down to relieve an attack Jackett was responsible by a splendid kick in forcing the game into the Colonials' quarter, and though a penalty kick was granted, only momentary relief was gained, and with the game in the Africans' quarter the match terminated in a draw, the score being:—

SOUTH AFRICANS one try (3 pts.)
ENGLAND one try (3 pts.)

CRISPY CRITIQUES.

A hard, strenuous game, played in a style that enchaind the attention of the spectators and made them watch every movement. The conditions under which the contest was waged suited the Englishmen. They knew that if they were to overcome the South Africans it would be by the superiority of their forward play. With a kind of special Scotch mist pervading the atmosphere, making the surface of the ground greasy and the ball like an inflated pudding, it was no use working for the backs. The English forwards had to control the ball if they wished to have any chance. They realised this, and worked accordingly. The South Africans had other ideas. They believed in their backs in spite of the adverse conditions, and thus it was that during the first half the Colonials pressed. How they schemed and planned can be understood by the way in which they pressed all through the first portion of the game. With about one solitary exception the ball never went over the half-way line. The attacks were so numerous that it was thought the South Africans must score eventually. And they did. It came as the result of a fine kick by Marsburg, a fumble by Jackett, a smart follow-up, and all was over, including Millar, for a try. What would have happened in this fateful half had the ground been dry, the footing good, and the passing accurate would be about three tries to the credit of the Africans, for at least so many chances were seen and so many missed owing to the wretched state of the ground. It was one continual attack on their part, and no favour of Fortune to help them through. How their try was gained was another example of the great value of following up and making the best of the slightest chance. It was an episode which might have terminated otherwise, but it was one of those incidents in a match which always carry a moral. Never let a chance slip. Never stop till you hear the whistle. The whole aspect of the game underwent an alteration after this stage. It was close on half-time when it happened, and it looked as if, now that the South Africans had broken the spell, and found a way over the line, they would repeat the performance. But the interval brought about a change more than the change of ends. Of course it should be said that the South Africans had been playing with the wind at their backs in the first half, and had well utilised the assistance of the elements in their kicking. The Englishmen were, no doubt, thankful to receive any help, but they did not rely on the wind. The consultation at

They have managed to get a contingent together which should be able to give any other nation a great game. The forwards, on the form shown this season, should make the Scotsmen pause, the Welshmen tremble, and the Hibernians wonder. What the backs are capable of must be left to another day when the conditions are more favourable for open play, but the few examples of individual effort by the three-quarters proved that they are not lacking in speed and skill. Jackett, at full back, gave an exhibition that will warrant his selection a certainty. It was not flawless, for the try which the South Africans scored came from a bad piece of fielding, and before he could recover from his fumbling he was pounced upon, the ball rushed over the line—the mistake was made almost on the mark—and the deed was done. But his splendid work all through the game stamps him as a full back who can be trusted. The three-quarters were so often operating more as individuals than a combination that it is difficult to criticise them as they should be treated. Simpson we all know as an experienced player with remarkable speed, good kicking powers and a resolute tackler. He was not given many chances to show his abilities, but he looked after Joubert in fine style and on one occasion he made the South African wonder what kind of cyclone had collared him with the ball when he was about to return the leather. Brooks on the other wing had a few more opportunities, the ball seemed to go more his way, and he distinguished himself by several dashing runs. There were divided opinions as to whether he or Birkett scored the try which



A. F. MARSBURG, South Africa.

England obtained. Both were in the rush which ended so satisfactorily, and both played a sound, steady game, in which they showed more than ordinary capacity for utilising anything that came. Shewring was a great factor in the line, and he made his presence felt on more than one occasion. Once, when he dodged in and about his opponents for about thirty yards, he seemed to move slowly though he was beating his men, and he gave a bad pass which finished the effort; in fact, the passing of the three-quarters was their weak point. The half-backs proved a clever pair, and they worked so well together that they should not be disturbed. Jago is the same smart, slim man at the base of the pack, and he can get the ball and sling it out to Stoop with all his last season's neatness and despatch. Against less active and artistic foes these half-backs ought to be able to make their three-quarters do something to justify their existence. The English forwards deserve every praise. They didn't quite come up to the highest expectancy in the first half, but in the second they gave of their best, and that was good enough to make a draw of the match. Cartwright, Green, Hill, and Kelly were perhaps the most prominent of a great side, and if they are chosen again en bloc they will probably do better than on Saturday. What can be said of the South Africans? They played, as they have always played, to win, and they seemed as if they would achieve their object before the game was many minutes old. The forwards, particularly Roos, Raaff, Brink, and the Morkels, strove with righteous energy to bring about the downfall of the English goal. It was due to the fine speed and following-up of Le Roux and Millar that Jackett's mistake was turned to such good account, and this phase of attack has been a strong point of the forwards' plan of action. Dobbin and Jackson worked the scrummages in their customary alert fashion, and gave their three-quarters many chances to handle the leather. That the passing bouts did not materialise was not their fault. The centre three-quarters were more concerned about defensive ideas than methods of attack. I don't think Loubser had a pass all the afternoon, and Marsburg only made his presence felt when it came to a question of kicking. The absence of fine combination made the operations of the backs rather uninteresting to watch. Joubert did little to call for particular notice.

ENGLAND.—"E. J. Jackett (Cornwall), back; F. G. Brooks (East Midlands), "J. G. G. Birkett (Surrey), "H. E. Shewring (Somerset), "I. Simpson (Northumberland), three-quarters; A. D. Stoop (Surrey), "E. Jago (Devon), ball back; A. Alcock (Surrey), "V. H. Cartwright (Midlands), capt., "R. Dibble (Somerset), "J. Green (Yorkshire), "E. A. Hill (Kent), "T. S. Kelly (Devon), "W. Wills (Devon), and "C. H. national Midlands), forwards. "An Inter-SOUTH AFRICANS.—Joubert, Marsburg, de Villiers, de Melker, Loubser, Dobbin, Jackson, Paul Roos (capt.), Brink, W. S. Morkel, D. Morkel, P. le Roux, Dancel, Bess, and Millar. Referee: Mr. Tulloch, Scotland.

'BOKS' FAILURE TO DEFEAT ENGLAND The First Drawn Game MORKEL CARRIED OFF FIELD

The Springboks played the last of their International matches at the Crystal Palace to-day. They were not quite as strong as anticipated—Krige and Stegmann, the famous three-quarters, and the vice-captain, Carolin, being absentees. In all, there were three changes from the team that beat Wales. Krige, Burger, and Martheze stood down for De Melker, D. Morkel, and Mellar respectively. The ground was rather greasy, which was not surprising considering the recent weather. Half an hour from the start there were about 30,000 present, but with every expectation of a considerable increase. A drizzling rain fell. The English fifteen was as selected and not without an outside hope of success. It was only it the last moment that Marsburg was substituted for Hirsch. The Colonials had won nineteen matches and lost one, scoring 443 points to 47.

England.
Full-back:
E. J. Jackett
Three-quarter backs:
T. Simpson H. E. Shawing J. G. Birkett F. G. Brooks
Half-backs:
A. D. Stoop R. Jago
Forwards:
V. H. Cartwright R. Dibble J. Green B. A. Hill
T. S. Kelly W. S. Mills C. H. Shaw A. Alcock

South Africans.
Referee: Mr. J. Tulloch (Scotland).
Forwards:
P. Roos H. J. Daniel P. le Roux D. J. Brink
J. W. E. Ruff W. S. Morkel D. F. T. Morkel W. Millar
Half-backs:
F. J. Dobbin D. C. Jackson
Three-quarter backs:
Marsburg H. A. de Villiers S. C. de Melker J. Loubser
Full-back:
S. Joubert

The Game.

The South Africans won the toss, and at 2.33 Cartwright kicked off from the north end. The first noteworthy item was a run in which Birkett and Brooks were prominent. Gradually the home side were forced back, and Dobbin found touch within the home 25. Here a bout of passing was spoilt by De Villiers dropping the ball. Jackett made his mark, but little ground was gained. The South Africans continued to press, and Marsburg looked like going over from a movement initiated by Jackson, when he was brought down.

ENGLAND HARD PRESSED.

A little later D. Morkel had a penalty kick, which fell short, but the Englishmen could not get the ball away, and the whole of the game took place in the home 25. Dobbin tried to get round, but to no purpose, the English tackling being decidedly smart. Jackett found touch, and the fact that the home side worked the ball outside the 25 flag was hailed with delight. Shewring failed to field, but recovered himself, and from a on the line D. Morkel was, from a bout of passing, likely to score, when he was well collared by Shewring. Cartwright headed a rush, which Marsburg checked in clever style. Jago broke away from a scrum, and, Joubert only moderately kicking, the Englishmen gained considerable ground, only, however, to be gradually driven back again to the home 25.

There was a yell of delight as Kelly and another forward broke through, and a score seemed certain, when the Devonian fell, and the Springboks were able to save. A claim for a mark by England in an advantageous position was disregarded, and the South Africans worked to the centre.

A RARE CHANCE LOST.

Here, after several scrums, Stoop broke away, and there was a rare chance, but Brooks failed to take the greasy ball on the pass. Excitement was now at fever heat. England were pressing hard, but found the Colonials, though a man short, sticking to their guns for all they were worth. Birkett and Brooks made a good but fruitless effort, the game being in the vicinity of the visitors' 25 flag. Once the Springboks looked like breaking away, but Jackett made a fine return. Just before the finish, from a hot attack, Brooks was forced into touch close to the corner flag. The South Africans had to touch down, and this saved the situation. The ball was worked back to midfield. The result was a draw.

Final score: G. T. Pts.
ENGLAND 0 1 3
SOUTH AFRICANS 0 1 3

COMPARATIVE TABLES

ALL BLACKS.

	F.	A.
v. Devon County	55	4
v. Cornwall County	41	0
v. Bristol	41	0
v. Northampton	32	0
v. Leicester	28	0
v. Middlesex	34	0
v. Durham	16	3
v. The Harlequins	63	0
v. Northumberland	31	0
v. Gloucester	44	0
v. Somerset	23	0
v. Devonport Albion	21	5
v. Midland Counties	21	5
v. Surrey	11	0
v. Blackheath	32	0
v. Oxford	47	0
v. Cambridge	14	0
v. Ireland	15	0
v. Munster	33	0
v. Wales	0	3
v. England	15	0

SPRINGBOKS.

	F.	A.
v. East Midlands	37	0
v. Midland Counties	29	0
v. Kent	21	0
v. Durham	22	4
v. Northumberland	44	0
v. Yorkshire	34	0
v. Devon	22	6
v. Somerset	18	0
v. Middlesex	9	0
v. Newport	8	0
v. Glamorgan	6	3
v. Gloucestershire	23	0
v. Oxford University	24	3
v. Cambridge University	29	0
v. West of Scotland	32	5
v. Scotland	0	6
v. North of Scotland	35	3
v. Ireland	15	12
v. Dublin University	23	3
v. Wales	11	0
v. England	3	3

MATCH AND MATCH.

	F.	A.
v. Midland Counties	21	5
v. Springboks	29	0
v. Durham	18	3
v. Northumberland	22	4
v. Yorkshire	31	0
v. Devon County	44	0
v. Somerset	40	0
v. Middlesex	34	0
v. Newport	34	0
v. Glamorgan	55	4
v. Oxford University	23	0
v. Cambridge University	23	0
v. West of Scotland	22	0
v. Scotland	32	5
v. Ireland	12	7
v. Wales	0	6
v. England	15	0
v. Springboks	15	12
v. All Blacks	0	3
v. Springboks	11	0
v. All Blacks	15	0
v. Springboks	3	3

[The All Blacks did not meet East Midlands, Kent, Gloucestershire, South of Scotland, North of Scotland, and Dublin University. The All Blacks played the Gloucester City Club; the Springboks the Gloucester County fifteen.]

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Date	Where Played.
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" 19—Surrey	Richmond
" 22—Cornwall	Redruth
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" 29—Llanelli	Llanelli
Jan. 1—Cardiff	Cardiff

Running Comments.

BY "FORWARD."

It was expected that 50,000 spectators would be present at the Crystal Palace, but the light was very poor, and the ground was so greasy that the spectators' view of the game was not a good one. The English forwards looked big enough to take the Africans down, but the Colonial pack were not to be outdone. The English forwards looked big enough to take the Africans down, but the Colonial pack were not to be outdone. The English forwards looked big enough to take the Africans down, but the Colonial pack were not to be outdone.

The Africans quickly came back, and their forwards on one occasion pushed the English pack several yards.

It was still raining slightly, and this accounted for the South African backs failing so often to hold their passes. England tried passing at half-way, which broke down, and D. Morkel and Le Roux dribbled rapidly towards the English goal, reaching Jackett.

The ball was kicked hard over his head, but the custodian got back in time to kick dead.

Still, the Saxons were doing better than in the early stages, but the swift tackling of the Colonial backs was very effective.

Joubert stopped one dribble brilliantly, and put in a huge kick to touch.

Jackett put in a weak punt to Marsburg on the left, who kicked back to Jackett on the goal-line.

The Leicester man dropped the ball like a hot potato, attempted to pick it up again, and failed, and then Millar dashed up, gathered the ball without difficulty, and scored a ridiculously easy try.

Joubert failed with the kick, and this was all the scoring before the interval.

However, it by no means represented the superiority of the Springboks.

SECOND HALF.

When the second half started it was seen that Marsburg and Joubert had exchanged places.

The play soon began to go in favour of the Colonials, but Brooks reached beyond the centre with a beautiful dribble.

He showed bad judgment, however, in not kicking hard when he reached Marsburg, for it was just possible his speed might have yielded a try.

All the finesse was being shown by the Springboks, who were cleverer in every sense than the Saxons.

Still, the Englishmen were bucking up, and Shewring made a magnificent run. He beat half a dozen opponents in succession, and manoeuvred grandly for an opening for Birkett and Brooks.

He had the defence completely beaten at last, but when he did pass to Brooks the transfer was a wretched one, and could not possibly have been taken by the flying Bedfordian.

Had he received it he was quite unmarked and a score was a certainty.

England were now over playing their opponents, and when W. S. Morkel was carried off injured, the Saxons had a great chance of winning. Exciting play followed in the Springboks' 25.

Stoop slipped around a scrum, but his pass went wrong.

Brooks, however, kicked on the ball, and Stoop, beating several Africans off speed, scored a try, which sent the spectators into ecstasies.

Cartwright's shot at goal was about as bad as it could be.

With only seven men against them, the English forwards now held the mastery, and rushed several scrums in great style.

Misfielding by the English backs enabled the South Africans to reach the home 25, and an anxious time ensued for the supporters of the home team, but fortune was with the latter, and luck more than good management enabled them to stop a couple of movements.

Brink made a mark, and Douglas Morkel nearly kicked a goal.

From the centre the Springboks tried hard for another score, and strove in every way to open up the game.

A couple of English forwards made a great dribble from half-way, and the Afrikaners had to kick over to save. Hot work followed in the Springboks' 25, and it was evident that the game was by no means won and lost.

Stoop made the blunder of the match when he ran brilliantly through the Colonial backs, got up to Marsburg, and held the ball a tick too long, when he had Brooks unmarked on his left.

The result was that Marsburg compelled the outside half to pass badly, and the wing man could not take it. With five minutes to go, England fought mightily, and when the ball was rushed over Joubert only just failed to kick dead.

After the game had ended, the spectators were disappointed, and many of them were seen to leave the ground. The condition of the ground and the rain had been too much for them. The Springboks would have scored at least twice in the last ten minutes, and it was certainly a pity that the English forwards were not better.

Hirsch. The Colonials have won nineteen matches and lost one, scoring 443 points to 47.

England.

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Three-quarter backs: T. Simpson H. E. Shawing J. G. Birkett F. G. Brooks

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Forwards: V. H. Cartwright R. Dibble J. Green B. A. Hill J. W. E. Raaff W. S. Morkel D. F. T. Morkel W. Millar T. S. Kelly W. S. Mills C. H. Shaw A. Alcock

Referee: Mr. J. Tulloch (Scotland).

The Game.

The South Africans won the toss, and at 2.33 Cartwright kicked off from the north end. The first noteworthy item was a run in which Birkett and Brooks were prominent. Gradually the home side were forced back, and Dobbin found touch within the home 25. Here a bout of passing was spoiled by De Villiers dropping the ball. Jackett made his mark, but little ground was gained. The South Africans continued to press, and Marsburg looked like going over from a movement initiated by Jackson, when he was brought down.

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FREE-KICK TO ENGLAND.

Dobbin gave a pass which W. S. Morkel fumbled, and just afterwards England had a free-kick against Dobbin, which Shewring took. Joubert replied, and a little later, from a forward rush which Stoop failed to stop, a score seemed certain, but Jackett just managed to get to the ball and kick it dead.

A rush, in which Kelly and Binkett took part, brought the ball back to mid-way.

FIRST BLOOD TO THE 'BOKS.

Just on half-time, after an exchange of kicks by Jackett and Marsburg, the former missed the return, an dmillar ran up, and the English full-back being floored, gained a try in the corner, which Joubert failed to convert.

Half-time score:	G.	T.	Pts.
South Africa	0	1	3
England	0	0	0

The second half opened with a good rush by England. Rain was falling heavily. The ball, however, was soon in the home half. At this time Marsburg had gone full-back, exchanging places with Joubert. Brooks headed a dribble, which De Villiers checked. After a brief spell of defensive work the South Africans had a free kick, which Jackson took, and for the moment the Springboks looked like scoring. They were, however, gradually forced back, and Jago gave Shewring a chance, which he initiated with a fine dodgy run, but the pass to Brooks failed in this.

W. S. MORKEL INJURED.

W. S. Morkel was hurt and carried off the field. The English were continuing to press, and from a pass by Jago, Stoop and Brooks rushed over the line, and the formerscored. Cartwright failed at the place-kick.

TEAMS ON EQUAL TERMS.

Thus the sides were on terms—three points all—at the end of barely a quarter of an hour after the re-start. The South Africans rushed the ball up to their rivals' goal line, but relief was forthcoming as the result of a short run by Birkett. From a free kick by England D. S. Morkel made a mark, but to the relief of the English the shot from fully forty yards went wide. There was a veil of delight as Kelly and other forward broke through, and a score seemed certain when the Devonian fell, and the Springboks were able to save. A claim for mark by England with an advantageous position was disregarded, and the South Africans worked the ball to the centre. Here, after a scrum, Stook broke away, and there was a rare chance, but Brooks failed to take the greasy ball on the pass. Excitement was now at fever heat.

v. Oxford	14	0
v. Cambridge	14	0
v. Ireland	15	0
v. Munster	35	0
v. Wales	0	3
v. England	15	0

SPRINGBOKS.

v. East Midlands	37	0
v. Midland Counties	23	0
v. Kent	22	4
v. Durham	44	0
v. Northumberland	44	0
v. Yorkshire	34	0
v. Devon	22	0
v. Somerset	14	0
v. Middlesex	9	0
v. Newport	8	0
v. Glamorgan	6	3
v. Gloucestershire	24	3
v. Oxford University	29	0
v. Cambridge University	29	0
v. West of Scotland	32	5
v. Scotland	0	6
v. North of Scotland	35	3
v. Ireland	15	12
v. Dublin University	29	3
v. Wales	11	0
v. England	3	3

MATCH AND MATCH.

v. Midland Counties	All Blacks	21	5
Springboks		29	0
v. Durham	All Blacks	18	3
Springboks		22	4
v. Northumberland	All Blacks	31	0
Springboks		44	0
v. Yorkshire	All Blacks	44	0
Springboks		34	0
v. Devon County	All Blacks	53	4
Springboks		22	6
v. Somerset	All Blacks	23	0
Springboks		14	0
v. Middlesex	All Blacks	34	0
Springboks		9	0
v. Newport	All Blacks	8	0
Springboks		9	0
v. Glamorgan	All Blacks	6	3
Springboks		47	0
v. Oxford University	All Blacks	24	3
Springboks		29	0
v. Cambridge University	All Blacks	29	0
Springboks		29	0
v. West of Scotland	All Blacks	32	5
Springboks		32	5
v. Scotland	All Blacks	12	7
Springboks		0	6
v. Ireland	All Blacks	15	0
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Running Comments.

BY "FORWARD."

It was expected that 50,000 spectators would witness the game, but there were probably under 40,000 when play commenced.

Just after half-past two a drizzling rain had begun to fall, and, but for this, the ground would have been in a very fair condition.

At the last moment Marsburg came into the Colonials' team. Hirsch played on the left wing.

The light was very poor, and, at such a ground as the Crystal Palace, this meant that the spectators furthest away from the arena had by no means a good view of the game when they lined up.

The English forwards looked big enough to give the Afrikanders a lot of trouble, although the Colonial pack were probably just as weighty.

Brooks made one clever dodgy run on the left for the Saxons, but the Colonials soon began to show superior back play, and De Villiers slipped through wonderfully, but olst the ball when nearing Jackett.

The latter's kicking was distinctly good, and twice he drove the Africans back from his goal-line to the 25 line.

Exciting play followed for ten minutes in the home quarter, and Marsburg got over, but was adjudged to have been tackled outside. From nearly every scrum the Colonial forwards heeled, and it seemed only a matter of time before they were bound to score.

Cartwright came away with a nice dribble for England, and off-side against Morkel enabled Shewring to kick to the centre.

The Africans, however, were all over their opponents, and were back within reasonable scoring ranges of their goal-line.

De Villiers would have got over but for a knock-on, and Jackson actually got across, but his pass from Dobbin was forward.

Marsburg contributed a grand piece of play when he picked up at the feet of the on-rushing English forwards at midfield, dashed through the thick of them, and would have put De Melker over but for a forward pass when in front of Jackett.

Up to a quarter of an hour from half-time the Englishmen had played like a beaten team.

It was Jago who put them in the Africans' half for the first time, when he broke away with a dribble and kicked over Joubert's head, with Jago and two forwards on top of him.

Joubert could only kick a few yards into touch.

reached beyond the centre. The Springboks, who were cleverer in every sense than the Saxons.

Still, the Englishmen were bucking up, and Shewring made a magnificent run. He beat half a dozen opponents in succession, and manoeuvred grandly for an opening for Birkett and Brooks.

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Stoop made the blunder of the match when he ran brilliantly through the Colonial backs, got up to Marsburg, and held the ball a tick too long, when he had Brooks unmarked on his left.

The result was that Marsburg compelled the outside half to pass badly, and the wing man could not take it. With five minutes to go, England fought mightily, and when the ball was rushed over Joubert only just managed to kick dead, with half-a-dozen forwards on top of him.

In the last few minutes England nearly scored twice, but time came with neither side having added to their points.

AFTERTHOUGHTS

It was a game which ought to have been won by the Springboks, but which might easily have been won by England on their play in the last half. Victory certainly deserved to rest with the South Africans, but after the Saxons had recovered from their apparent stage fright.

They played grandly, and ought to have scored again in the last ten minutes of the game.

Undoubtedly, the springboks were handicapped by the condition of the ground and ball, for rain fell from beginning to end.

Had it not been for this I feel convinced the Springboks would have scored at least twice in the first twenty minutes, and thus have put the issue beyond doubt.

It was certainly surprising to see the English forwards so badly overplayed in the first half, but this chiefly applies to scrimmaging work.

As far as dribbling was concerned the English forwards were always a long way ahead, and some of their rushes reminded one of the old Saxon packs of the long ago.

Cartwright was always prominent in this respect. Stoop, Brooks, Birkett, and Shewring played grandly behind, and it was a real pity that Stoop made that one serious error, which rather spoilt an otherwise brilliant exhibition.

On the main the Englishmen did not attempt to play the typical passing game, but some of their movements in the closing phases were excellent.

Had Birkett, Shewring, and Brooks received more chances from their halves they were certainly capable of giving the Springboks' trouble.

For the Africans Dobbin was the best of their backs, and De Villiers of the three-quarters.

Loubser was scarcely seen during the whole course of the game, and Marsburg, either as wing or custodian, certainly did not sustain the big reputation he has earned in Wales on his form this afternoon.

The remaining Welsh teams who have to play against him need not hold him in dread. It is true he was chiefly the means of gaining the Springboks their only try, but, as has been indicated, that score was a very lucky one.

Still, in adversely criticising the Colonial backs, it has to be recollected that they were playing on a ground which directly militated against their style of play.

HONOURS EASY.

Boks and the Rose Play a Draw.

A STRENUOUS GAME.

BOLD TACKLING, BUT POOR PASSING.

HEROIC ENGLISH FORWARDS.

COLONIALS ADOPT WELSH FORMATION

The South Africans played the final "test" match of their tour this afternoon, when they met the representatives of England at the Crystal Palace. The match was the twenty-first of the tour, and with seven more engagements to fulfil the Africans have, exclusive of to-day's game, won 19 out of 20 matches played—the only defeat being sustained at the hands of Scotland.

The Springboks, who had rested since their match against Wales, left Margate yesterday for London. It is generally thought that the South Africans most feared being defeated by England, and that the week's rest had been arranged in order to give the players ample time to recuperate for to-day's struggle. The fact is the tourists desired that the week's rest should come between the Irish and Welsh games—as Wales has throughout been the country most feared by the Africans—but those responsible for arranging the fixtures made the mistake of putting the "rest" between the Welsh and English Internationals.

Injuries and illness deprived the Africans of several of their best players, J. D. Krige who is down with influenza, Burmeister, and Stegmann being unable to play.

It will be seen that the team differs in four instances from that which played Wales at Swansea, J. G. Hirsch, S. C. de Melker, S. Morkel, and W. A. Miller coming into the team instead of J. D. Krige, W. A. Burger, and W. C. Marthege. Joubert took up his accustomed position at full back.

The English side included 13 Internationals, eleven of them having taken part in the match against Scotland last season. T. G. Brooks, one of the new "caps," is an old Bedford Grammar School player, but is returning to South Africa this month. The other new "cap" is A. Alcock. Only four of the Englishmen played against the New Zealanders last season, viz., Jackett, Shewring, Cartwright, and Hill. The New Zealanders won that match by five tries to nil. The teams were as follows:—

South Africa.

S. Joubert (Western Province)—back.
J. G. Hirsch (Eastern Province), H. A. de Villiers (Western Province), S. C. de Melker (Griqualand West), and J. A. Loubser (Western Province), three-quarters.
F. Dobbin (Griqualand West) and D. C. Jackson (Western Province), half-backs.
P. Roos (captain) (Western Province), D. J. Brink (Western Province), S. Morkel (Transvaal), D. Morkel (Transvaal), P. A. le Roux (Western Province), H. C. Dancel (Western Province), J. W. E. Raaij (Griqualand West), W. A. Millar (Western Province), forwards.

England.

*E. J. Jackett (Cornwall), back.
*F. G. Brooks (East Midlands), *J. G. G. Birkett (Surrey), *H. E. Shewring (Somerset), and *T. Simpson (Northumberland), three-quarters.
*A. D. Stoop (Surrey), and *R. Jago (Devon), half-backs.
*V. H. Cartwright (Midlands) (capt.), *R. Hill (Somerset), *J. Green (Yorkshire), *B. A. Hill (Leant), *T. S. Kelly (Devon), *W. Mills (Devon), *C. H. Shaw (Midlands), and A. Alcock (Surrey), forwards.
*An old International.

Referee, Mr. J. T. Tuohy, S.R.U.

PLAN OF THE FIELD.

ENGLAND.



Wales, but now that Krige and Stegmann, two great stars of the team, were enforced absentees, there was a general feeling that Old England would emerge triumphant.

Melker, Krige's substitute, has the reputation of being a player after that great centre's pattern, and when only 19 represented South Africa in a test match. Hirsch, who plays on his wing, the left, where Stegmann has scored so many tries, played very well in the centre in the opening match, but the brilliance of the old Cantab has not been sustained.

There was a good sprinkling of Welshmen present. The huge crowd at half an hour before the kick-off looked like beating the Welsh record of the last week by several thousands. England's hope lay in their forwards being supported by backs who were described as strong in defence, yet whose forte was attack. Experienced critics considered that a mistake had been made in the retention of the veteran Cartwright, though they acknowledge his merits when in form and his ability in leadership; but most criticism was directed to the dropping of Peters, of Plymouth, and especially to the reason for it, which was stated to be due to silly sentiment, and one can hardly credit that it can be true, as stated in a London contemporary, that the ignoring of the crack Plymouthian after the magnificent success of his partnership with Stoop is attributable to the South Africans having drawn the colour line.

Quarter of an hour before the kick-off the light was bad, and it became bitterly cold. At this time it seemed impossible that semi, if not almost complete, darkness would not set in before the second half was well advanced.

Marsburg Turns Out.

Surprise changes in the constitution of the African team were made in the last minute, Marsburg substituting Hirsch on the left wing. This gave the Welshmen a chance of seeing Joubert in his old position at full back, where he has made his name famous.

The three-quarter lines then were opposed in this order—Simpson left wing, Shewring left centre, Birkett right centre, and Brooks right wing, against Marsburg left wing, De Villiers left centre, Melker right centre, and Loubser right wing.

There was no sun, but England had to face the wind. For the opening 10 minutes

The Opening Stages.

The Colonials played much better football than they did against Wales. They were in England's territory in a trice, and except one splendid burst by Brooks, who was not supported by his colleague, and was cut off by De Villiers, the play was wholly on England's side the field, and mostly in their 25. The home forwards heavier, but they packed in haphazard fashion, while the Africans again departed from their own style of forming in scrummages, and now packed in Welsh style instead of the 3-3-2 method, to which they had pinned their faith. This was an example of the quickness of the visitors to adopt any improvement on their game, and they were using the new style of forward play as effectively as they have done the cross-punting which puzzled them in their game at Cardiff.

England's Good Luck.

It was a strenuous game. The English forwards often tried heroically to drive back their opponents by wheeling and footwork, and Jackett saved pluckily on several occasions, but good fortune was clearly on the side of England, for the defence, determined as it was, was palpably beaten at least four times when a knock-on or a forward pass called them back.

Marsburg all but got clear with a grand dash, but was held up on the line. Dobbin and Jackson were continually getting the ball heeled, and in cleaner manner than they had at Cardiff. Jago put in many tackles, and Stoop assisted by closing up to the scrum. The Colonial halves, too, kicked well when pressed.

English Threes Close Up.

It had taken some time for the English centres to tumble to the game for the occasion and they now closed up, but though their tackling was unimpeachable, they seldom succeeded in forcing a premature pass.

Steadiness only was called for to secure a decisive lead. A penalty for off-side at half by Jago was taken by Morkel, but the celebrated goal placar failed to make the ball rise.

A Football Paradox.

The ground was wearing far better than it was expected to do, and the Africans were able to sprint, in fact it was their speed that handicapped them. This seems a football paradox, but if the Colonial had made a more studied effort and not done so much passing when going at full tilt they would have done better.

It was through going at full speed that brought about a miss, and the home forwards went ahead in a body.

England's First Chance.

It was the only chance England had secured and there was every chance of a score accruing, for there was Joubert alone to face, and Shewring and Birkett and Brooks were up with the scrummers. Marsburg, however, once more proved his fearlessness in defence, and his knack of always being where he is of most service to his side. He ran from wing to centre at a rare pace, and timed his dive to a nicety. This proved the only opportunity for England until the interval, though from this stage the Africans though still keeping up their superiority forward in the tight scrums and on line outs, where Raaij and Brink

In attack England were of no greater merit than their average side, even of recent years, but as spoilers their centres were really clever, and there was not a man behind the scrummage who would not fall on the ball whatever the risk.

Scrummagers, every man a tireless worker, will be to be played against England on January 12th, and there should be no room for any faint heart in the team.

The English forwards are not as clever as a body as the packs they have played against Wales in most seasons, and certainly far from being the equals of the fine pack that beat the Welsh forwards in the last match at Cardiff, when Dillon and Raphael assisted Wales to gain a handsome victory by their failure to combine and to profit from the numerous openings made for them by the forwards and Hulme, who never played better at half.

To-day there was a feeling that England's backs would have the ball often direct from the forwards, but if the South African backs had been as they were against Newport and Glamorgan, not to speak of Wales, all the skill in spoiling would not have prevented them scoring.

The whole back division of the South Africans, not only the threes, but the play of the halves and the full back were affected, and when at normal strength it is difficult to conceive that the Colonials would not have put on a conclusive lead.

Three, if not four, tries were lost by the bungling of the backs in the first 20 minutes, and anything approaching a repetition at Cardiff on January 1st of this want of steadiness and of harmony between the scrummage would give the home club a glorious chance of doing what they failed to do against the New Zealanders.

I am assuming that the Cardiff backs will then be in good form and if they are speedy. Defence is not sufficient to keep a well combined side from scoring.

THE INDIVIDUAL RECORD.

We missed to-day anything great at full-back. Marsburg did his best work when at three-quarter, and Joubert did nothing to sustain his reputation for brilliance, his kicking being short rather than phenomenally long.

Jackett was plucky, but he was not happy in his selection of position before he was knocked out, and it was fortunate for his side that he had far less work to do.

Melker and De Villiers do not hit it off at all well, and the lightning sprinter, Loubser, was more of a spectator in this game than in any five he has participated in, the play being kept away from his wing.

Dobbin and Jackson were superior to Jago and Stoop in attack. It was no fault of theirs that their threes failed. Jago was courageous, and went down to it with lion-heart and made several nice openings.

Stoop was low in defence in the earlier stages, but he deserves a compliment upon an all round good display, and nipped many a well-designed movement in the bud.

Of England's threes chief honours were expected to be won by Brooks and Birkett, but it was Shewring, of Bristol, who most distinguished himself. Some of his work in attack was individually excellent, and his only failure was in grasping the possibilities of chances for his colleagues, though he several times bluffed the defence by passing to Brooks and missing Birkett.

The two B's were busy. They were always doing something, and one run by the wing in the first half was particularly fine.

Slow passing and inability of the centres and

IMPRESSIONS.

By Hamish Stuart.

It was one of the most exciting Internationals on record, and considering the miserable conditions and heavy going the match was fought out at a most remarkable pace, while both sides showed singular stamina. As a struggle for supremacy, it was in every way worthy of the sides. South Africa certainly had all the better of the first half; indeed, they ought to have pushed their advantage home.

On a fast ground and with a dry ball I think they would have won. At the same time, England would probably have done better on dry ground.

It is always fairer to base conclusions on the conditions as they are. On that principle, a draw was the most fitting termination. The game was brimful of incidents and of good football. Indeed, if there had been nothing but the fine fielding and superb kicking of both backs in the match, the display of both men would have made the match memorable.

England have clearly a fine side this season, and ought to make a bold bid for premier honours. There should be no necessity for any changes in the team.

The Records to Date.

The following summary gives the results of the first 21 matches played by the South Africans and New Zealanders respectively:—

	Pld.	W'n.	Lst.	Dn.	Pts. for	Pts. agst.
South Africans	21	19	1	1	445	43
New Zealanders	21	21	0	0	546	22

TRY SCORERS FOR SPRINGBOKS.

The following list shows how the tries have been scored up to the present time, and it will be seen that Stegmann and Loubser hold a long lead:—

Player	Tries
Stegmann	17
Loubser	17
Hirsch	8
Carolin	6
J. Le Roux	6
Marthege	5

The following table shows the results of the matches played by the South Africans and New Zealanders respectively:—

Country	W'n.	Lst.	Dn.	Pts.
South Africa	19	1	1	445
New Zealand	21	0	0	546

SPRINGBOKS v. RED ROSE.

TO-DAY'S MATCH AGAINST LANCASHIRE.

The Springboks play the twenty-second match of their tour at Fallowfield, Manchester, this afternoon, when they meet a fifteen made up of Lancashire County players.

Unfortunately, since the formation of the Northern Union the Rugby Union game has not flourished greatly in Lancashire, and the result of the recent North v. South match showed that the North are not particularly rich in good players this season. Still, Lancashire men always prove themselves to be doughty opponents in whatever sport they engage, and they can be relied upon to give the Springboks a good hard game. Teams:

LANCASHIRE.

BACK.

J. L. Kennard (Liverpool Old Boys).

THREE-QUARTERS.

H. Fish (Kersal).

T. W. S. Pollok (Liverpool).

F. J. Dixon (Manchester).

J. M. Allen (Liverpool).

HALF-BACKS.

R. M. Symon (Liverpool Old Boys).

G. L. Williams (Liverpool).

FORWARDS.

C. E. Allen (Liverpool).

G. Leather (Liverpool).

L. A. N. Slocock (Liverpool).

G. Z. Pinder (Manchester).

J. Hunter (Manchester).

H. Whitehead (Manchester).

V. P. Gamma (Manchester).

H. Parker (Preston Grasshoppers).

SPRINGBOKS.

BACK.

A. Burmeister.

THREE-QUARTERS.

P. le Roux.

S. C. de Melker.

H. A. de Villiers.

J. A. Loubser.

HALF-BACKS.

H. W. Carolin.

F. J. Dobbin.

FORWARDS.

P. Roos.

A. F. Burdett.

W. A. Millar.

D. Morkel.

W. A. Burger.

W. A. Neill.

W. C. Martheze.

J. le Roux.

CHESS.

(Letters relating to "Chess" should be addressed Chess Editor, "Daily Mail" Office, London, E.C.) Correspondents are requested to write legibly their signatures and the names of towns where they reside.

LANCASHIRE'S FORWARDS MAKE A CLOSE FIGHT.

AFRICANS JUST WIN.

By F. W. COOPER (English International).

SOUTH AFRICA, 11 pts.; LANCASHIRE, 8 pts.

Great interest had been aroused by the visit of the Springboks to Lancashire to meet the county team, and had the conditions been at all favourable I have no doubt that a record gate would have assembled. Manchester, however, has a reputation for being a wet place, and yesterday afternoon was surely one of her worst samples.

Despite the rain the field, with the exception of the "twenty-five" nearest the entrance, was in good condition, and, therefore, a fast game was anticipated. The play, like the weather, was disappointing, and the display of the South Africans was far below their best form.

Having a strong wind behind them in the first half, the Springboks were expected to pile up a big score, instead of which they had only eight points to their credit when the interval arrived.

The second try was the result of a scrambling rush. At the same time it was legitimate, and as if to make up for the lack of skill shown in the scoring of it, Morkel converted from a difficult angle with a truly magnificent kick.

The first try, however, made up for everything. It was brilliant in the extreme. The home full-back had made a weak kick to touch from a lengthy punt by Loubser. There was a line-out. The inevitable scrum followed, and the ball came out to Jackson, who was playing in place of Dobbin. After a stride or two, the ball was sent by a swift, low pass to De Villiers. This player handed on to his fellow-centre, who drew the defence on to himself before giving Loubser the ball. The last-named took the pass cleanly, and was over the line before the home full-back could get near him.

It was a brilliant effort from the start, and the ball travelled from one touch-line to the other.

C. E. ALLEN AT HIS BEST.

In the second half, with the wind in their favour, the Lancashire forwards, led by that grand old Irish international C. E. Allen, played the game best adapted for the conditions—and for rushing and dribbling the wearers of the Red Rose were easily first. Spurred on by the shouts of "Feet, feet," the Lancastrians took the ball at their toes more than half the length of the field, and one of their number scored.

As a goal followed, there appeared a great likelihood of the Springboks tasting defeat for a second time, but the visitors were by no means a beaten side, and soon scored a try, which was not improved. This success seemed to dishearten the Lancashire men for a time, but another effective dribble resulted in a second try in practically the same position as the first, but the goal-kick was a failure.

This ended the scoring, and the South Africans were left with a three points victory, though right up to the finish the Lancashire forwards played a dashing game, and the victors had to put in all they knew to keep their lines intact.

There were two outstanding features in connection with the Colonials' play. The first was that every man appeared stale and lackadaisical, and the other the absolute fairness of their game.

A draw would have been a just reflex of the match, for if the Springboks were better in passing and running they were only second best when it came to foot-work, and dribbling is an essential part of the game. Kennard played splendidly for the losers, although his kicking in the first half was on more than one occasion very weak, and this led to one of the tries scored by his opponents.

Allen was the pick of the third line, and Williams was a treat behind the scrum. Had Lancashire won the toss their foot-work would have been sufficient to win the game.

Burmeister was not at his best, especially in the second portion. Loubser was the hero of the third line, and Jackson was the better half-back.

The forwards were good and bad in turn; and, taking into consideration the state of the ground, they would have been better advised to have gone in for stronger forward play in preference to heeling out and serving the men behind.

ARE THE SPRINGBOKS STALE?

SPRINGBOKS AT CARLISLE.

ANDREW MORKEL MAKES HIS FIRST APPEARANCE.

The South African footballers make their last appearance in the north of England this afternoon at Carlisle, where they meet Cumberland. This is the twenty-third match of the tour. On the African side it will be noticed that Andrew Morkel is making his first appearance for the Colonials.

The teams are as follow:

SOUTH AFRICANS.—A. Burmeister, back; A. Morkel, S. C. de Melker, J. G. Hirsch, and Jacob le Roux, three-quarter backs; H. W. Carolin and F. J. Dobbin, half-backs; P. Roos (captain), A. F. Burdett, D. Brookes, H. J. Daneel, Piet le Roux, W. C. Martheze, D. Morkel, and H. G. Reid, forwards.

CUMBERLAND.—T. Black (Whitehaven), back; T. Jackson (London), J. Shannon (Keswick), L. G. Horsfall (Aspatia), and C. Coade (Turner's Club), three-quarter backs; J. Davidson (Aspatia) and J. Fleming (Carlisle), half-backs; C. H. Osborne (St. Bee's), J. Thompson (Whitehaven), J. Valentine (Keswick), W. Nanson (Carlisle), R. McCowan (Whitehaven), T. Davidson (Aspatia), T. Wilson (Glasgow), and D. Graham (Aspatia), forwards.

SUCCESSFUL OPERATION.

J. D. Krige, the South Africans' centre three-quarter back, was yesterday successfully operated upon for appendicitis.

WEIGHT VERSUS PACE.

CUMBERLAND FORWARDS NOT EQUAL TO AFRICAN BACKS.

SOUTH AFRICA, 21 pts.; CUMBERLAND, 0.

The Springboks are getting some rare samples of weather, and two successive mudlarks were followed on Saturday by a game on good going at Carlisle, during the last half of which it was freezing.

Much interest was taken in Andrew Morkel's first appearance in this country. He had already got his "cap" for South Africa in matches against Mr. R. Morrison's team, and by his very brainy play in the second half of the match he plainly showed what a handicap to the Springboks his accident in the first practice match at Richmond in September has been.

Beginning rather gingerly, for he was frequently seen to limp, he improved as time went on, and during the later stages played like a great man. He had a hand in three of the last four tries, in one case kicking across with artistic precision, in a second passing across instead of kicking, and in the third managing to pass the ball safely to Hirsch at the exact moment when he was tackled by the county full-back.

Altogether the close observer saw plainly enough the brain of an artist working for the good of his side. This cousin of the two forwards of the same name has pace, fields well, and is a very fine as well as accurate kicker.

As for the match, the Cumberland pack left no manner of doubt of their excellence. They played grandly right up to the end of an exceedingly fast game, and not one of the scores was due to any fault of theirs. S. H. Osborne and T. Davidson were the most prominent of the eight, which did not contain the suspicion of a loafer.

In fact, the pack was better in every department of the game than that of their opponents. So that once again it was the old story in English county football—grand packs and no backs.

Thanks to their forwards, the county nearly scored four times, and were constantly on the Springbok lines. The latter's first try was one of the old sort. The ball, beautifully handled by Dobbin and Carolin, who beat three men, went sailing along the three-quarter line to Le Roux, and the county full-back never looked like stopping the corkscrew artist. The best place-kick on earth converted, this being the only item before the interval.

The next two Springbok scores were cleverly engineered by Andrew Morkel. In the first case he cross-kicked, and De Villiers, outwitting the defence, ran in under the bar, and almost immediately afterwards, from a pass from the other wing, Le Roux got in wide out.

In the closing stages of the game the stalwart Northern forwards made one more tremendous effort to score, but the defence proved to be too good, and then all eyes became fixed on J. Le Roux, who scored a wonderful try after a striking display of single-handed dodging and cool-headed cleverness.

South Africans with a Weak Side

South Africans:

Cumberland:

Davidson nearly scored for Cumberland.

	Half-time score:	G.	T.	Pts.
SOUTH AFRICANS		1	0	5
CUMBERLAND		0	0	0

The Second Half.

Final score: G. T. P'ts

South Africans	3	2	21
Cumberland	0	0	0

RUNNING COMMENTS

By E. H. D. Sewell

The two wings may break down at any moment, and both centres are limping more or less.

The pace was very fast.

The game then ended with the county almost scoring through Horsfall.

Comparative Table

ALL BLACKS.

COUNTY.		BLACKS.	F.	A.
V.	Devon County	.....	55	0
V.	Cornwall County	.....	66	0
V.	Bristol	.....	41	0
V.	Northampton	.....	41	0
V.	Leam	.....	31	0
V.	Middlesex	.....	32	0
V.	Burham	.....	23	0
V.	Thames Valley	.....	23	0
V.	Northumberland	.....	18	0
V.	Gloucester	.....	13	0
V.	Somerset	.....	13	0
V.	Devonport Albion	.....	31	0
V.	Midland Counties	.....	23	0
V.	Surrey	.....	21	3
V.	Blackheath	.....	21	5
V.	Canford	.....	11	0
V.	Cambridge	.....	32	0
V.	Ireland	.....	47	0
V.	Munster	.....	14	0
V.	Wales	.....	15	0
V.	England	.....	33	0
V.	Cheltenham	.....	15	0
V.	Cheshire	.....	12	0
			12	0
			24	0

SPRINGBOKS.

	F.	A.
v. East Midlands	37	0
v. Midland Counties	29	0
v. Kent	21	0
v. Durham	22	4
v. Northumberland	44	0
v. Yorkshire	34	0

MATCH AND MATCH.

WATER.		F.	A.
v. Midland Counties	All Blacks	21	5
	Springbooks	29	0
v. Durham	All Blacks	16	3
	Springbooks	22	4
v. Northumberland	All Blacks	22	4
	Springbooks	31	0
v. Yorkshire	Springbooks	44	0
	All Blacks	40	0
v. Devon County	Springbooks	54	0
	All Blacks	55	4
v. Somerset	Springbooks	52	0
	All Blacks	23	0
v. Middlesex	Springbooks	14	0
	All Blacks	34	0
v. Newport	Springbooks	9	9
	All Blacks	6	3
v. Glamorgan	Springbooks	8	0
	All Blacks	9	0
v. Oxford University	Springbooks	22	5
	All Blacks	47	0
v. Cambridge University	Springbooks	24	3
	All Blacks	14	0
v. West of Scotland	Springbooks	39	0
	All Blacks	22	0
v. Scotland	Springbooks	32	5
	All Blacks	12	7
	Springbooks	0	6
v. Ireland	All Blacks	15	0
	Springbooks	15	12
v. Wales	All Blacks	0	5
	Springbooks	11	0
v. England	All Blacks	15	0
	Springbooks	3	3

SPRINGBOKS' REMAINING MATCHES.

Date.	Where Played.
Dec. 19—Surrey	Richmond
" 22—Cornwall	Redruth
" 26—Monmouth County	Newport
" 29—Llanelli	Llanelli
Jan. 1—Cardiff	Cardiff

OPERATION ON KRIGE

The Springboks are due to leave England about the 12th of next month.

CUMBERLAND v. S'AFRICANS.

SUPERIOR BACK PLAY GAINS THE DAY.

(By PHILISTINE.)

HOPES were elevated to the highest point by the aspirations of the Cumberland spectators at the interval in the game on Saturday between the County team and the South Africans. Only a goal separated the rivals at half-time, and the exhibition which the home forwards had given inspired the liveliest sense of satisfaction and an ardent wish concerning the result. But hopes were soon shattered, as tries were gained by the superiority of the back division of the Colonials and the dream of joy vanished as points were piled up. The Cumbrians can be congratulated on the arrangements they had made for the match. They took every precaution necessary to fight the weather, and ensure the keeping of the engagement, and Mr. Westray and his colleagues are entitled to compliments for the manner in which they defied the frost, and in selecting such a fine ground as the Carlisle United enclosure as the venue. It is well known that many of the South Africans noted for their football talents are on the injured list, but all the same a good team had been selected to meet the Cumberland men. At the last moment De Villiers was requisitioned to play instead of De Melker at three-quarter. On the Cumberland side the men turned out exactly as selected. The ground was in splendid condition, despite a little bone in certain portions, but it was quite to the liking of the South Africans, and with a perfect winter afternoon, without the slightest wind to interfere with operations, the game was contested under ideal conditions. There would be nearly 6,000 spectators present, and the "gate" will realise a sum of £350 or thereabouts, and when the expenses of the match have been deducted the South Africans take 70 per cent. of the proceeds.

There was considerable anxiety to see how the Cumberland forwards would shape against the South Africans, and after the County had started the game, a scrummage about centre gave the Colonials a chance to show their strength. They did it magnificently, but the effect was to rouse the Cumbrians to their work. After that the play fluctuated between the quarter flags, and the home men did their share of pressing by good, sound, honest scrummaging. The Colonials endeavoured to open the game, but bad passing nullified the efforts. Le Roux opened the scoring by registering a try from a pass by Hirsch, and D. Morkel placed a goal. At the interval the Africans led by five points to nothing. The second half was more or less a replica of the first with regard to the forward play, but there was a great difference in the operations of the Colonial backs. De Villiers, with a beautiful swerve, beat Black and scored, for Carolin to convert. Then Hirsch ran over the line, and D. Morkel failed at goal. Pretty passing by the backs ended in Le Roux running in, and Morkel converted. Just before the close of the game Le Roux operated again, and D. Morkel being unsuccessful at the place, the final score was:

SOUTH AFRICANS ... 5-2 (21 points)
CUMBERLAND Nothing

CRISPY CRITIQUES.

Though the score seems rather formidable it does not exactly represent the true nature of the game. On the play, and allowing for the fact that the Cumbrians were attacking oftener than their opponents, if the venue of the ground is to be taken into consideration, the score of superiority would be about ten points to three, but if one is to give points for adaptability, speed, and skill, then the score represents the difference between the respective back divisions. Cumberland will have to grow a new crop of half-backs and three-quarters or train their present players in those positions to understand the meaning of combination. Possibly the plan of campaign decided upon by the captain, S. H. Osborne, and his advisers had much to do with the ineffectiveness of the backs as an attacking section. The half-backs did not once throughout the match give their three-quarters a chance to open out the game. No doubt they acted wisely, for they realised, like other teams have done, that being incompetent to meet the South Africans at their own tactics they must play a game which would upset the calculations of their opponents. The forwards must attack and leave the three-quarters to take care of themselves. It was the best system to adopt and it worked wonderfully well in the first half. After about five minutes of play had elapsed, during which the African forwards had shown what a powerful lot they were and how well they could carry a

scrummage, the Cumbrian forwards were up and they fairly set about their adversaries. They pushed and wheeled and dribbled through the opposing ranks and they dashed up and tackled the enemy until they gave one the impression that they were about to score. But never a score came all afternoon. It was like the task of Sisyphus. No sooner had they pushed the South African stone up the hill than down it would roll again by a curious side-slip or by the work of the three-quarters. The back division of the Colonials was too good for the Cumbrians. When it started to work there was no stopping it. It could not get going in the first half for 27 minutes. The men tried several times, but their passing was faulty and the catching of the ball likewise. Someone either knocked on or fumbled the ball, but after Hirsch had made a fine opening and given a nice pass to Le Roux for that player to get over the line, the way through the defence had been found. In the second half this operation was repeated four times, that is successfully repeated. It was the only way to beat the Cumberland men, for after the forwards had been disposed of the way was fairly clear for the speedy backs to trick and elude their opponents. De Villiers, Hirsch, and Le Roux were the men who had the credit of try-getting given them, and Hirsch was more or less interested in the registering of nearly every try. He was in his happiest form playing centre to Le Roux and he assisted that young gentleman to the treble honours he gained. The try which Hirsch secured came from a repass by A. Morkel after the ball had gone along the line. Whether Morkel could have gone over the line himself is a moot point. Perhaps he lacked confidence in himself, for this is the first match he has played in since he came over with the team. Injuries on board the boat were responsible for his nonappearance. However, he had the capacity to realise that the dashing young Cambridge man was in attendance, and he made no bones about passing the leather to Hirsch for his comrade to gain the coveted try. The match had its good points for the spectators and they were very impartial in their applause. They showed their appreciation of the fine work done by the African backs by their noisy cries of admiration, even though the next minute they were urging on their own representatives to do something that would make them famous. Whatever would have happened if the Cumberland men had scored must be left to the imagination. They nearly had an opportunity in the very last minute of the game when Horsfall led a dribble which beat Burnmeister and forced the ball over the line, and but for De Villiers' smartness in touching down a try would have resulted. However, that consolation was denied them and the contest finished in a way that will always make a Cumbrian marvel how the Africans won by such a large score.

The Cumberland forwards deserve all the credit for their gallant fight and the persistent attacks which they made upon the African goal. They were quicker on the ball in the loose, and quite a power in the packs. Their dribbling was good, and every man is entitled to praise. Osborne led his men in gallant style, and Nanson, Graham, Wilson, and Valentine were active in assisting with good work. It should be mentioned that before the game finished Valentine met with an accident, and had to retire from the game with a broken jawbone. He is to be sympathised with. The half-backs distinguished themselves as savers and spoilers. Joe Davidson was just in his element in stopping a rush or preventing an opposing half-back from flinging out the ball, while Fleming was useful with smart kicks. The three-quarters having to find their own work had none too glorious a task. Jackson, until he was injured in the second half, got through a lot of clever play, and saved the situation by his nippiness and dribbling. Shannon was only fair to middling, while Horsfall performed creditably until he received an injury to his knee. Coade was moderate, and Black was an efficient stopgap at full back.

CUMBERLAND.—T. J. Black (Whitehaven); L. G. Horsfall (Aspatia College and Sunderland); O. Coade (Furress); J. Shannon (Kewick); T. A. Jackson (London); J. Fleming (Carlisle); Joe Davidson (Aspatia); W. Nanson (Carlisle); S. H. Osborne (St. Bees); C. J. Valentine (Kewick); C. L. Thompson (Cambridge and Rochdale); D. Graham (Aspatia and Rochdale); T. Wilson (Carlisle); R. M. Cowan (Whitehaven); and Tom Davidson (Aspatia).

SOUTH AFRICANS.—A. B. Burnmeister; A. Morkel; S. C. De Melker; J. G. Hirsch; J. S. Le Roux; H. W. Carolin; F. J. Dobbin; P. Roos (captain); A. F. Burdett; D. Brooks; H. J. Daneel; P. Le Roux; W. C. Martheze; D. Morkel; and H. S. Reid.

Referee: Mr. Adam Turnbull, Hawick.

SOUTH AFRICANS AT RICHMOND.

SPRINGBOKS MAKE THEIR LAST APPEARANCE IN LONDON.

Provided the conditions are favourable, there is certain to be a large crowd at the Richmond Athletic Ground this afternoon, when the Springboks play the twenty-fourth match of their tour, and make their fourth and final appearance in London.

The Surrey team is a good one, and seeing how well they played at the Crystal Palace, Stoop and Birkett should prove a host in themselves. However, the Springboks are getting their wounded men once more on the convalescent list, and with Joubert, Hirsch, Loubser, Dobbin, and Carolin among the backs, they may be depended upon to gain their twenty-second victory.

The teams are:

SURREY.

BACK.

G. H. Lyon (United Services).

THREE-QUARTERS.

A. L. Purves (London Scottish).

J. G. G. Birkett (Harlequins).

E. A. Lepingwell (Old Merchant Taylors).

W. L. Lapage (United Services).

HALF-BACKS.

A. D. Stoop (Harlequins).

L. L. Greig (United Services).

FORWARDS.

A. Alcock (Guy's Hospital).

A. L. Pictou (United Services).

R. D. Cox (United Services).

A. H. Bissett (United Services).

J. R. Simson (London Scottish).

D. A. Hutchison (London Scottish).

H. E. Ward (Harlequins).

J. C. L. Farquharson (Old Alleynians).

SOUTH AFRICANS.

BACK.

S. Joubert.

THREE-QUARTERS.

Jacob le Roux.

H. A. de Villiers.

J. G. Hirsch.

J. A. Loubser.

HALF-BACKS.

F. J. Dobbin.

H. W. Carolin.

FORWARDS.

Paul Roos (capt.).

Douglas Morkel.

J. W. E. Raaff.

H. G. Reid.

D. Brink.

W. C. Martheze.

W. A. Burger.

H. C. Dancel.

Referee: F. C. Potter Unwin (R.U. Committee). Kick-off 2.30.

SPRINGBOKS AT THEIR BEST.

SURREY BEATEN FOR PACE, SWERVE, AND SKILL.

THE VALUE OF UNORTHODOX METHODS.

SPRINGBOKS, 33 pts.; SURREY (b), 0.

The Springboks gave us of their best in the match with Surrey at Richmond yesterday, and that best was very good indeed. In no game they have played this season have their backs been seen to greater advantage, either in running, passing, or picking up, and the score of four goals, a dropped goal, and three tries in their favour by no means exaggerates their superiority on the day's play.

From start to finish the Surrey men were outplayed, and if the Springbok backs had not indulged in a little gallery work in the second half when their victory was assured their total of points would probably have been considerably increased.

Neither Birkett nor Raphael was able to turn out for Surrey, and the absence of these two international three-quarters deprived the home attack of all its sting. There was plenty of good individual work, notably by Lapage and Mitchell, but of combination there was none. A team of moderate players working in unison can generally be relied upon to beat a side composed of individualists, however brilliant, and when the combination possesses the brilliant men and the individualists do not rise above mediocrity, only one result is possible.

The spectators who journeyed to Richmond in the hope of seeing Surrey make a good fight, and perhaps even of cheering them on to victory, appeared at first to be stupefied by the turn which events were taking; but, having overcome their surprise, they generously gave the Springboks a full measure of applause, and encouraged them by their shouts to even greater effort.

In justice to the Surrey men, however, it must be said that it would have required a great defence to have prevented the Springboks from scoring yesterday. They were right at the top of their form, and, as so frequently happens on such occasions, everything came off for them. Their fielding of the ball, and from every possible position, when running at full speed, was wonderful, and was frequently so unexpected that they penetrated right through the defence before the Surrey backs realised that an attacking movement was in progress. When once a Springbok had got away he was seldom caught, for man for man they were a far speedier team than their opponents.

Another feature of the Springboks' play, and one which puzzled the Surrey men, was the originality of their methods. There was very little of the stereotyped passing right across the three-quarter line, which the All Blacks taught us is the most easily dealt with of any form of attack.

The Springbok centres on more than one occasion actually had the temerity to run quite a long distance before parting with the ball to their well-marked wing men, and once Hirsch did not trouble to pass at all, but as he found no one to bar his progress trotted over the line. This was, of course, unorthodox, but so was the pull formerly considered at cricket, and in these enlightened days a score is the chief consideration at both games.

Loubser was in great form for the Springboks, scoring a couple of beautiful tries. The quickness with which he got into his stride was extraordinary. Carolin dropped a fine goal from about forty yards out.

For Surrey Stoop occasionally did some clever things, and the team as a whole battled desperately against a more strategic force with a resolution worthy of a better fate.

SPRINGBOOKS IN THE
FAR WEST.

TO-DAY'S MATCH AGAINST
CORNWALL.

The Springboks play their last purely English fixture this afternoon at Redruth, where they will oppose a representative Cornish XV. Their remaining fixtures will be with Welsh teams, for Monmouthshire, though nominally an English county, recruits its players entirely from Welsh clubs.

Cornwall has always been famed for the vigorous play of her forwards, and true to tradition in this respect an exceptionally strong and heavy pack has been chosen for this afternoon's match. In J. G. Milton Cornwall possesses one of the finest forwards in England, and one who is still deserving of another international cap.

The great weakness of Cornish teams in some past seasons has been in the back division, but all that has now been changed, and the selected team for this afternoon's match appears to be strong in all departments of the game. Wedge, who will act as "scrum" half, is one of the best players in that position in the country, while the three-quarters are a particularly useful, if not brilliant, combination. Jackett, the full-back, is, in the opinion of the Selection Committee, England's most reliable defender, so that Cornwall are scarcely likely to be let down in that department.

The Cornishmen can be depended upon to go for all they are worth from start to finish, and they should, at any rate, give the Springboks a good game.

The following teams will take the field:—

CORNWALL.

BACK.

E. J. Jackett (Leicester). BACK.

THREE-QUARTERS.

B. Bennetts (Penzance).
F. Dean (Devonport Albion).
B. Solomon (Redruth).
F. Carbis (Redruth).

HALF-BACKS.

C. Wedge (St. Ives).
F. Richards (Plymouth).

FORWARD

J. G. Milton (Camborne School of Mines).

R. Jackett (Falmouth).
N. Tregurtha (St. Ives).
A. Roekrow (Redruth).
H. Brown (Oxford U.).
G. J. Bursell (Camborne).
H. Roberts (Falmouth).
D. Brown (Penzance).

SPRINGBOKS.

BACK.

A. Burmeister.

THREE-QUARTERS.
S. C. de Melker. J. G. Hirsch.
A. F. Marsburg. H. A. de Villiers.

HALF-BACKS.

D. C. Jackson. F. J. Dobbin.

FORWARDS.

P. Roos.	D. F. Morkel.
W. A. Burger.	N. A. Miller.
J. W. E. Raaf.	H. G. Reid.
D. J. Brink.	D. Brookes.

Midcore: South of Scotland v. Anglo-Scots.
 Richmond v. London Irish
 Old Alleynians v. Marl-
 borough Nomads
 Old Leylars v. Catford
 Ross v. v. Old Up-
 penhamians
 Blackheath v. Harlequins
 Birkhead Pk. v. Mancher.
 Clifton v. Bristol
 Llanelly v. Cardiff
 Davenport Alb. v. Exeter
 Newport v. Gloucester
 Country v. Leicester
 Rugby v. Northampton
 Swansea v. Pontypridd
 South v. Bath
 Cheltenham v. London
 Welsh

WERE THE SPRINGBOOKS
LUCKY?

HARD PRESSED TO KEEP OUT
THE CORNISHMEN.

By W. DENNIS LAWRY (Cornwall County).
SPRINGBOOKS, 9 pts.; CORNWALL, 3.

The Springboks' visit to the Duchy of Cornwall had been keenly anticipated for many weeks past, not only on account of the record which the visitors have built up, but also owing to the fact that for many years past there has been a large exodus of Cornish miners to the Rand, and many a returned miner was present at the match.

The match was played at Redruth before a record "gate" in ideal football weather, the ground being as good as the Springboks could possibly have wished. The result was a victory for the Springboks by three tries to one, all the scoring being in the first half.

The score by no means represents the general trend of the game. The Springboks must be considered lucky to have won by a margin of six points, for in the second half they had to put in all they knew to keep their lines intact.

The most noticeable feature of the Springboks' play was their quick passing. All the team displayed great sureness in taking the ball from a pass or a line-out, as well as in gathering from a kick. The three-quarters were quick at getting away, but showed no great originality in their methods of attack. The forwards were better in the line-out than the Cornishmen, but otherwise were not superior to the home pack.

The Cornish fifteen played the game of their lives, and if they can only reproduce this form in their remaining county matches they should bring the championship to the duchy.

The backs were dangerous in attack on many occasions, and their defence was always sure. The forwards lasted equally as well, if not better than, their opponents, putting in some excellent footwork and heading cleanly.

Coming to individuals, for the Spring-boks Burmeister at back gave a very sound display, being sure in fielding the ball. Hirsch was the better of the two wings, and he sprinted well for his try. De Villiers was better than De Melker in the centre, his defence being very sound.

Both Dobbin and Jackson tried all they knew at half, but were admirably marked.

Of a good sound eight, who packed beautifully all through the game, Brink, Mor-
kel, Reid, and Burgher were most promi-
nent.

Of the Cornishmen, Jackett at back began shakily, but finished in his best form, and he cannot be blamed for any of the tries.

Bennetts on the wing was distinctly good, doing many clever things in the centre. Dean and Solomon were both excellent, but the former marred his display by endeavouring to intercept in preference to tackling the man with the ball. By adopting these tactics he let his side down badly on two occasions.

Both Wedge and Richards were great successes at half-back.

Of a fine, bustling, clever pack, J. G. Milton was the best, playing in quite international form. R. Jackett, Tregurtha, and Dennis Brown rendered him best aid.

THE WELCOME HOME.

CAPETOWN, Saturday, Dec. 22.

The president of the Rugby Board has proposed that the Springboks on their return be accorded a reception at the docks, and a mayoral welcome in the City Hall; that a luncheon be afterwards given in the Drill Hall, at which a thousand guests are expected to assemble; that they be subsequently entertained at a ladies' at home at Government House, Newlands; and, finally, that a municipal conversazione be given at night in the City Hall.

It has been decided to raise a public shilling subscription to endow a hospital bed in each of the nine centres affiliated to the board.—Reuter.

BOKS V CORNWALL

THE LAST ENGLISH MATCH

Africans Win by a Small Score

This afternoon, at Redruth, the South Africans opposed the Cornwall fifteen. This was the last of their English engagements, their subsequent matches being against Monmouthshire, Llanelly, and Cardiff. So far, they have played 24 games, winning 22, drawing one, and losing one, and scoring 64 goals and 71 tries (511 points), as against 6 goals and 11 tries (56 points).

Early in November the Cornish men beat Somerset by three points, and with their vigorous forwards it was expected they would give the Colonials a fairly hard game.

The teams lined out as follows:—

CORNWALL.

Back, E. J. Jackett (Leicester); three-quarter backs, B. Bennetts (Penzance), F. Dean (Devonport Albion), B. Solomon (Redruth), and F. Carbis (Redruth); half-backs, C. Wedge (St. Ives) and F. Richards (Plymouth); forwards, J. G. Milton (Camborne School of Mines), E. Jackett (Falmouth), N. Tregurtha (St. Ives), Roskrow (Redruth), H. Brown (Oxford), G. J. Russell (Camborne Town), Roberts (Falmouth), and D. Brown (Penzance).

SOUTH AFRICANS.

Back, A. Burmeister; three-quarter backs, J. G. Hirsch, H. A. de Villiers, S. C. de Melker, and A. F. Marsburg; half-backs, F. J. Dobbin and D. C. Jackson; forwards, P. Roos, W. A. Burger, J. W. E. Raaff, D. J. Brink, D. F. T. Morkel, W. A. Miller, H. G. Reid, and D. Brookes.

The Game.

Play was remarkably fast, Cornwall soon taking up the aggressive, and after a brilliant movement R. Jackett scored in the corner, Milton failing to convert. The home forwards were doing splendidly, and the back division got in some smart work, but the tackling was keen. The visitors reached the line, but Jackett relieved. Hirsch scored after a good passing bout, D. Morkel failing at an easy place. The visitors gained the upper hand. The visitors gradually assumed the attack, and after Hirsch had fallen to a strong tackle, Marsburg crossed, Jackett tackling him, but failing to hold him. Morkel failed at the kick. The visiting backs were often in motion, and after Jackson had fallen to a strong tackle, Brink forced over. Morkel failed with a good kick, and at the interval the South Africans were leading by three tries to one try.

Half-time score:	G. T. Pts.
South Africans	9 points
Cornwall	3 points
Final score:	Points.
SOUTH AFRICANS	9
CORNWALL	3

RUNNING COMMENTS

By E. H. D. Sewell

The Colonials to-day fielded the only available back division—the only four sound three-quarters in the team being on the field.

H. W. Carolin (vice-captain and half-back) may not play before the Cardiff match, having suffered severe injury to the right hand last Wednesday.

It is not even certain he will be fit by New Year's Day.

The weather was gloriously fine, and the conditions perfect for a fast game.

The kick-off took place at three o'clock.

New and very light balls were used.

Morkel kicked off against the sun, Jackett having won the toss and chosen the sun at his back.

Wedge was penalised for offside on Dobbin, and Douglas Morkel missed goal with a grand kick from near halfway.

E. J. Jackett was soon called upon to defend as the result of loose forward play, and relieved finely.

As did Burmeister a moment later.

Play ruled entirely in Cornwall territory.

Dean intercepted a pass of Dobbin to Jackson, and his cross-kick found Marsburg out of position on the right wing, but he retrieved the mistake, Raaff bringing further relief with take out of touch and punt.

Milton was in great form for the county, and Solomon, at centre, also played cleverly.

A cross-kick by Bennetts from the right wing enabled R. Jackett to score wide out on the left, J. G. Milton missing goal.

Again Marsburg was out of place, and could not retrieve this time.

Marsburg took a bad pass well, and punted down to the corner flag.

E. Jackett was hurt by running into the flag-post while catching the ball, but soon resumed.

Hirsch scored wide on the left from the subsequent scrum, the pace of the passing and running beating the defence. Morkel missed goal.

The Colonial backs were now getting the ball more often. Jackson was laid out when collared by the neck by Solomons but soon resumed.

G. Milton saved a certain try by tackling Hirsch after Hirsch had completely beaten E. Jackett, who missed Marsburg.

A moment later the latter scored wide out for the wind to deprive Morkel of a goal.

Hirsch was stopped by E. Jackett in the next minute.

Following this, Brink was over after Cornwall had touched down four times in self-defence.

Again Morkel just missed the goal, the county being beaten in all positions. Half-time score:—Nine points to three points.

THE SECOND HALF.

B. Bennetts was unlucky not to score in the first five minutes on resuming, the ball bouncing unkindly for Hirsch, but worse for Cornwall by going into touch-in-goal.

The crowd was returned after half-time as 7,500.

Dean again intercepted a pass, and gave Bennetts a chance, but Marsburg and De Villiers relieved.

The Cornish forwards were now having as much of the game as the Colonials. The county pack maintained the pressure, and playing well together in the loose rushes they secured a good position. Dean relieved finely, and, with Jackett getting in a clear kick, the county were on the Colonial line again.

Millar and De Villiers headed the return rush, and play was very fast indeed for ten minutes, both ends of the ground being visited in rapid time.

A free for offside in a good position gave E. Jackett a chance of a penalty, which he missed.

A free to Cornwall right on the line was badly taken by Milton.

The pace continued to be terrific—the fastest game of the tour without exception.

RECEPTION FOR SPRINGBOKS

The president of the South African Rugby Board has proposed that the Springboks on their return be accorded a reception at Cape Town Docks and a mayoral welcome in the City-hall; that a luncheon be afterwards given in the Drill-hall, to which a thousand guests are expected to assemble; that they be subsequently entertained at a ladies' "At home" at Government House, Newcastle, and, finally, that a municipal conversation be given at night in the City-hall.

The board has approved of the proposals in principle, and has elected a reception committee. It has been decided to raise a public shilling subscription to endow a hospital bed in each of the nine centres affiliated to the board.

Lord Selborne and "Springboks"

Lord Selborne has written to the South African Rugby Board congratulating the football team in England on their splendid performance and the manner in which they have upheld the reputation of South Africa. His lordship suggests that the New Zealand team which toured in England in 1905-6 should be invited to visit South Africa next winter. The Board will consider Lord Selborne's suggestion at the