

Wallabies Win at Oxford.

MORE REGRETTABLE INCIDENTS.

Blow Struck—Australian Ordered Off.

The Wallabies, in meeting Oxford University at the Ilfey-road Ground, Oxford, on Wednesday had to face what was universally regarded as one of the stiffest of their engagements to date. No English side has yet defeated the Australians, although on the trend of the game Cambridge ought to have done so on Saturday. As it was, the Light Blues were only defeated by two points. Yet the Cantabs' record this season is not to be compared with that of the Dark Blues. During the present term Cambridge have played eight matches, won five, and lost three. On the other hand, Oxford have won nine games off the reel, and on Wednesday took the field with an unbeaten record, having scored 225 against 31 points.

The game aroused keen interest, and the demand for tickets was much greater than on the occasion of the visit of either the All Blacks or Springboks. Against the All Blacks Oxford lost by 47 points to nil, and against the South Africans the Dark Blues suffered defeat to the tune of 24 points to three.

Burge and Gavin, the newly-arrived recruits, played in the Australian pack, and Oxford, who played nine Old Blues and seven Internationals, relied on the same side that beat Richmond in such a decisive fashion last Saturday. Teams:—

Oxford University—Back, T. Sloan (Christ Church); three-quarter backs, H. Martin (Balliol), H. H. Vassall (Keble), F. N. Tarr (University), and C. M. Gilray (University); half-backs, J. Cunningham (Magdalen) and R. H. Williamson (Trinity); forwards, H. A. Hodges (Trinity) (captain), G. D. Roberts (St. John's), F. H. Turner (Trinity), R. Honey (University), L. C. Blencowe (Queen's), S. N. Cronje (Trinity), W. A. Kennedy (St. John's), and A. C. Houlder (Brasenose).

Australians—Back, P. Carmichael; three-quarter backs, C. Russell, W. Dix, J. Hickey, and D. B. Carroll; half-back, C. H. McKivatt; five-eighths, Prentice; forwards, J. T. Barnett, M. McArthur, C. A. Hammond, A. B. Burge, P. A. McCue, T. Richards, S. A. Middleton, and K. Gavin.

Referee, Mr A. O. Jones.

Prentice played five-eighths instead of McCabe. Oxford kicked off against the sun and a light wind. The game opened in the centre, but Oxford, thanks to Williamson kicking down, pressed, but they soon lost their position through Sloan failing to field a long kick. For a little while the play was in Oxford half, and was mainly confined to the forwards. The Australians were penalised, but Roberts failed with a shot at goal. Then Oxford were attacking, but Martin blundered and the Australians cleared. Passing by the Oxford backs was spoiled by a bad pass to Gilray. Oxford pressed two or three times, and were a little unlucky not to score. After 23 minutes' play Hickey scored for the Australians, but Carmichael failed with the place-kick. Afterwards Oxford attacked again, but were beaten back, and then Carroll missed a chance for the Australians by knocking on. Oxford got round again, but their attack failed. Carmichael kicked a penalty goal.

Half-time Score— G. T. P.

Australians 1 1 6

Oxford 0 0 0

In the second half the Australians outplayed the University, their backs showing good form. Tries for them were obtained by Prentice, McKivatt, and Russell, and Carmichael converted two. Vassall scored for the University in the last minute.

Middleton, an Australian forward, was ordered off the field for striking an opponent.

Final Score— G. T. P.

Australians 13 2 19

Oxford 0 1 3

† One penalty.

COMMENTS BY HAMISH STUART.

It is extremely difficult in dealing with the match to have regard merely to the play and not to the very regrettable incidents which marred one's pleasure in watching what should, and would have been a great game but for the circumstances in question. That the Australians could have won without recourse to unfair methods was clear to the most casual observer. The Oxford forwards were so thoroughly beaten and showed such marked inability to get the ball that the issue was never and would never have been in doubt. The Oxford backs have often been seen to great advantage even when their forwards were failing to hold their own. On this occasion, however, they were opposed by backs as clever as themselves in combined attack, and if anything rather better in individual runs and a great deal better in daring opportunism. In initiating attack against such a division with almost a monopoly of the ball, so far as chances of attacking naturally disappointing, though it must be said that but for the unnecessary form of obstruction of which the Australian backs are frequently guilty. After passing to the wings the Australian centres ran on and hampered the Oxford centres by shielding the play apart, the Australians were penalised fifteen times for similar offences to those of which they were guilty at Cambridge on Saturday. They were guilty of handling the ball in the scrums, while they also obstructed in the most glaring fashion. Truth to tell, they were out to win, and the unsportsmanlike character of their methods debared one from admiring the many examples of very clever football which they gave.

As to the Middleton incident, Mr Jones, the referee, had no option but to order the Australian off the field. The blow was struck deliberately, and was no gentle reminder, but a swinging back-hander deliberately delivered. We have not heard the last of the incident, which may lead to complications. Indeed, when regard is had to the persistently unfair play of the Australians in both matches with the University, and the very disagreeable incident under notice, it cannot be said that an argument in favour of Colonial tours is furnished.

This aspect apart, nearly all the good football in the match came from the Australians, whose success the match the moment it was shown—and this was early in the match—that the Oxford forwards could not hold their own. Williamson was not seen to much advantage behind a beaten pack, but Cunningham was very useful in defence and made the most of his few chances. Vassall was unequal, while Tarr cannot have done his international chances much good. Gilray was the most successful of the Oxford three, while Martin was starved and had only one real chance in the game.

The two new Australian forwards are big, strapping men and fine players, while Prentice is a very clever outside half and combined finely with McKivatt. The Australian three perhaps played their best game of the tour, while Carmichael was very safe. Oxford would have made a closer game of it but for the complete failure of their forwards.

FOOTBALL.

WALLABIES' FINE VICTORY.

A STRONG OXFORD TEAM BEATEN.

G. T. P. ta.
Australians 3 2 19
Oxford University 0 1 3

The Dark Blues had their chances of success on Wednesday somewhat lessened by the fine weather that has prevailed since Saturday, and there was little prospect of the Wallabies being handicapped by a greasy ball, as they were at Cambridge. The Oxford captain decided to rely on the same side that beat Richmond in such decisive fashion on Saturday, and on the team's record they were expected to be fully able to hold their own against their redoubtable opponents.

This year's Oxford fifteen is a very fine one, and during the last twenty years it would be difficult to call to mind a Dark Blue team possessing a stronger attack. The forwards have come in for some adverse criticism, but they cannot be so very bad if results afford any criterion of the merits of a side, for it does not often happen that backs are able to win a match against strong opposition off their own bat, and yet Oxford had previous to Wednesday won every match, and won them handsomely, too. The sides fielded as follow:—

Oxford University: Back, T. Sloan (Christ Church); three-quarter backs, H. Martin (Balliol), H. H. Vassall (Keble), F. N. Tarr (University), and C. M. Gilray (University); half-backs, J. Cunningham (Magdalen) and R. H. Williamson (Trinity); forwards, H. A. Hodges (Trinity) (captain), G. D. Roberts (St. John's), F. H. Turner (Trinity), R. Honey (University), L. C. Blencowe (Queen's), S. N. Cronje (Trinity), W. A. Kennedy (St. John's), and A. C. Houlder (Brasenose).

Australians: Back, P. Carmichael; three-quarter backs, C. Russell, W. Dix, J. Hickey, and D. B. Carroll; half-back, C. H. McKivatt; five-eighths, N. E. Row; forwards, J. T. Barnett, M. McArthur, C. A. Hammond, A. B. Burge, P. A. McCue, T. Richards, S. A. Middleton, and K. Gavin.

Ten thousand spectators were present when the game started. For the first ten minutes play was confined to the forwards, neither side claiming any advantage. Then the Oxford backs got going, and Martin ran through to the 25. Oxford three-quarters did good work, Gilray in particular, and the Wallabies torched down. Then Sloan failed to return, and Hickey, securing from a scrum, swerved in. Carmichael failed with the kick. Just on half-time Carmichael scored from a penalty.

In the second half Oxford lacked Sloan, who was disabled, and within five minutes fine passing between Dix, Russell, and Hickey resulted in the latter scoring a try, which Carmichael failed to convert. A fine run was put in by Vassall, but he passed wildly, and half-way through McKivatt went in on his own, Carmichael converting. A fine bout of passing ended in Russell scoring Carmichael converting.

Oxford played up, and just on time Vassall ran in after a fine passing movement.

"WALLABIES" AT WAKEFIELD. YORKSHIRE WELL BEATEN.

Australians ... 3-3.24 Yorkshire... 0-0.0

[BY W. L. S.]

I AM beginning to grow tired of the parrot-cry, which I hear after each Australian match—I should say I did not see the Llanelli match, so cannot say what happened consequent upon their victory—"Oh, if our three-quarter backs had only played decently we



A. H. MACILWAINE, Yorkshire.

(Photo by Eves, Clifton.)

would have had a chance of holding our own." At Oxford last Wednesday I heard it. At Wakefield on Saturday evening there was repetition of the same story. What rubbish it all is! At Oxford and, eke, at Belle Vue the fact of the matter was that with the losing forwards—the Varsity and the Tykes—lay the grand secret of failure. Eight times out of ten after the ball had been put into the scrum it was hooked by one of the Australian front three. That meant possession and business for the Oxonians and the Yorkshiremen.

Not much more readily beaten were the Tykes than H. A. Hodges and his men. Like the latter, the county forwards held the opposition for at any rate twenty minutes of the game. Held them how, however? Not by methods of heel and scrape, but by good old-fashioned Yorkshire rushes, by accurate footwork in the open, and by sound following up and dribbling. When we remember that they were up against a side stonier heavier and inches taller than they were there was much to praise in this. And from the fact that the side were only 11 points to the bad at half-time there was much to take satisfaction from.

NO PASSING BY YORKSHIRE.

Yet not a hint of passing had been done; for how many reasons? Simply for two—first, the fact that generally the forwards were beaten for possession; and, secondly, the usual very fine packing up and tackling of the Australians' van and rear rank. It is all very well to get possession, to heel out, and to set the half-backs going, but, if on the transference of the ball to the three-quarter backs there be not displayed some such intelligent appreciation of the conditions as the Australian and other Colonial teams before them exhibit then what is the use of trying to pass? The old-fashioned lobbing pass is no good whatever. The ball must be served red-hot, else time is given one or two opponents to flank round.

And not lateral passing, but the break through will in the end prevail, for the moment the ball leaves the scrum these Australian forwards do not stand pondering where the next scrum is to be found. Not at all. They proceed to back up as fast as their legs can carry them, and I should say that in gaining possession, in effective work on the line-out, and above all things, in backing up, these Colonial footballers teach us great lessons. Do our men thank them for the demonstrations? They do not. They acknowledge it is effective enough, but our lads seem too "Molluscular," too content to leave things as they are. "We could do a lot if we tried, but what is the use of trying?" seems to be the popular notion. And then the three-quarter backs blame the half-backs, and the half-backs declare they get busy a scrape of the foot from the forwards, who in turn declare that there are seven backs for the purpose of defence, so why should they take the trouble to back up?

I wonder if my readers have forgotten the great Scottish side of 1901? There have been more brilliant fifteens on paper, but never were there such a zealous lot who took every ounce of power out of themselves. Forwards joined with backs in a common effort, and the result was the Scots' supremacy. To beat Australia a team will be required whose forwards can outplay them and then aid the backs in attack. But for goodness' sake do not let it be said that "three-quarter backs are spoiling the team" when there is a manifest general weakness.

I have no wish to deal at length with the run of the game. That went pretty much as most Australian matches of the tour have proceeded in the gradual wearing down and final well-beating of the home team.

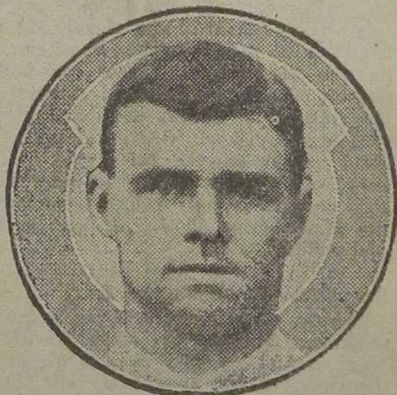
THE GAME SUMMARISED.

At the start of the first half Yorkshire, by forward play, held their own. Hutchinson, with a fine dribble, was the first to distinguish himself. Then Pickering had a shot at goal from a penalty kick, the ball screwing wide. Twice Yorkshire rushed the scrummages, and even when Russell and Bede-Smith broke away King and Hinings tackled safely. Some of the footwork of the Yorkshire men was very good, only it lacked finish. Prentice marked, but Carmichael failed at goal, and Clay intercepted a pass which was meant for Russell when well placed. Soon after Burge forced himself over, Carmichael failing with the kick. Thompson and Hutchinson dribbled well in reply, but Hickey quite returned the compliment. Then M'Kivatt, Prentice, Hickey, and Russell combined in a movement from which the last-named ran behind. Carmichael converting. M'Kivatt next plied Bede-Smith with the ball, no goal resulting from Carmichael's kick, which was badly placed. Russell also ran in, but crossed the dead ball line, and the point did not count. At half-time the Australians were eleven points to the good.

In the second period Pickering had a place-kick at goal when Clay had marked, but it went wide. Then after fine passing by Richards and Bede-Smith, Carroll scored, Carmichael placing a goal, while Hinings had to be thrice brilliant to tackle his opponents. However, Richards passed out to Russell, and the powerful three-quarter back ran over, no goal following. Then Russell, after a fine run, passed into M'Kivatt, who ran in; Carmichael converted. Yorkshire made a few good forward rushes in the last minutes, but they did not score.

PRINCIPALLY PERSONAL.

There were one or two occasions upon which the Australians checked the progress of opponents, not on, but proceeding towards the ball, and when they threw their passes well forward, but for the most part their play was most fair, and Mr. Gil Evans, who controlled



C. RUSSELL, the "Wallabies."

(Photo by Scott & Co., Manchester.)

the game splendidly, told me he could not have had a better fought-out match to deal with. All the forwards were in good form, and if I mention Richards, Middleton, and Burge—this is a fine fellow—it was, I dare say, because they were most noticeable in the open. M'Kivatt, by practical demonstration and by vigorous words of instruction and admonition, was a most useful man as scrum-mage half-back, and Ward Prentice backed him up finely. He did not try much running, but he was the agent between M'Kivatt and the moving three-quarter back of many fine passes.

In the latter line Bede-Smith reappeared, and played a good game. Hickey, too, was capital, and on the wing Russell was a harder proposition to tackle than any mathematical problem that was ever set A. B. Clay at "auld Roletty," as the worthy caddy, Big Crawford, used to call the famous Musselburgh school. Candidly, Clay did not fancy tackling the deep-chested young Australian. Carroll ran well and Phil Carmichael was quite safe at full-back.

But the hero of the day was Fred Hinings, the Yorkshire full-back. He tackled brilliantly, going down to the knees of his opponents and checking them at top gait. Time after time he prevented the making of apparently certain tries, and not for many a long day have I seen such tackling as that of the Durham University man. Once he got rather badly winded by an opponent's charge just as he had punted. The collision might have been avoided; at any rate, it took Hinings a long time to recover. And if he got one kick charged down, do not let it be forgotten that he was dazed from the concussion.

The three-quarter backs were much of a muchness. The centres did a lot of saving, and Clay picked up and punted in quite nippy fashion. But as I said, he would not look at Russell Fisher was quite on his own account against Carroll. He had one char-

acteristic run in the closing stages, that was all. At half-back Frank Hutchinson and young Dawson were not to be envied their job. Yet they stuck in, and the former was just robbed of a try after a fine dribble, and his footwork was often good. The best forward was the Rev. A. Thompson, who worked like a Trojan. King, too, played hard, but there was a levelness about the others, though once or twice M'Ilwaine shone in the open.

Yorkshire.—F. W. Hinings (Headingley); J. L. Fisher (Hull and East Riding); A. M. Greadhead (Headingley); A. S. Pickering (Headingley); A. B. Clay (Hickey); H. Dawson, J. Hutchinson (Headingley); Rev. A. Thompson, J. A. King, E. D. Ibbotson, J. H. Edinson (Headingley); Rev. T. Bennett (Wakefield); A. H. M'Ilwaine, T. M. Lofthouse (Hull and East Riding); and W. Atkinson (Hickey).

Australians.—P. Carmichael; C. Russell, F. Bede-Smith, J. Hickey, D. Carroll; Ward Prentice, C. M'Kivatt; E. McIntyre, J. T. Barnett, T. Richards, K. Gavin, A. B. Burge, R. Craig, S. Middleton, and O. M'Arthur.

Referee: Mr. Gil Evans.

YORKSHIRE.

Nov. 21st '08

Wallabies up North.

MEET THE TYKES AT WAKEFIELD.

The Wallabies played the 15th match of their tour on the Belle Vue Ground, Wakefield, against Yorkshire. Since they were defeated at Llanelli on October 17th the Wallabies have won eight matches off the reel and added 170 points to their score against 31. Their full record up to date is 15 victories in 16 engagements and 284 points against 62. When the All Blacks played at Leeds in 1905 they put on 5 goals and 5 tries against the Tykes, while a year later the South Africans won against the county by 2 goals, 2 penalty goals and 6 tries to nil. Great changes have been effected in the Yorkshire team since then, and of the 1905 side only A. S. Pickering is left. Yorkshire played a good side, and the Australians made three changes from the side that defeated Oxford University on Wednesday. In the three-quarter line Smith played instead of Dix and H. McArthur and Middleton gave way to McIntyre and Craig in the forwards. Teams:—

Yorkshire—Back, P. W. Hinings (Headingley); three-quarter backs, J. L. Fisher (Hull and East Riding), A. S. Pickering, A. M. Greathead (Headingley), and A. B. Clay (Ilkley); half-backs, F. Hutchinson and H. Dawson (Headingley); forwards, E. D. Ibbittson, J. King, Rev. A. Thompson, J. H. Eddison (Headingley), Rev. T. Bennett (Wakefield), A. H. Mellwaine and T. M. Lofthouse (Hull and East Riding), and W. Atkinson (Ilkley).

Australians—Back, P. Carmichael; three-quarter

backs, C. Russell, Smith, J. Hickey, and D. B. Carroll; half-back, C. H. McKivatt; five-eighth, A. N. Other; forwards J. T. Barnett, C. A. Hammond, A. B. Burge, P. A. McCue, T. Richards, McIntyre, K. Gavin, and Craig.

Referee, Mr Gil Evans, Birmingham.

Dull weather prevailed, and about 4,000 people were present. The first piece of play of note was a fine dribble by Hutchinson, who put the Colonials on the defence, Carroll throwing the ball forward when pinned. The Yorkshire forwards were playing a strong game, and made it warm for their opponents, whose attempts at passing were easily broken up. The visitors by a bout of passing threatened danger, but Thompson stopped the movement by a fine tackle. The Wallabies were penalised, and the kick was entrusted to Pickering, whose attempt was a feeble one. Still the Tykes pressed and Hutchinson kicked over the line, but he was beat for position. The Wallabies had another bout of passing, but Thompson and Hutchinson by clever tackling stopped their progress when looking dangerous. The Australians got the advantage of some forward play and after a scramble Burge was awarded a try, Carmichael failing at goal. A capital round of passing was too much for Yorkshire and Russell scored a fine try, Carmichael having no difficulty in landing a goal. Bede Smith then ran over, Carmichael missing a goal.

	Half-time Score—	G. T. P.
Australia	1 2 11	
Yorkshire	0 0 0	
	Final Score—	P.
Wallabies	24	
Yorkshire	0	

Wallabies in Yorkshire

"TYKES" FIELD A POWERFUL TEAM

To Yorkshire folk at Wakefield this afternoon was given the honour of entertaining the Wallabies. In their engagements with past Colonial teams Yorkshire have done very badly. When the All Blacks played at Leeds in 1905 they put on 5 goals and 5 tries against the "Tykes," while a year later the South Africans won by 2 converted goals 2 penalty goals and 6 tries to love.

Great changes have been effected upon the Yorkshire team since then. Of the 1905 side only A. S. Pickering, the present skipper, is left.

There was afforded people in the shire of broad acres to-day an opportunity of contrasting the Wallabies and Kangaroos, and there was a good attendance at Belle Vue when the teams fielded as follows:—

Yorkshire: Back, P. W. Hinings (Headingley); three-quarter backs, J. L. Fisher (Hull and East Riding), A. S. Pickering, A. M. Greathead (Headingley), and A. B. Clay (Ilkley); half-backs, F. Hutchinson and H. Dawson (Headingley); forwards, E. D. Ibbittson, J. King, Rev. A. Thompson, and J. H. Eddison (Headingley), Rev. T. Bennett (Wakefield), A. H. Mellwaine and T. M. Lofthouse (Hull and East Riding), and W. Atkinson (Ilkley).

Australians: Back, P. Carmichael; three-quarter backs, C. Russell, Smith, J. Hickey, and D. B. Carroll; half-backs, W. Prentice and C. McKivatt; forwards, J. T. Barnett, Z. McCue, K. Gaven, T. Richards, L. A. Hammond, A. B. Burge, Craig, and McIntyre.

Mr. Gil Evans, of Birmingham, who is well known in South Wales, where he often holds the whistle, had control of this afternoon's match.

There were three changes in the visitors' team from the side that defeated Oxford University. Smith played for Dix in the three-quarter line, and McIntyre and Craig took the places of McArthur and Middleton in the forwards.

	Half-time score:	Pts.
Wallabies	11	
Yorkshire	0	

There were 4,500 people present when the game commenced.

In the opening half there was really little to choose between the teams, Yorkshire playing a sturdy game. Burge scored from a forward rush, Carmichael failing to convert. Russell and Bede Smith later added tries, Carmichael goaling once.

	Half-time score:	G. T. Pts.
Australians	1 2 11	
Yorkshire	0 0 0	

In the second half Carroll scored from fine passing within five minutes, Carmichael landing a beautiful goal. Then Russell raced over, after Craig and Prentice had beaten the defence. Carmichael's kick at goal failed. The Australians played cleverly, especially in the back division. The Yorkshire forwards also did good work. Prentice scored a try, Carmichael goaling.

	Final score:	G. T. Pts.
Australians	3 3 24	
Yorkshire	0 0 0	

Capt. Moran's reply to Critics

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Nov. 24th 08

Wallabies' Methods.

CAPTAIN REPLIES TO CRITICS.

Cites the Views of Referees.

Mr H. M. Moran, the captain of the Australian amateur Rugby football team, writing to the "Daily Mail," replies to the criticisms passed upon his team for alleged illegal tactics. He declares that "public attention has been forced upon us by the criticisms of men, who, sitting in the pavilion, split hairs about a game which they never played." . . . The fact that we have been penalised so frequently has supplied some food for comment. It is immediately argued by those who can see no illegality that there must have been some dirty trick or some unsportmanlike scheme.

"What do the referees think of us?" asks Mr Moran.

"After our first match in Devon Mr Williams, whose opinion is worth something, assured me it was a pleasure to referee for a team that played so fairly. Mr Schofield (of the Welsh Rugby Union) was quite satisfied with our methods in the Gloucestershire game. Against Glamorgan we had Mr Jones, and after the match he pointed out to me the obstruction at the base of the scrum, yet had no other complaints. We found him the strictest referee in the kingdom, and yet, if you inquire, you will find we have had him four times in all, have asked for him on other occasions, and we hope to make use of his good services many times more."

At Neath Mr Johns said to me, "I can find absolutely nothing wrong with your methods; they are above suspicion."

Mr Potter Irwin's opinion of your play against the United Services would please any team. The United Services at Portsmouth pressed us close, and at one time led by three points. Surely, if there were inherent any bad traits, such an occasion would bring them forth. Yet their captain and men were delighted with the struggle, and Dr. Greig, the Scottish International, who played at half for them, came to see us off in the train to express his admiration. "I have never played against a more sporting side," he said, in his own emphatic way.

"Our Tackling Always Hard."

The sudden discovery of our shortcomings quite staggered us, for naturally the opinions expressed voluntarily by those most competent to judge had led us into the vanity of thinking that if at times our exhibitions of football were uneven and inconsistent, yet our sporting spirit was consistently good. And if "incidents" have occurred, I fear they will continue to occur in any team until angelic men meet in some Rugby Utopia.

This Rugby game is a strenuous struggle between physical giants, and we must not refer to gentle ladies for a decision on what constitutes rough play. Our sisters always did think it rough when that horrid man upset us so rudely in the days when they came to watch us at play. Our tackling has always been hard—it won the match at Oxford—and has no doubt earned the disapproval of men who have never played. The player, however, who objects to a robust tackle should lay aside his jersey and leave it to become moth-eaten in disuse. For him there are other games, and, I believe, the newest is diabolio.

WALLABIES WIN AGAIN LANCASHIRE FORWARDS PLAY A FINE GAME.

	G.	T.	P'ts.
Wallabies	0	4	12
Lancashire	0	2	6

The Australian Rugby Union team, whose more recent matches have created quite a stir by reason of the simplicity with which they have won, appeared on Wednesday before a Manchester crowd at Fallowfield, where they opposed Lancashire.

Contrary to expectation, there was only a poor attendance, not more than 3,000 being present. Playing with the wind Lancashire, by fine forward play, had the better of the game in the first half, but the Australians were superior behind, and Russell and Daly scored unimproved tries. Bryning obtained an unimproved try for Lancashire. At the interval the Australians led by six points to three.

On resuming the Lancashire forwards again played a great game, and consequent on a fine run by Entwistle Gallagher scored a try, which Singleton failed to improve upon. With the scores level, play was keen to a degree. McCabe and McKivatt in the closing stages obtained unimproved tries for the visitors, who won by twelve points to six.

WALLABIES v. LANCASHIRE.

At Fallowfield, Manchester, on Wednesday in fine weather. The attendance numbered about 2,000. Lancashire had a good team, and the Australians were at full strength. The opening exchanges were in Lancashire's favour, but behind the pack the Australians quickly showed superiority. Getting their passing machinery into operation at the earliest moment they carried play into their opponents' territory, and Russell succeeded in crossing the line. Carmichael's kick at goal failed. Resuming the Lancashire forwards more then held their own, and Carmichael was very lucky in being able to save his side by touching down in the nick of time. A rush by the Colonial forwards was quickly repulsed, and the Australians were again defending. Williams made two good but unsuccessful attempts to drop goals for Lancashire. The game was conducted under miserable conditions, rain falling. The Lancashire forwards repeatedly crashed through their opponents, and put the Australian lines in jeopardy. In back play, however, they were no match for their opponents, and after half an hour clever passing resulted in Daly scoring the Australians' second try. Towards the end of the first half Bryning made a fine run and scored a try for Lancashire.

	Half-time Score—	G.	T.	P.
Australia		0	2	6
Lancashire		0	1	3

Shortly after the restart, following a fine run through by Entwistle, Gallagher crossed the Australians' line and made the scores equal. Again the goal kicking was at fault. The closing stages were much more in favour of the Australians, who stayed better than their opponents. McCabe and McKibbott crossed the Lancashire line, but no goal could be scored.

	Final Score—	G.	T.	P.
Australia		0	4	12
Lancashire		0	2	6

SOMERSET'S SPLENDID STRUGGLE

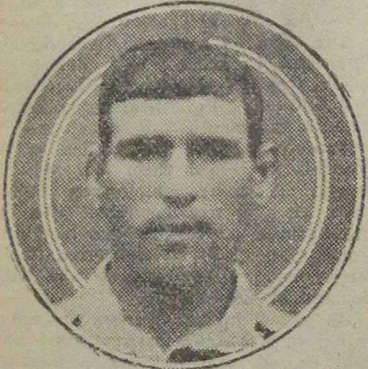
Australians 1-1. 8 Somerset.... 0. 0-0

[BY CENSOR.]

SOMERSET have a reputation for doing gallantly against redoubtable antagonists, and they acted up to it on Saturday when the Australians could only cross their line twice, and had to be content with an eight points victory. The attendance at the Taunton showed a marked falling off from that seen at previous Colonial encounters in the same town. Somerset had been seen by the "Wallabies" at Newport when the county played such a keen game with Monmouthshire and they put a strong combination into the field. The home side had to play without Shewring, whose indifferent form in the International trial, in mid-week, was due to an injury which prevented his appearance on Saturday. J. T. Timmins came into the three-quarter line in place of Lieut. Gibbs, and it was as well he did, for the Bath man came back to form in gratifying fashion, his kicking and tackling being sound if not brilliant.

A RARE RECOVERY.

When the Australians outmanoeuvred Somerset in scrummage after scrummage at the start, and their backs were constantly in



T. WOODS, Bridgwater Albion.

possession, it seemed as if they would put up a formidable total, but somehow or another they failed to score, knocking on and forward transfers being in evidence, while some of their passes were too low to be accepted. The tactics which paid them better were lofty punts with the stiff wind behind them, for the Somerset three-quarters seemed unable to gauge the flight of the ball and dropped catches in amazing style. Then the slowness of Venning, the home full-back, helped them materially, for he could not put in his kick smartly and was pulled down near his own line. However, the defence was so keen that these mistakes were retrieved by his comrades. Mandible held on too long, and the Australian centres would kick when their wing men should have been fed, but at length M'Kivatt got across, Carmichael not adding the points. Carey made a game effort to cross the Australian line, but was kept out. Half-time the Australians were 3 points up.

COUNTY'S HARD LUCK.

These they speedily increased to eight after changing ends, for Bede-Smith went through in fine fashion, feinting with such success that Carroll had an easy run over. This time Carmichael converted. With the wind behind them Somerset had something to say, and for a quarter of an hour they were continuously on the Colonial line. Carey and Larcombe were held up in the nick of time, and Woods did cross, but the cheers were premature, for an infringement had occurred, and he was whistled back. Then Whitworth made a magnificent run, being stopped under the posts. Dyte had previously only missed a penalty goal by inches.

NOTABLE PLAYERS.

Though fast and dashing, the Australians backs did not come up to expectations, and they were generally voted inferior to the "All Blacks" and the "Springboks." Mandible, who re-appeared after a long absence, was too tenacious, and forced his "threes" on to the touch-line. Russell, the right-wing, never had a look in. But it must be admitted that the Somerset tackling was sound. Timmins and Ascott were a hard wing to penetrate, the little Bath man never missing his opponent, but always laying him by the heels. Dyte was a distinct success as left centre, and his wing, Whitworth, was a resolute tackler and strong runner. Venning did not kick quickly enough, and was a marked contrast to Carmichael, whose clearances were a subject of admiration. Perhaps the most useful player for the Australians was M'Kivatt, who whipped the ball from the pack with lightning-like rapidity and absolute precision. Carey, the Oxonian, was far better than most outside half-backs Somerset have played of late, and Larcombe was always on the ball.

Though beaten in the packs, the home forwards were superior to the visitors in the loose, and their tackling was immense. Gunningham, Archer, and Waller were always prominent, but the others were never far behind. They gave the Australian front rank a gruelling time, but the game was never unpleasant.

AUSTRALIA.—P. Carmichael; C. Russell, J. Hickey, T. Bede-Smith, D. B. Carroll; E. Mandible, O. M'Kivatt; T. S. Griffin, J. T. Barnett, C. A. Hammond, P. M'Que, A. B. Burge, K. Gavin, T. Richards, and Dr. H. Moran (capt).

SOMERSET.—Lieut. G. E. Venning (United Services); Lieut. W. G. Whitworth, R.N. (Channel Fleet), J. T. Timmins (Bath), Duke Dyte (Taunton Albion), R. Ascott (Bath); J. Larcombe (Catford Bridge), C. O. D. Carey (Oxford); R. Dibble (Bridgwater Albion) (capt), P. J. Down (Bristol), H. Archer (Bridgwater Albion), P. D. Waller (Newport), T. Woods (Bridgwater Albion), W. Roman (Bridgwater), H. Gunningham (Taunton), and R. E. Hancock (Bridgwater Albion).

Referee: Mr. T. D. Schofield (Welsh R.F.U.).

SOMERSET

31

Nov. 28th 88

Wallabies in the West.

SOMERSET MET AT TAUNTON.

Hard Forward Game.

CIDER COUNTY'S GAME EFFORT.

The Wallabies, after taking the bloom off the "rivalries" Lancashire and Yorkshire, appeared at Taunton this afternoon in the nineteenth match of their tour against Somerset. Since they left the Principality at the latter end of October, the Australians have played eleven matches, winning every game. The only defeat of their tour so far has been at the hands of Llanelli on October 17th. When the famous All Black combination met Somerset in 1906 the county was defeated by 23 points to nil; and in the season of the South Africans' tour the Western county again suffered defeat, but by only 14 points, in which were included two penalty goals.

For to-day's game the county played a rattling good pack of forwards, but the backs were not up to the standard of former years. Nevertheless the Cider county were expected to put up a good fight. The Australians were a strong side, but of course took the field without Middleton, who was suspended earlier in the week by the Rugby Union for striking Roberts in the Oxford University match. Teams:—

SOMERSET.—Back, Lieutenant G. Venning, R.N. (Richmond); three-quarter backs, Lieutenant W. J. Whitworth, R.N., Lieutenant A. G. Gibbs (Channel Fleet), D. Dyte (Taunton Albion), and R. A. Scott (Bath); half-backs, C. O. D. Carey (Oxford University) and J. Larcombe (Taunton); forwards, K. Dibble, T. Woods, H. G. Archer, R. E. Hancock (Bridgwater Albion), H. Gunningham (Taunton), P. H. Waller (Newport), P. Down (Bristol), and W. Roman (Bridgwater).

AUSTRALIANS.—Back, Carmichael; three-quarter backs, Russell, Bede-Smith, Hickey, and Carroll; half-backs, Mandible and M'Kivatt; forwards, Barnett, Griffin, Hammond, M'Que, Burge, Richards, Gairn, and another.

Referee, Mr T. Schofield, Bridgend.

Six or seven thousand people witnessed the match. The weather was fine, and every condition was favourable. Mandible and Moran were included in the Australian team.

Somerset started the game after the customary war cry and play was quickly transferred to home territory, but Waller, of Newport, changed the venue by a fine dribble. Whitworth spoiled a good chance by getting off-side. From a fine run and punt by Larcombe Somerset nearly scored, but there was a knock on. A fine kick by Dyte was returned by Carmichael, and Simmins marked. A good attempt to goal by Dyte failed. Carmichael missed a drop kick by inches only. Very fast and open play followed, and Somerset were in grand form. The game was 20 minutes old when M'Kivatt crossed the line. Carmichael failed to goal from an easy position. Somerset made several grand rushes, for which the county was famous years ago. The game was very even, and the Australians were kept constantly on the defensive.

Half-time Score—

	G.	T.	P's.
Australians	0	1	3
Somerset	0	0	0

Carroll scored early in the second half, and Carmichael goal, but play continued even and exceedingly interesting. Somerset play was marked by brilliant individual performances as well as by all round excellence. A rush led by Whitworth seriously threatened the Wallabies' goal, and Tom Woods unsuccessfully essayed a penalty goal. Moran made a very fine run in the concluding stages of the game.

Final Score—

	G.	T.	P's.
Wallabies	1	1	8
Somerset	0	0	0

Wallabies in Somerset

MR. SCHOFIELD (BRIDGEND) REFEREEES.

The Australians having bidden farewell to the North, where every engagement was won, appeared to-day at Taunton, where the chosen of Somerset tackled them. There was a good crowd present when the teams lined out as follows, under the control of Mr. T. D. Schofield, of Bridgend:—

SOMERSET: Back, Lieutenant G. Venning, R.N. (Richmond); three-quarter backs, Lieutenant W. J. Whitworth, R.N., Lieutenant A. G. Gibbs (Channel Fleet), D. Dyte (Taunton Albion), R. A. Scott (Bath); half-backs, C. O. D. Carey (Oxford University), J. Larcombe (Taunton); forwards, K. Dibble, T. Woods, H. G. Archer, R. E. Hancock (Bridgwater Albion), H. Gunningham (Taunton), P. H. Waller (Newport), P. Down (Bristol), and W. Roman (Bridgwater).

AUSTRALIANS: Back, Carmichael; three-quarter backs, Russell, Bede-Smith, Hickey, Carroll; half-backs, Mandible, M'Kivatt; forwards, Barnett, Griffin, Hammond, M'Que, Burge, Richards, Gairn, and A. N. Other.

Referee T. Schofield, Bridgend. Somerset played in grand style, and it was twenty minutes before M'Kivatt scored. Carmichael failed with the kick. Somerset put in fine rushes, and play was very even. A series of long kicks was indulged in, and play was very open.

Half-time score:

	G.	T.	P's.
Australians	0	1	3
Somerset	0	0	0

In the second half play had progressed about ten minutes when Carroll scored and Carmichael majorised. Duke Dyte narrowly missed securing a penalty goal for Somerset. The Wallabies made strenuous efforts to score, but the defence was sure, and Whitworth led a brilliant Somerset rush. Tom Woods failed with a penalty kick. Moran made a magnificent run.

Final score.

	G.	T.	P's.
Wallabies	1	1	8
Somerset	0	0	0

AUSTRALIAN METHODS CRITICISED.

MR STUART REPLIES TO DR. MORAN.

In a recent article on Colonial Rugby ("Football Echo," 14th November), Hamish Stuart described the Australians as a fair side, in so far as he had up to that date seen nothing in their play, and had gathered nothing from their "talk" on the game to justify or even suggest that the side, as a side, were likely to be guilty of deliberate unfair play. He was forced to admit that they were habitually prone to certain offences, of which obstruction was the chief, but a generous view was taken of their failings, for there was no reason for supposing that their delinquencies, however habitual, formed part of a predetermined or deliberate plan of play. Much has happened, however, since the article was written (writes Mr Stuart), and in their matches with Oxford and Cambridge the Australians sadly tarnished their reputation. I still think, however, that up to these games they had made an earnest and successful endeavour to play the game in terms of our, rather than their own, idea of fair and unfair play. It must be admitted, however, that their anxiety to win the Cambridge match made them forget their good resolutions as soon as they realised that they were being outplayed by the University, and were in serious danger of defeat. Obstruction of a very marked and decided kind was their chief sin of commission, but it probably saved them from defeat—the

Extraordinary Luck

which they enjoyed apart. Against Oxford they had no excuse for resorting to unfair methods, unless the greed of victory be an extenuating circumstance. They were so decidedly superior forward that they could have won by pure football. At the same time it should be said that their methods tended to demoralise Oxford, thanks to the operation of the principle that unfair methods, not being expected, have the deteriorating effect of surprise tactics. It must here be observed that up to these two games the Australians in the matter of methods had been judged by their actions. So far as the writer is concerned, he need only refer the readers to his article of 14th November. Please note that in altering my view, I am in no way guided by the number of penalties, but the character of the offences and the circumstances under which the Australians lapsed into dark ways.

Penalties and Unfair Play.

It should never be taken as granted that because an excessive number of penalties have been given in a match the play of both sides has been unfair. The number of penalties often depends on the referee, not upon the character of the play. Thus I watched a match the other day between two sides who are not only scrupulously fair "sporting" sides, but are very old friends in the ordinary and football sense. Both desired to play a fast, open game, yet the referee treated them as suspects and as sides who wanted to take advantage of each other. He refereed the game to show his own smartness, and displeased both sides by his constant whistling, his frequent warnings and penalties. The match was one which could have been played without a referee except to note accidental infringements. The referee gave a very false appearance to the game. In another match on the same ground, between keen rivals, a few days later, only one penalty was granted, and even that could have been avoided. Yet the game was not quite so clean as the first match of the two! The truth is that the number of penalties is merely presumptive evidence of unfair play, and that unfair play cannot be inferred because a great number of penalties have been granted. One must take all the circumstances into calculation from the character of the referee to the character of the offences. Personally I have ever held that penalties should be abolished, because they are neither punitive nor deterrent, and are, on the contrary, a direct incentive to unfair play, because they give legalised recognition to the deplorable fact that the referee has displaced the conscience in Rugby football. As someone once observed to the writer: "The modern player leaves his watch and money with the groundsmen, and his conscience with the referee. He is then ready to play the game with a free hand." 'Tis true, 'tis pity, though there are still many notable exceptions to the rule. What I desire to emphasise is that the number of penalties granted against the Australians are not pure positive proof of unfairness, but merely presumptive or corroborative proof.

Dr. Moran's Defence.

Dr. Moran, for whom I have a sincere admiration not merely as a player but as a man who takes a broad and very sporting view of the game, makes out a very poor case in defence. He falls into the initial error of indulging in a cheap sneer at the critics, who have roundly condemned the methods of the Australians in their match with the Universities, by describing them as men who have never played the game. Many of us, as a matter of fact, played first class football before any of the Australian team were born, and have never lost touch with the game since our playing days. Then he presumes that the condemnations are based on chagrin at defeat. If so, why did the chagrin find no voice when the South Africans were achieving a more striking series of successes than the Australians have accomplished? Nobody ever accused the South Africans of unfair play—why? Simply because they were the model side of the modern game in point of fairness. Hence their play was praised alike for its skill and its force as

A Moral Example

of how the modern game can be played, and how little there is in the excuse for unfairness to the effect that the temptations of the modern game are too great to be resisted. Dr. Moran is also very unhappy in another argument. He urges that the Australians, owing to the hard grounds on which they play at home, are so used to picking up the ball that their tendency to pick up in the scrum is due to their habit of picking up in the loose. But the South Africans play on just as hard grounds—even harder in fact, and their habit of picking up in the loose did not induce a habit of handling in the scrum. Dr. Moran also indulges in a cleverly sophistical argument. He takes advantage of the fact that "foul play" has not the same meaning in Australia as we attach to it. By "foul play" Australians understand rough play, whereas in this country the phrase means unfair play. When, therefore, we accuse the Australians of foul play, he defends them from a charge of rough play on the old ground that football is not a parlour game. It is just a well to note this, for if further accusations have to be made (as I trust they will not), "unfair" and not "foul" should be the adjective used to qualify methods or tactics.

Referees as Witnesses.

Finally, Dr. Moran makes the error of citing referees as witnesses, and of quoting the saying

of players in their private capacity. Nearly all referees who have had charge of Australian matches occupy an official position in one or other of the Unions, and hence, even if there had been any reason for objecting to the Australian methods prior to the two matches in which they lapsed into unfair methods, none of the referees quoted would have used other than the usual carefully guarded commonplace of courtesy and official caution. Let me cite an instance. When the Australians were here, the "Daily Mail," in its capacity as manager of the world, addressed a question as to the fairness of the "All Blacks" to referees who had acted in their matches. One referee, who was a very well-known member of a certain Union, showed me his wire and said: "If I reply according to my personal convictions based on observation, I will answer—I regard them as the most cunningly unfair side I ever saw," but my social position and the conventions of courtesy have forced me to make the expediently insincere answer of 'No' in reply to the question. Did I see anything unfair in their methods?" This aspect of the matter apart, it should be observed that the opinions quoted were all delivered before the matches with the two Universities. I will not imitate others and be guilty of anything approaching

A Breach of Confidence,

but this much I will say—if the private views of A. O. Jones and V. H. Cartwright, who "refereed" the matches with the Universities, could be ascertained and sincerely expressed, they would not be quoted in defence by the Australian captain. To one fact in this connection I may, however, draw attention. A. O. Jones was so much moved by the Australians' methods at Oxford that his exhortations to "Play the game, Australia" reached other ears than those for which they were primarily intended. That the Australians lapsed in the two games in which they should have been most zealous of their good name is a matter for regret, but it would have been affectation to ignore the fact. They can still redeem their reputation, but I think Dr. Moran has been ill-advised to rush into print in defence. If he had expressed regret at the incidents and obeyed the promptings of his own sincere and manly nature, I venture to think that all would have been forgotten and forgiven. As it is the action of the Australians in playing Middleton (even if under arrangement with the English Union) conjoined with his defence as published, argues no remorse—much less repentance. Unhappily we are not free from the reproach of unfair play—I refer to the whole British Rugby world—but if there are any sides against whom unfair play is indefensible, these sides are our Universities' fifteens.

the injured list, and H. G. Howitt (Notts) for place of W. Welsh, the Northampton forward. The teams were:—

Australians: Back, P. Carmichael; three-quarter backs, C. Russell, J. Hickey, E. Mandible, and D. Carroll; half-backs, C. M'Kivatt and W. Prentice; forwards, J. Barnett, T. Griffin, M. M'Arthur, P. M'Cue, A. B. Burge, T. Richards, C. M'Murtie, and K. Gavin.

Midlands: Back, C. B. Leigh (Northampton); three-quarter backs, E. J. Mobbs (Northampton), C. W. Assinder (Old Edwardians), K. B. Wood (Leicester), and A. Heard (Bedford); half-backs, M. Barrowcliffe (Stratford) and R. Harrison (Northampton); forwards, P. W. Fussell (Northampton), J. G. Cooper (Moseley), C. Franklin (Bedford), S. Penny (Leicester), E. Hobbs (Leicester), C. T. de Water (Cambridge University), H. Hall (Coventry), and H. G. Howitt (Notts).

Mr. Gil Evans, of Birmingham, an old Swansea boy, was the referee.

About 5,000 spectators assembled. The weather was dull, but the ground was in fair condition.

Cooper kicked off for the Midlands. The Australians immediately attacked, and as the result of a fine forward rush Leigh was compelled to touch down. With the drop-out the Midlands passed, and after good saving play by Howitt, Mobbs got cleverly away, and nearly reaching the Colonials' line, passed to Kenneth Wood, who scored an excellent try. Cooper's kick at goal swerved just outside. The Australians replied spiritedly to this reverse, and smart half-back play carried the game to the Midlands' half. M'Kivatt passed out, and a try seemed at the Australians' mercy, but Mandible's pass went astray. The game was now fast, and the clever loose work of the Colonial forwards gave them a distinct advantage. They forced the Midlands back on their line, but were penalised, Cooper's kick driving them back. A strong run by Wood enabled the Midlands to become aggressive, but this time the visitors' defence was sound. Commanding the ball in the scrums, the Australians' backs passed prettily, but repeatedly failed to break through. Twice the Midlands were penalised in dangerous positions, but Carmichael failed at goal, once from an easy place. A little later the same player was equally unsuccessful with a kick from a mark. The Midlands pressed again towards the interval, and were leading at half-time by three points to nil.

In the second half the Counties attacked in sensational fashion, and after splendid work by Mobbs and Assinder Heard scored brilliantly. Cooper converted amid great enthusiasm. Weak play by Harrison let in Burge, who scored for Australia, Carmichael converting. The Midlands continued to play a fine game, and Cooper kicked a neat goal. Still attacking, they again broke through, Assinder scoring and Cooper converting, bringing the score up to 16 points to 5.

It is wrong to term the Welsh team against Australia a side of old ones, or to say that the Welsh Union had to again rely on old hands. The fifteen is rather a good blend of youth and experience, and at least eight of the side are likely to be in a Welsh team three years hence.—"Sporting Chronicle."

have run an obvious, but perhaps unavoidable risk of defeat in selecting a side partly on the past reputation, rather than the present form, of several of the players, but chiefly on the principle that Wales can beat Australia by the solid scrummaging power and the tactical experience and ingenuity of the backs. One fact is already clear. The Australians will enter upon the match with such confidence as assured superiority in pace, force and art, can give a side. A side relying upon hard scrummaging and attack by passing advance (plain, best Welsh, or super-Welsh) by the backs for success are not the sort of side to inspire the Australians with preliminary awe.

What they fear most are rushing forwards using their feet, supported by good backs; their defence, moreover, is weakest against a side of such methods, and is strongest against a side relying upon hand to hand passing, if only because they make good use of their pace in defence, and the backs can rely upon the forwards for help in checking advances.

The Principality seems to have fallen on a lean year for good backs, judging by the side selected to meet the Wallabies at Cardiff next Saturday week. The three-quarter line does not look impressive, and the fact that no centre reserves have been chosen emphasises the loss of men like Nicholls and Gabe. Much depends upon the ability of the Welsh forwards to hold their own. The Australian forwards play pretty much the same sort of game as the Welshmen—quick heeling, plenty of work in the loose, and free handling of the ball. If they can get possession, the halves will see that the three-quarters get plenty of chances, but I fancy that the Wallabies will be the better lot when the scrum breaks up. Still, a Welsh national team is terribly hard to beat at Cardiff, and the aboriginal warcry is easily drowned by the Welsh national anthem, sung as only Welshmen can sing it on their native midden.—"Morning Leader."

Presuming that the Welsh committee have picked their best side the choice would seem to suggest that there is a dearth of really good halves and three-quarters among the rising generation. It looks as though Wales will have to depend upon the forwards to pull them through, as I doubt whether the three-quarter line is as strong as that of the Australians.—"Daily Mirror."

With all their system, it would appear that Wales are feeling a bit of a draught at present. For many years they have gone on playing the same men, and good young footballers have grown up and grown "past it" without getting a show for their country.—"Daily Express."

It is wrong to term the Welsh team against Australia a side of old ones, or to say that the Welsh Union had to again rely on old hands. The fifteen is rather a good blend of youth and experience, and at least eight of the side are likely to be in a Welsh team three years hence.—"Sporting Chronicle."

Wallabies Defeated. SECOND REVERSE OF THE TOUR. MIDLAND COUNTIES BIG WIN. Great Game at Leicester.

The Australian Amateur Rugby team sustained the second defeat of their tour at the hands of Midland Counties at Leicester on Wednesday by 16 points to 5 points.

The first defeat of the Wallabies was on October 17th at Llanelli, the Triplaters winning by 8 points to 3. Since that date the Australians have won a dozen matches off the reel.

At Leicester on Wednesday the Wallabies engaged in the 20th match of their tour, meeting the combined Midland teams—a formidable combination, with a selection of players from three of the strongest clubs in the country, namely, Coventry, Northampton, and Leicester. It is a noteworthy fact that in the 19 matches already played by the Australians no side had run up a double-figure score against them, and the only game lost so far was that against Llanelli. Two alterations were made in the Midlands team originally selected—Odlum (of Coventry) and Walsh (of Northampton) being on the injured list. Their places were taken by Fussell (Northampton) and Howitt (Notts). Teams:—

Australians—Back, P. Carmichael; three-quarter backs, C. Russell, J. Hickey, E. Mandible, and D. Carroll; half-backs, C. M'Kivatt and W. Prentice; forwards, J. Barnett, T. Griffin, M. M'Arthur, P. M'Cue, A. B. Burge, T. Richards, C. M'Murtie, and K. Gavin.

Midlands—Back, C. B. Leigh (Northampton); three-quarter backs, E. J. Mobbs (Northampton), C. W. Assinder (Old Edwardians), K. B. Wood (Leicester), A. Heard (Bedford); half-backs, M. Barrowcliffe (Stratford) and R. Harrison (Northampton); forwards, P. W. Fussell (Northampton), J. G. Cooper (Moseley), C. Franklin (Bedford), S. Penny (Leicester), E. Hobbs (Leicester), C. T. de Water (Cambridge University), H. Hall (Coventry), and H. G. Howitt (Notts).

Referee—Gil Evans, Leeds.

About 5,000 spectators assembled. The weather was dull, but the ground was in fair condition. Cooper kicked off for the Midlands. The Australians immediately attacked, and as the result of a fine forward rush Leigh was compelled to touch down. With the drop-out the Midlands passed, and after good saving play by Howitt, Mobbs got cleverly away, and nearly reaching the Colonials' line, passed to Kenneth Wood, who scored an excellent try. Cooper's kick at goal swerved just outside. The Australians replied spiritedly to this reverse, and smart half-back play carried play to the Midlands' half. M'Kivatt passed out, and a try seemed at the Australians' mercy, but Mandible's pass went astray. The game was now fast, and the clever loose work of the Colonial forwards gave them a distinct advantage. They forced the Midlands back on their line, but were penalised, Cooper's kick driving them back. A strong run by Wood enabled the Midlands to become aggressive, but this time the visitors' defence was sound. Commanding the ball in the scrums, the Australians' backs passed prettily, but repeatedly failed to break through. Twice the Midlands were

run and clever in the open, but the Australians scrummaged with marked success. Their passing, however, was very indifferent. Time and again they got away, but broke down when on the quick breaking up of the Midland forwards and the speed of their backs. The latter worked beautifully together, their handling being much more effective than that of the Australians. The latter's passing was somewhat mechanical, and the men were often too far apart for the ball to be transferred with any degree of safety. The halves were at times clever, though their work was not brilliant, and not of a character that cannot be coped with by alert and smart opponents. The greater weakness of the Colonial team's play seemed to be in no well-thought-out method of attack. They tossed the ball here, there, and everywhere, in the hope that it would fall to somebody to carry it forward. The Midlands, on the other hand, when they found they could hold the Australians forward, carried out several successful movements, notably drawing the defence on one wing, and when deep down cross-kicking to the other side. Twice they scored by this ruse, and on the other occasion it was the reverse pass that left Carmichael standing.

Wales may have a difficult task, but unless the Colonials greatly improve upon the form they have previously shown, the Principality should win by a heavy margin of points, but the Australians will do their best, for it is an open secret with them that their great ambition is to succeed where the All Blacks failed.

The Referee.

Mr Gil Evans, the referee, is the old Swansea centre three-quarter, who officiated in many of the New Zealand matches. For some years he lived in Birmingham.

Anglo-Welshman Apologises.

We are officially informed by Mr C. J. B. Marriott, the secretary of the Rugby Union, that with reference to comments which have appeared in various papers relative to a lack of discipline on the part of one of the members of the Anglo-Welsh team, the matter has been settled, the gentleman in question having apologised.

It may be as well to mention that the player referred to was not one of the Welsh members of the team.

ANGLO-WELSH v. WALLABIES.

The match arranged between the Anglo-Welsh tourists and the Wallabies, which is down for decision in London on Saturday next, will not be representative. The Anglo-Welsh will be unable to put out a full side. None of the Welsh backs of the party, except possibly Tyan Jones (Guy's Hospital) will turn out; Gibbs, Williams, and Jones because they are reserving themselves for the Wales match the following Saturday. Morgan is playing for Cardiff against Blackheath, Dyke was hurt while playing for Coventry, McEvoy remains in New Zealand, and another of the backs is in Canada, while Vassall will probably not care to run any risk as the Inter-Varsity match takes place on the following Saturday.

GLAMORGAN LEAGUE v. WALLABIES.

Welshmen a Well Balanced Lot

The Glamorgan League Committee met at the Park Hotel, Pontypridd, on Wednesday night and selected the following team to play against the Wallabies, on the Taff Vale Park, Pontypridd, on Thursday, December 17th:—Full-back, Daly James, Treorkey; three-quarter backs, D. Davies, Penrygraig (right wing); J. Donovan, Mountain Ash (right centre); Geo. Llewellyn, Llwynypia (left wing); H. Gravelle, (Mountain Ash), left centre; half-backs, D. Maide (Llwynypia) and W. W. Thomas (Mountain Ash); forwards, P. C. Dick Thomas (Mountain Ash), W. Morgan (Treorkey), J. Poisson (Treorkey), Gordon Eastace (Treorkey), Mag Griffiths (Pontypridd), Evan Evans (Penrygraig), J. Caple (Mountain Ash), M. Coleman (Maesteg).

*Old internationals.

Reserves—Full-back D. W. Griffiths (Penrygraig); three-quarter backs, B. F. Davies, (Merthyr) (right wing), T. O. Jones (Treorkey) (right centre), J. Parker (Llwynypia) (left wing), D. W. Davies (Merthyr) (left centre); half-backs, J. Evans (Maesteg) and E. Phillips (Llwynypia); forwards, E. Hollings (Llwynypia), W. Harland (Llwynypia United), T. Maton (Llwynypia).

The strength of the selected team (writes "The Rambler") lies in the front rank, and the Australians will find that they will be opposed by sturdy and solid scrummagers rather than by men who shine in open play. The forwards have not a man amongst them of outstanding weight or physique, but they are a uniformly good lot without brilliance. Still, in P. C. Dick Thomas, the old international—who many think has been dropped too soon by the International Match Committee—and Wil Morgan and Poisson, Treorkey, there are a trio "lads" enough in open play to initiate and drive home attack. There is a dearth of back division players in the League, and the available talent being of almost equal merit the selectors had a difficulty in choosing the places. W. W. Thomas is the only man—like Dick Thomas, in the forwards—who has appeared in a Welsh representative side, and when in form he can be brilliant. The three-quarters, as a combination, will be finer in defence than resourceful in attack, though individually and on club form they have good records in scoring. One of the quartette, George Llewellyn, is a brother to the famous ex-international and captain of the side which won the tri crown in 1905—Mr Willie Llewellyn. Like his brother, he is short in stature, and if he took no seriously to the game he would develop into quite a class three-quarter. Daly James, the full backs played many good games for the Glamorgan club, and the importance of the engagement is not only to unnerve one whose characteristic trait is coolness and fearlessness.

Dec. 5th 08**"WALLABIES" WIN AT RICHMOND.**

Australians 3-3.24 Anglo-Welsh 0-0.0

THE experiment of filling up the Saturday which was left vacant when the Australian fixtures were arranged with a match against the team which was sent to New Zealand has hardly proved a success. It was unfortunate that Mr. George Harnett was unable to get together a representative team, but with several of the best players having either club or county engagements anything like a full fifteen was out of the question; indeed, had not the London Welsh cancelled their fixture with the Services it would have been impossible for the match to have taken place.

As it was the assistance of three men who did not visit the Antipodes had to be secured. The match, owing perhaps to the damp and dull weather, was hardly the financial success anticipated, there not being more than 6,000 spectators on the Richmond ground, and though the turf was heavy and sticky it did not prevent the Australians giving a very fine display of the game. This was in no small measure owing to the poor form which was shown by the Anglo-Welshmen, who were outplayed at every point of the game.

They were beaten by the superior weight and clever footwork of the opposing forwards, and even had their half-backs been of the same class as those in front of them they so seldom got the ball that they had very few chances of making openings for their three-quarters.

The Australians, to give them their due credit, played a great game. Save on their rare occasions the ball was always in the home half, and a dashing piece of work, in which Wood, Prentice, and Dix played the principal part, resulted in a try before the game was a minute old. It was a most refreshing piece of play, and Carmichael, who was in very great form both at place-kicking and finding touch, narrowly missed a goal from the touchline.

The Australians would, I think, have scored once or twice more soon after this, but more than once when they were pressing they were penalised for fouling, and on each occasion the ball was sent into touch on their side of the half-way line. No fewer than seven free kicks for this cause were given against them in the course of the game.

Once, on about the only occasion the home side looked like scoring, Maddocks, who had made a long run, had kicked beyond the full-backs when he was wilfully impeded. They had so much the best of the game that there was no occasion for this. Save for some breakaway by the home forwards, who were usually headed by Williams, the game continued in favour of the visitors, but nothing further owing to the smart though somewhat vigorous tackling was done until 25 minutes had elapsed.

Then came a brilliant piece of passing at the end of which Russell tricked both Maddocks and Dyke and scored near the corner flag. A brilliant goal by Carmichael resulted. Ward Prentice, who went clean through the opposing ranks, gave the Australians another try, and they crossed over with a lead of eleven points.

The superiority of the Australians had been so obvious that a lot of interest was taken from the second half, which was even more one-sided than the addition of three tries would indicate. It did not seem good policy for Harding to weaken his packing, which had already been well beaten, by coming out. He, however, failed to stop Wood soon after the restart, and Russell had only to run in to score.

After this the Australians slackened somewhat, and the play became more even, though save on one occasion, when Williams headed a forward rush, the Anglo-Welshmen were never dangerous. Towards the close the visitors rallied, and during the last ten minutes added two further tries, both scored by Russell, after delightful passing, and another goal resulted.

ANGLO-WELSH.—C. J. M. Dyke; F. E. Chapman, R. B. Griffiths, J. P. Jones, H. T. Maddocks; H. Laxton, C. F. Rowlands; A. F. Harding (captain); G. R. Hind, H. Archer, P. J. Down, J. R. Williams, J. A. S. Ritson, W. L. Oldham, and L. Thomas.

AUSTRALIANS.—P. Carmichael; R. Dix, C. Russell, J. Hickey, E. Mandible; H. Prentice, R. Woods; R. Craig, Dr. H. M. Moran, H. Hammond, T. Griffin, A. B. Burge, J. T. Barnett, P. McCue, and T. Richards.

Referee: Mr. E. J. Andrews.

Australians v Anglo-Welsh**HOME SIDE BEATEN FOR PACE**

At Richmond in dull weather, before 5,000 The Anglo-Welsh fifteen was weakly represented, and had to enlist Rowlands and Maddocks, of the London Welsh, to complete the side. Harding kicked off, there being no wind to speak of. The Australian forwards got possession at once, and a round of passing started by Wood saw Dix scoring wide out, Carmichael missing.

The Australians continued to press, but a free-kick took the game to the centre. Following this kick Laxon and Rowlands got the ball away neatly, and Maddocks, led by the side, Harding kicked off, there being no wind to speak of. The Australian forwards got possession at once, and a round of passing started by Wood saw Dix scoring wide out, Carmichael missing.

Half-time score: G. T. P'ts.
Australians 1 2 11
Anglo-Welsh 0 0 0

Anglo-Welsh dashed off in a dribble, led by Harding. Prentice got round and saved. Away dashed the Australian forwards. They were not pulled up until the Anglos' 25 was reached. Here the game opened out, Wood and Hickey putting in Russell, Carmichael placing another good goal. The Australians were beating the Anglo-Welsh for pace and quickness, and also for possession. From a free Dyke had a shot for goal, but was short. Carmichael touched down. The Australians went down, and Russell scored. Carmichael missing. More passing sent Russell in, Carmichael goaling with a magnificent kick from the verge of the touch. Play was very ragged towards the close, the Anglo forwards playing very poorly in the loose. Prentice and Wood made further attempts to make the game for the backs, but without avail. The Anglo-Welsh team played badly throughout.

Final score: G. T. P'ts.
Australians 3 3 24
Anglo-Welsh 0 0 0

Anglo-Welsh v. Wallabies

The Anglo-Welsh team which met the Australians at Richmond was only a shadow of the side that visited the Antipodes. Practically the whole of the Welsh contingent were unable to accept the invitation to clubs, while those recently "capped" undertook no risks in view of the Wales v. Australia match at Cardiff on Saturday next. In spite of these defections, the Anglos were a strong side. The London Welsh fixture with the United Services was cancelled in order to fill up some of the necessary gaps, and a serviceable forward line, with backs capable of doing themselves justice, were put in the field. The game was regarded in the Metropolis as a minor international.

Since the defeat of Oxford the Australians, who played at practically full strength, have not played over brilliantly, and their experience at Leicester on Wednesday last, where they were well beaten by the Midland Counties on their merits, has rather detracted from the keen interest hitherto taken in their tour. The result of the tour so far is—20 matches played, 18 won, and two lost. Teams—

Anglo-Welsh—Back, C. J. M. Dyke; three-quarter backs, F. E. Chapman, R. B. Griffiths, J. P. Jones, and H. T. Maddocks; half-backs, H. Laxon and C. F. Rowlands; forwards, A. F. Harding (capt.), G. R. Hind, H. Archer, J. P. Down, J. F. Williams, J. A. S. Ritson, and G. V. Kyrke.

Australians—Back, P. Carmichael; three-quarter backs, C. Russell, J. Hickey, E. Mandible, and W. Dix; half-backs, F. Wood and W. Prentice; forwards, J. T. Barnett, T. Griffin, C. A. Hammond, P. McCue, A. Burge, T. Richards, Dr. Moran, and Craig. Referee, Mr. E. J. Andrews.

Only a moderate company gathered, and dull weather prevailed, and the ground though slightly soft was in fair condition. The Australians from the announced side had Craig, Moran, and Prentice for Gavin, McMurtie and McCabe. In the first minute the Australians brought off a neat bout of passing which ended in Dix scoring in the corner. Carmichael made a fair shot at goal, but failed to convert. The Colonial soon attacked again, but were pulled up for offside, and a well-combined attack by the home side ended in Maddocks being collared in the visitors' twenty-five, where Harding, taking a penalty, kicked wretchedly. Another penalty against the Australians enabled the British team to maintain the pressure, but Prentice relieved.

A fine loose rush took the game to the Australian end, but clever kicking again placed the home team on the defensive. Carmichael tried a drop at goal, Chapman running the ball out and finding touch at the centre. Play continued very fast, but rather in favour of the Colonials. Dyke relieved, and the visitors getting the ball from a scrum again attacked. The Australians continued much more skilful in controlling the ball in the scrum than their backs repeatedly getting in motion, but the tackling proved sound. The company had increased to about 6,000. Once again the Australians were penalised, play ruling fairly even until a blunder by one of the home forwards enabled Woods to break away. The Australian half worked his way through cleverly, and gave a pass to Russell, who running strongly handed off Dyke and gained a try, Carmichael converting with a splendid place-kick. Half an hour from the start the Australians led by eight points to nothing.

The game had only been resumed a few minutes when Dyke was collared before he could get in his kick and Prentice dashing away secured a further try, Carmichael just failing to improve. A brilliant effort by Maddocks carried the game to the Australians' line, but the pressure was soon relieved, Russell just afterwards being pulled up when almost certain to score.

Half-time Score— G. T. P.
Australians 1 2 11
Anglo-Welsh 0 0 0

If the Australian backs can play next Saturday as they played to-day, and the whole side can show the same team combination, quickness of perception, and general intelligence in attack, then Wales have no easy running before them.

Final Score— G. T. P.
Australians 3 3 24
Anglo-Welsh 0 0 0

NOTES BY HAMISH STUART.

The first half, though being fast and productive of some good bits of play, was confined chiefly to the forwards, while the pleasure of watching the play was marred by the number of penalties for off-side, obstruction, and "fool up" against the Australians, who were the better side all through and could have dispensed with such tactics. The Australian backs were much the cleverer division, Wood playing much better than the Glamorgan match, while all the best game since the Glamorgan match, while all the three were good, their passing being admirably executed as a rule with each man, but particularly Mandible, and Russell ran with great cleverness and resolution. Dyke fielded and kicked well, but his tackling was weak. Maddocks was also moderate, both Prentice and Russell easily eluding him. Griffin had few chances, but kicked well. Taking a broad view of the first half all the clever play came from the Australians, the backs being at their very best and combining splendidly.

WALLABIES PILE UP THE POINTS.

They Beat an Anglo-Welsh
Team at Richmond

BY 24 POINTS TO NIL.

(By OUR SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE.)

On the Athletic Ground at Richmond yesterday afternoon, before a very poor attendance, considering the character of the game, the Wallabies won the twentieth fixture of their tour and eighteenth game by 3 goals and 3 tries, or 24 points, to nil. The tries were scored by Russell (4), Dix, and Prentice. Carmichael kicked the goals, all three from near the touch-line.

The turf, as it always is at Richmond, was in grand condition, while, though the light threatened to fail, and was indeed very bad at the end of the game, everything else was in perfect order for a fast game. Within a minute of the start Dix scored near the left-hand flag after a brilliant bout of hand-to-hand passing, that, man after man, beat the Anglo-Welsh defence completely. Carmichael missed goal. The drop out availed the home side nothing—the forwards were very slow in following up—and thus the Colonial backs always had plenty of time in which to get in their kick.

Bad Scrummaging.

Soon after the Wallabies' try it began to appear as though they had taken a leaf out of the book of the game as played by the Llanelly pack once a lead was secured, for time after time there was no scrum. A lot of abortive mauling about in mid-field by a misshapen mass of players—it would be flattery to describe it as a scrum—was the chief feature of the next ten minutes of the engagement. The referee was weak enough to allow this sort of thing to proceed regardless of penalty, and the proceedings were soon in danger of degenerating into sheer farce. At last a penalty for some infringement, which it was impossible to distinguish from the Press seats, helped matters on considerably.

We then saw some splendid passing runs, which did not terminate in tries, more owing to mishandling the final passes than to the excellence of the defence. Still, several of the Anglo-Welsh, but notably Dyke and Chapman, put in a lot of defensive work, while J. F. Williams, if he did not appear to do much heavy scrummaging, was certainly most useful in defence. The visiting forwards got quite their share of the ball, and Woods proving to be in better form than on any other of his appearances, the Glamorgan match alone excepted, it followed that Prentice, at five-eighths, was kept busy. Laxon, the Anglos' scrum half, was at times singularly slow on Woods, and this enabled the visitors' backs to derive full benefit from their forwards' fine hooking work.

Russell was set going on the right wing after some scratchy play—not altogether of a clean and fair nature—in mid-field, and Carmichael kicked a good goal from near touch. Within five minutes Russell was over again, but the visitors were deprived of a thoroughly well-earned try by a mistake on the part of the referee, who whistled back the final pass. Russell was well behind the giver when the pass was made.

Try by Prentice.

The Wallabies were not to change ends without another score, for Prentice got his usual try after one of his dodgy runs from inside the Anglo-Welsh "25." Carmichael missed goal, and soon afterwards the Wallabies were busy making attack after attack at the other end. So far Mandible was the man behind the gun working silently, almost unseen. He had been "in" all the good movements, except Prentice's try, and had also done a lot in defence, notably when a long pass by Rowlands had set Maddocks going on the left wing. Directly the second half was alive Mandible's fine work was more apparent, especially his accurate touch-finding. It was from a fifty-yards affair of his into the right-hand corner that the Anglos were promptly placed on their defence.

The home team hereabouts gave some signs of life. Chapman and J. P. Jones broke through in some loose work on the right, and play very nearly reached the Wallabies' "25." Here, however, their pack worked it back to midway between the half-way line and the Anglo-Welsh "25," where Mandible set the right wing going, and Russell scored his second try in the right-hand corner. Carmichael sent the ball over the bar from near touch with the precision of a King's Prizeman at Bisley.

Carmichael Hurt.

During the next five minutes J. F. Williams dribbled over the line, only to find that Carmichael, who got injured in the rush, had touched down before he could get to the ball. This was the only narrow shave the Wallabies had, and for the rest of the game, much of it as uninteresting as the rest was of an exciting nature, the visitors were unmistakably "top dog." Thus they promptly attacked following Carmichael's defensive touch-down, and Russell was able to run in his third try with very little opposition. This time Carmichael shot wide, but better luck attended his next effort, when Russell had gone across, after a typical attacking run by all the Wallaby backs, for the fourth time.

This closed the scoring, and after some more of the unsatisfactory mauling which had been so marked a feature of the earlier stages, the end came.

The win of 24 points to nil brings the Wallabies' record to 20 played, 18 won, 2 lost, 345 points against 78.

There is a possibility of another "extra" match being arranged between the Wallabies and the Plymouth XV., for whom Carroll, one of their three-quarters, and Burge, one of their forwards, have each played in a match.

With regard to the personnel of yesterday's Anglo-Welsh team, it is due to them to say that the fifteen was not representative of the strength that toured in New Zealand and Australia. From that side R. A. Gibbs, H. H. Vassall, J. L. Williams, J. Davey, and E. J. Jackett were missing, and the absence of these players, of course, greatly weakened the side.

The Wallabies' next match is against Wales at Cardiff on Saturday next. Of course, it is not yet known whom their selectors will rely upon, but yesterday's back division, with McKivatt to work the scrum vice Woods, is the strongest they possess, though some would include Carroll in place of Mandible, who is short of practice.

London Football Paper Dec 5th 05

WALLABIES' SECOND DEFEAT.

The Cause of Their Downfall
at Leicester.

PLAYERS OFF COLOUR.

Men Beginning to Feel the Strain
of the Tour.

By "LINE OUT."

"Are we downhearted?" One can imagine the Australians asking themselves the familiar question on Wednesday night and replying to it with a unanimous and stentorian "No." And they have every reason to keep their courage up, and set down their defeat by the combined Midlands as one of the accidents that are bound to happen in a long tour, when the visiting team inevitably has its off days, its period of staleness, and its misfortunes in the temporary loss of men through illness or some other reason—example, Middleton. Occasionally an Australian cricket team always strong enough to put up a great fight against our collective best in the Test matches, has been caught napping by a county, and not always one of our strongest counties, but such reverses have no significance, beyond damaging the record for the tour, which is one of the things that remain.

The Midlands had a good team in the field, and if the Australians had been in their ordinary form, should have been good enough to score a couple of times and take a creditable beating by a margin not expressed in double figures. At least that is a fair expectation if one takes a line through the form of the Midlands in the County Championship and the form of the Wallabies against Cornwall at the Stadium. One can hardly imagine any county team beating the Colonials on their merits—on their best day. Wednesday was one of their worst days. The forwards played up to form, but outside the scrum they were all at sixes and sevens. Wood was slow at half, Mandible and Bede Smith were conspicuously off colour in the three-quarter line, and—worst of all—the imperturbable Carmichael had apparently mislaid his kicking boots. Twice in the first half he missed penalty kicks which as a general rule would have been certainties, and the result was that the Australians crossed over with the score 3-0 against them, instead of 6-3 in their favour, as it ought to have been.

Then the visitors lost their grip on the game, and though Heard's try, converted by Cooper, stirred them to make a great effort, in the course of which they added one goal and quite deserved to draw level, they fell off again, and with the luck a little against them were not afterwards seen to great advantage. The forwards continued to play with great spirit, but the work of the backs was far from its usual level of excellence, their passes were slow and high instead of sharp and low, and they never looked like winners. I do not wish to discount the merit of the Midlands' win, which was mainly due to the great pace of Mobbs and Heard, supplemented by the good place-kicking of Cooper, and it is a very pleasant and welcome thing to see an English team break the long tradition of failure against Colonial teams, which has lasted since the New Zealanders first startled us to a sense of our own slackness. But there is not too much importance to be attached to this victory as affecting the general reputation of the Wallabies. I think they will be found quite good enough for the best England team we can put in the field against them—and the team will have to include Mobbs, as one happy result of Wednesday's game.

For the moment the doings of the Australians cease to be of paramount interest, for the thoughts of all Rugby enthusiasts turn to Queen's Club, where the annual battle of the Varsities will be fought on Saturday next. Early in the season it was anticipated that Oxford would have an easy job, with little to apprehend except the meteoric brilliancy of K. G. McLeod, who has a disturbing trick of winning matches off his own bat, irrespective of the weakness of his own side and the strength of the defence. But as time went on the Cambridge chances began to look much more rosy. When they made such a close fight against the Wallabies, and when Oxford made such a comparatively poor show against the same opponents, it became evident that the Light Blues had good stuff in them, and though no one could predict a Cambridge win on the strength of these two games, it was evident that no runaway victory for Oxford should any longer be anticipated.

Since then the Oxford team has regained its form, and made it evident that the collapse in the Australian match was only an episode. But on the other hand, the Light Blues have also done very well, and their display against a strong United Services team on Wednesday stamps them as a side that will take a lot of beating. They lost Wright quite early in the game, and yet, in spite of the absence of their most dangerous wing three-quarter, they overplayed the Service men to the extent of 21 points to 6. This exploit counting appropriately in the last of their trial games before the Varsity match should enable them to take the field at Queen's Club with that confidence which is a most necessary ingredient in facing a big match, and which they might have lacked in meeting a side with such a reputation as that of Oxford had not victory against almost equally redoubtable opponents put them on good terms with themselves.

The only unfortunate thing about the match was the breakdown of Wright, but it is stated that he suffered only a slight strain, and might really have continued if it had not been considered wise to "nurse" him in view of the approaching Varsity match and take no chances of making the injury more serious. With Wright able to play the Light Blue three-quarter line will have only one weak place, none of the experiments made with the left wing having been quite satisfactory, though I. S. Jones in Wednesday's match gave a better showing than his predecessors. Pyman played particularly well at inside three-quarter, his final try being a remarkably fine effort. The Cambridge halves did well against the Services opposition, and will perhaps be little inferior to the Dark Blue pair on the day. But it is the Cambridge forwards who will win the great game, if it is to be won. Playing a man short after Purves had been taken out of the scrum to fill Wright's place, they fairly held the strong United Services pack during the rest of the game, and I quite expect to see them the superiors of the Dark Blue lot on Saturday next.

Dec. 5/08

Will the Wallabies Win?

A PUZZLING PROBLEM.

(By HAMISH STUART.)

Although we would not be justified in regarding the Welsh side to meet Australia as approaching in all-round excellence any of the great sides that have represented the Principality during the past decade—of these sides I always consider the 1903 team against Ireland as the best—the side should nevertheless prove equal to the task before them. There is, one admits, a suggestion of antiquity (in the football sense) about the team, while there is an admitted lack of pace and more than a suspicion of lack of versatility, but these defects may be of no moment, if the forwards can secure and hold that control of the game forward for which, so far as an outsider can form an opinion, they have been purposely selected. The Australians are doubtless a fast and clever side—a great side after a sort on some days, but they are not a consistent side and can only be compared with the South Africans when at their best. As to the relative merits of the New Zealanders and the Australians, all that one need say is that I do not think that the Welsh side for the 12th inst. would stand any chance of defeating the New Zealand side of 1905, whereas it will be matter for surprise, their defects compared with previous Welsh sides apart, if they do not beat the Australians. The Australians, it should be remembered, have just scrambled home in more than one match (other than the two in which they have been defeated), whereas neither the New Zealanders nor South Africans (the match with Glamorgan excepted, and that was really a unofficial match with Wales) were in danger of defeat until the first of their international matches.

Australian Escapes.

Confining my instances to those matches which I have seen, the most lucky escape of the Australians was at Cambridge. They were outplayed by the University, and but for a period of laxity on the part of the Light Blue (the period was of five minutes duration, and yielded two tries to the Colonials), and the extraordinary bad luck which the University experienced, the Australians would have been as convincingly beaten on score as they were on play. The most material bits of bad luck which the University experienced were the disallowing of a dropped goal because the ball just touched the tip of a Colonial finger, and two certain tries lost through the ball bouncing sideways along the ground instead of up and into the hands in one case of Macleod, and in the other of Godby. Both players were merely a yard or so from the line, and had only to get the ball to score. Then the Australians had nothing to spare against the United Services, and won merely by the two points from a place-kick. Against London in the first match they just got home by a try scored in the first fifteen minutes, and would have been beaten if the London three-quarters had been at all "equal to their chances." Against Durham the superiority of their backs pulled them through by a large margin, yet if there had been a good scoring division behind the Durham forwards they would have had so many chances that the game would probably have been a ding-dong big scoring match, with each side leading in turn. The same applies to the match with Cumberland and Northumberland, and the return game with London. The moral of all these matches is that the Australians can be more than held forward yet can beat the ordinary English side by the superior individual pace and greater collective cleverness of their backs.

A Curious Side.

They are, however, a puzzling side in so far as they have displayed in and out form, and have never approached the consistent excellence of the South Africans, much less of the New Zealanders. There is, however, one very feasible explanation of their inconsistency. I attribute their in and out form largely to the half-backs, and in a less degree to the three-quarters. In their earlier matches—up, in fact, to the game with Cornwall at the Stadium—the backs never impressed one as great, though in one match they approached greatness: this was in the game with Glamorgan. During this period Wood was the scrum-half, and McKivatt was the outside-half. Wood was played on the strength of his "home" form, which he never reproduced, and only approached in the match with Glamorgan—the game in which, as stated, the Australian backs were seen at their best up to the game with Cornwall. In the match with Cornwall Wood



"Baby, baby Bunting, Daddy's going a hunting, To fetch a little 'Wallaby' skin—To wrap dear Baby Bunting in."

was dropped. The Australian backs at once became a new division in point of cleverness, and for the first time (with McKivatt as scrum-half, and McCabe as outside-half), one was justified in comparing them with the South African backs. This excellence was maintained until Wood was again played. His re-introduction was against the combined Midlands' team, and the Australians were badly beaten by 16 points to 5. I think, therefore, that one may safely attribute the in and out form largely to the half-backs, for the Colonials won matches by their backs when they omitted Wood, but either lost or just got home when that player was included. In any case the back play has only once been up to a high standard when Wood, who has had the misfortune to be "off colour," has been the scrum-half. To those who could compare the play of the Australian backs against London on Saturday, the 24th October, with Wood at scrum-half and McKivatt as outside with their play on the following Monday (26th October), with McKivatt at scrum-half and McCabe as outside-half, the change for the better was so startling that the Australian backs looked a division which one had never seen before. Another factor which has contributed to the in and out form is a peculiar liability to

The "Individual Error"

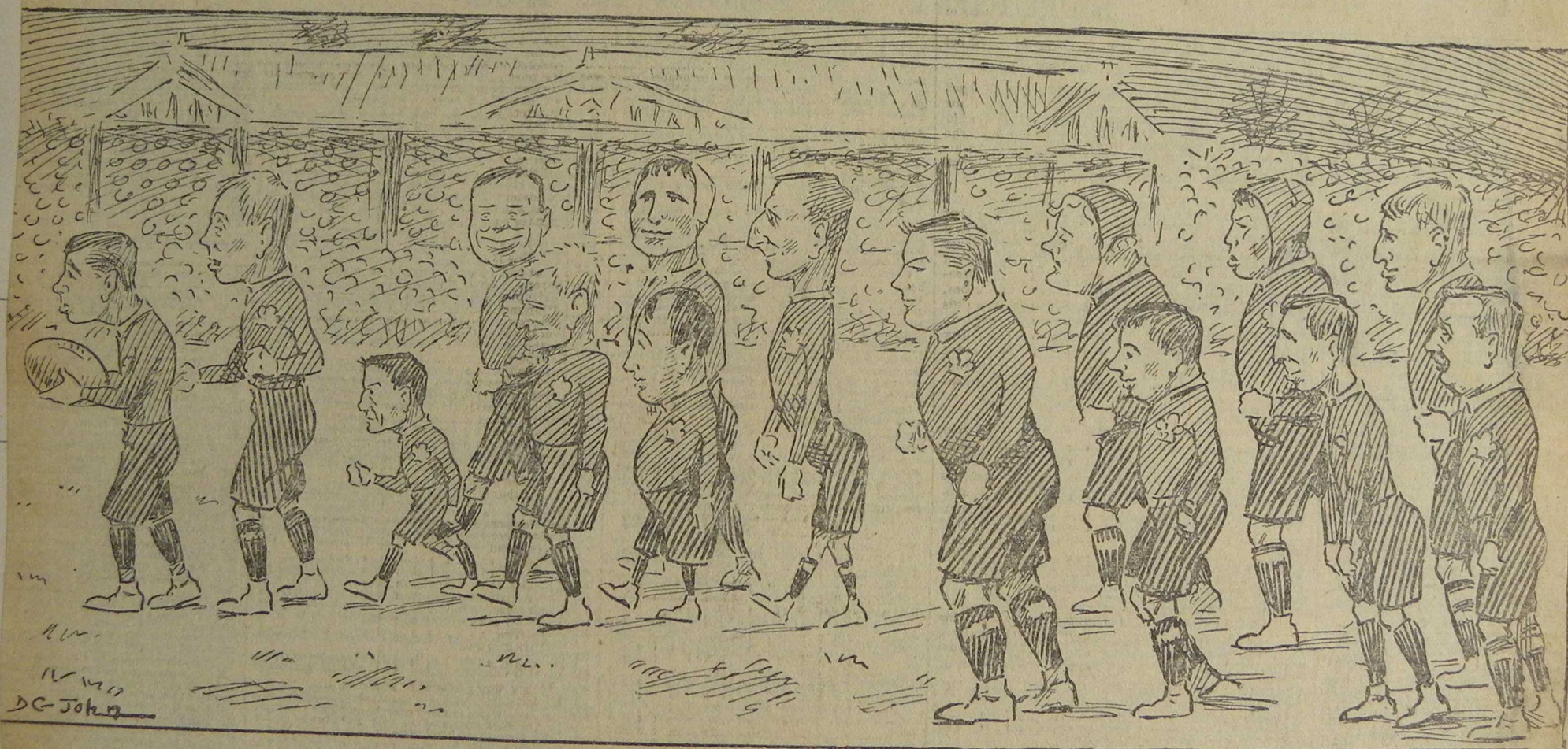
which all the three in turn have shown. This liability has lost the Australians many tries in the final phase of otherwise cleverly conceived and well executed movements. I have never seen all the three at their best in point of accuracy in handling and judgment on the same day. All this means that they lose far more tries and make much less of their chances than did the New Zealanders and South Africans. Yet the failure in this respect is individual, not collective. Hence they are a side who may do something very big, if the backs are all at their best in all respects on the same day. This is why the defeat at the hands of the Midlands should not diminish interest in the match with Wales, especially if Wood be left out, as, of course, on form he probably will be.

The Final Conclusion

is that though the Australians are capable of playing as great and as effective a game as the South Africans, they are not so dependable as the Springboks, while, of course, even at their best they are inferior to the New Zealanders, partly because the side does not contain so many great individual players, partly because the forwards are inferior, and the attack of the backs is not so varied or so practically subtle. I shall be surprised if the Australians emulate the feat of the South Africans and beat Wales on Welsh soil.

" FORTH TO THE BATTLE "

Advance of the "Thin Red Line."



The Gallant Boys in Red marching out to Victory.

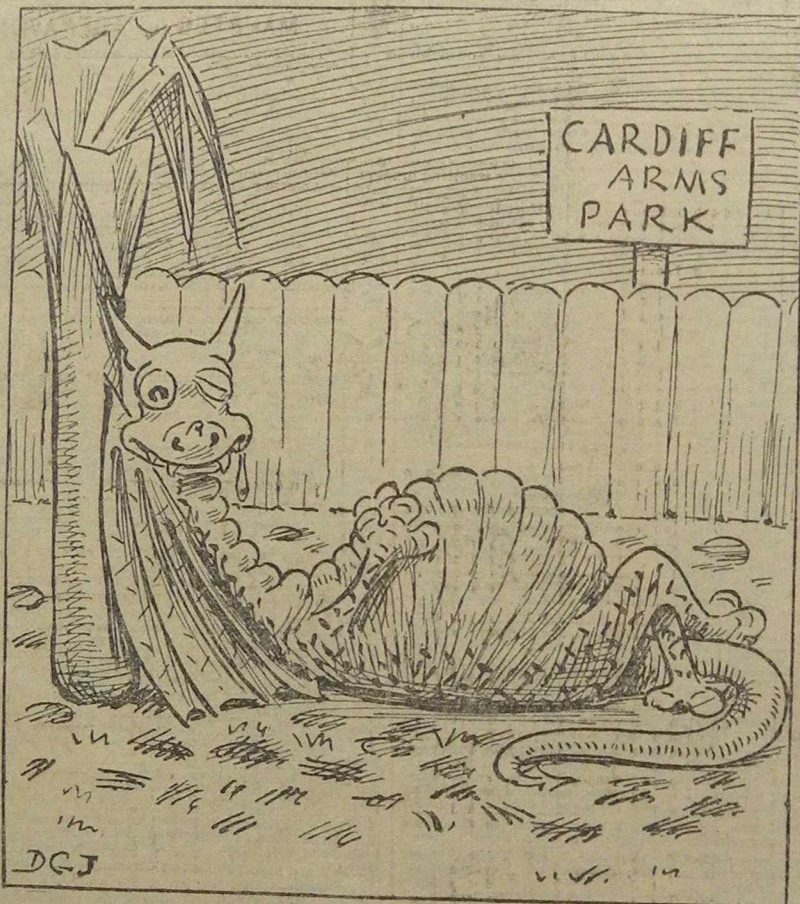
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Dec. 12th '08

Dec. 12th 08

39

"CYMRY AM BYTH!"



Puzzle: Find the Wallaby.

"All Blacks" Matches in Wales.

	Score for.	Score agst.
	G. T. P.	G. T. P.
v. Wales (L)	0 0 0	0 1 3
v. Glamorgan (W)	0 3 9	0 0 0
v. Newport (W)	1 1 6	1 0 0
v. Cardiff (W)	2 0 10	1 1 8
v. Swansea (W)	1 0 4	0 1 3
Totals	4 4 29	2 3 17

South Africans' Matches in Wales.

	Score for.	Score agst.
	G. T. P.	G. T. P.
v. Newport (W)	1 1 8	0 0 0
v. Glamorgan (W)	0 2 6	0 1 3
v. Wales (W)	1 2 11	0 0 0
v. Monmouthshire (W)	3 2 17	0 0 0
v. Llanelly (W)	3 1 16	0 1 3
v. Cardiff (L)	0 0 0	2 3 17
Totals	8 8 58	2 5 23

Wallabies' Matches in Wales.

	Score for.	Score agst.
	G. T. P.	G. T. P.
v. Glamorgan (W)	2 2 16	1 0 3
v. Penrygraig (W)	2 1 11	0 1 3
v. Neath and Aberavon (W)	3 0 15	0 0 0
v. Llanelly (L)	0 1 3	1 1 8
v. Wales (L)	0 2 6	1 2 9
Totals	7 6 51	3 4 23

A SUMMARY OF TOTAL SCORES.

	P. W. L. D.	P. for P. agst.
New Zealanders	32 51 1 0	830 39
South Africans	23 25 2 1	553 79

FIRST 22 MATCHES OF EACH TEAM.

	W. L. D. P.	for P. agst.
New Zealanders	22 0 0	681 22
All Blacks	20 1 1	487 56
Wallabies	19 3 0	363 93

Wallabies' Record to Date.

	Score for.	Score agst.
	G. T. P.	G. T. P.
v. Devon (W)	3 3 24	0 1 3
v. Gloucestershire (W)	2 2 16	0 0 0
v. Cornwall (W)	3 1 18	1 0 5
v. Glamorgan (W)	2 2 16	1 0 3
v. Penrygraig (W)	2 1 11	0 1 3
v. Neath and Aberavon (W)	3 0 15	0 0 0
v. Llanelly (L)	0 1 3	1 1 8
v. London (W)	0 1 3	0 0 0
v. Cornwall (Olympic game, W)	5 3 32	0 1 3
v. Army and Navy (W)	2 0 8	1 1 6
v. Durham (W)	4 3 29	1 1 7
v. Northumberland and Cumberland (W)	3 1 18	0 2 6
v. Cheshire (W)	6 3 37	0 1 3
v. London (W)	4 2 24	0 1 3
v. Cambridge (W)	1 2 11	2 0 9
v. Oxford (W)	3 2 19	0 1 3
v. Yorkshire (W)	3 3 24	0 0 0
v. Lancashire (W)	0 4 12	0 2 6
v. Somerset (W)	1 1 8	0 0 0
v. Midlands (L)	1 0 5	3 1 16
v. Anglo-Welsh (W)	3 3 24	0 0 0
v. Wales (L)	0 2 6	1 2 9

SUMMARY.

Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	Pts for.	Pts agst.
22	19	3	0	353	93

By "Old Stager."

Of "Hands across the sea" sentimentality there was none evidenced by the crowd. They were out for a strenuous game, in which skill and strength head and muscle, and of "heart," would each be factors to the issue.

Then the Colonials directed a couple of yards short. to Russell's wing. Twice he was stopped by Williams jumping for an interception, and after he had beaten J. L., and looked up the

BACK in the forehead which Drew received in the
which is not only concussive, but, probably,
that Wales would have been punished for the
punishment of fate that the win of Wales should
by a penalty goal, considering that the Wallabies
arted off by taking risks, and that they bottled up
tack after attack by colliding with the player who
and passed the ball and so knocking him out of the
tation. Repassing was thus seldom successful
of the improper tackling which occurred
too often to be accidental told very much
against Wales.

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100

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BY HAMISH STUART.

Mr Gill Evans
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EN. The Game in Detail.
CRITICAL DESCRIPTION
By "Old Stager."

Winnfield's Fine Kick.

Carnell lost two passes on the left wing, but on his third attempt he took the ball and kicked fully from the line, only, however, to have the kick absolutely nullified by a pressure play. It was now proving a great game as it tended to the temper.

Crack being again penalized about ten yards from the line and about 20 yards from goal, Vales came within a chance of regaining their lead. Winnfield's kick was a gem. It went straight as a line for the centre of the bar, but it fell a couple of yards short.

be by a penalty goal, considering that the Wallabies started off by taking risks, and that they bottled up attack after attack by colliding with the player who had passed the ball and so knocking him out of the combination. Repassing was thus seldom successful, and the effect of the improper tackling which occurred too often to be accidental told very much against Wales.

It was a fast and most interesting match, and on the whole a draw would have more fairly reflected the relative merits of the sides on the day. Incidental luck often decides issues, while often the difference between a win and a loss is due to a few touches which one man has gained or failed to gain as the case may be. Small, for example, was nearly in twice, but just slipped to make those few further inches. The Welsh side as a side showed more finesse. The range of play of Owen, was always effective. The

pinion on such a matter hurriedly. He desired to
think things over.

Reflections.

BY HAMISH STUART.

It was a fast and most interesting match, and on the whole a draw would have more fairly reflected the relative merits of the sides on the day. Incidental to it often decides issues, while often a difference between a side and a local side of 10 inches, which man has gained or failed to gain as the case may be, usually, for example, was nearly in twice, but just failed to make those few further inches.

The Welsh side as a side showed more finesse. The fixture. The

WALEB. Dec. 12th '08

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THE WALLABY TEAM.



Top Row:— Phil Carmichael, C. Russell, E. Mandible, J. Hickey, D. D. Carroll.
Second Row:—Ward Prentice, Chris. M'Kivatt, Dr. Moran (captain), R. R. Craig, T. J. Richards.
Third Row:—P. McCue, A. B. Burge, C. A. Hammond, T. Griffen, J. T. Barnett.

(Evening Express Photo—Copyright.)

WALLABY CAPTAIN IN CHARACTERISTIC POSES.



1. Dr. Moran (captain Australian team). 2. Fielding the ball. 3. Taking a shot for goal. 4. Dribbling. 5 and 6. A pick up and away.
[Specially posed for 'Evening Express' and taken by our own Photographer.—Copyright.]



Dec. 12 '08

WALES BEAT THE WALLABIES.

STRENUOUS MATCH AT CARDIFF.

Wales 1 - 2 .. 9: Australia 0 - 2 .. 6.

By W. L. S.

BY JOVE! the clock was set back with a vengeance at Cardiff on Saturday, when Wales met Australia in the first of the season's international engagements! In nearly every book, pamphlet, and article written of recent years on the development of Rugby football people have been accustomed to read that the real development of the game—the renaissance which demonstrated much that was fresh and clever and attractive in the recreation—dated from the 1893 period, from the time of perfection of the four three-quarter-back system. Other countries, and more particularly Scotland and Ireland—for poor old England, alas! has not done much good since 1893—have been twitted year in and year out with the lack of adaptability which characterised their players. They were set to practise a plan of which, poor fellows, they had no real notion, and their idea of the Welsh system was, oh! ever so crude.

Well, Scotland and Ireland swallowed the taunts. They might not appreciate all the virtues of four three-quarter-back play, yet that method was not the *alpha* and the *omega* of Rugger. There were other little plans which had profitable results, and one of these was the practice of such sturdy forward methods as would lead to the van taking their fair share in the fray and not making of them mere barnyard performers or scrappers. And, even if the Scots mode has been considered out-of-date, it has sufficed to win Triple Crowns, and other sorts of honours in Footballiana.

THE JUSTIFICATION OF SCOTS METHODS.

It is not likely that another gibe will be uttered or pencilled or penned against the Caledonian methods after Saturday's game at Cardiff. For, mark you, my readers, after fifteen or sixteen years of the extolling of the virtues of their own style, Wales were forced to return to the old-fashioned in order to find a plan to defeat Australia. What was the reason of this? It is hard to say.

When Glamorgan County played the Colonials they attempted to practise a sort of "Welsh" game. It was too clumsy to be successful, and primarily because the opposing forwards were too good, and, secondarily, because the three-quarter backs were miserable the team failed badly. Now it is on record that only two sides had in the interval attained any great danger of success against the "Wallabies." In one case the degree was restricted, for, while Lancashire put up a rare fight against their guests, the latter won in the end. In the other the degree was positive, for the Combined Midlands fairly and squarely beat the Australians at Leicester, and I should say that the fact that the latter side could not cope with the fine forward work of the pack, led by the Moseley player, Cooper, had suggested to the Welshmen the notion that, with the supply of good backs limited, the plan of campaign must originate with the tactics of the forwards. And there at Cardiff we actually beheld the spectacle of the Welsh forwards refusing to heel, and, wheeling, going off with rushes which, at any rate, were quite a good imitation of the Scottish dribble. But the idea paid better than any of the handling of the ball by the backs.

NECESSITY FOR THE BREAK-THROUGH.

There were occasions when Richard Owen baffled the opposition with what Rugby folk know as the "reverse" (to the uninitiated it may be explained that this is a feint to run from left to right of the base of the scrum, thereby attracting the opposition to the latter side; then a sudden whip round and the service of the ball to the middle three-quarter back to the left). Three or four times he did this with great effect, but, though there was handling of the ball, there was no great effect of all the passing. Why?

Because the centres could not break through. What is the good against the Australians of lateral passing? It is quite true that often the services of J. P. Jones were quite good, but he lacked the qualities of Gabe, the straight dash through, and hang the consequences. What made Asunder and Kenneth Wood so effective against the Australians at Leicester? Simply this: that they threw conventionality to the winds, and played as they best thought meet. They did not believe in manoeuvres that began on the extreme right and finished on the left flank. Oh, dear not! They went through, with the consequence that that afternoon Mandible and Bole-smith and Hickey had a remarkably bad time.

Wales had remembered one piece of tactics which paid, but the centres had forgotten the other. At all events Jones had done so, for Trew once or twice did run straight. The consequence then was that the forwards were left to pull the line through, and they did so in fairly good

dashing forwards, who can dribble and back up and tackle. Those granted, the backs do not matter so much. And for the necessary mission I humbly recommend one name—that of H. G. Handford, of Lancashire, who will fulfil all the qualifications I have suggested. He may not be observed at Franklin's Gardens, Northampton, next Saturday, when I regret to learn that Frank Hutchinson will be unable to partner G. Pinion; but all the same the Kersal man is of a type the "Wallabies" do not relish in the open with a ball at his toe.

But this is leaving the subject; let me now relate as succinctly as possible the tale of the narrow Welsh victory—a win that will long be remembered for the fact that the team rejected the methods of the country and adopted those they had often declared obsolete. Ah! there is virtue in the old style after all!

Wales soon took up pressing, and though M'Kivatt cleared Winfield got in his kick, and passing and a punt by Ivor Morgan set the home country in a good position. Ward Prentice, however, kicked well, and with Winfield misjudging one catch and handing on another Wales were in trouble. However, the forwards broke away, and Hickey was tackled in possession. The Australians, however, took up the running again, and Moran and Richards were



J. P. JONES, Pontypool and Wales.

(Photo by A. and G. Taylor, Newport.)

prominent. The former was brought back for a knock-on, and the latter was just baulked for the touch. Winfield had a deal of work, but once kicked well into touch. There was, however, mighty little passing, the marking being good. However, once Owen picked up and instead of feeding R. Jones passed into a pack of forwards who, dashing on in Scots fashion, did not cease till they had crossed the line and Travers had touched down. Winfield failed at goal.

Then came a fine bit of work. Owen passed to Jones, who fed Trew, who ran and returned to Jones. The last-named was nearly over when pulled down, but it was a delightful effort. Next R. Jones nearly scored, but the Australians gained the touch. However, the Australians replied, and with half a dozen players joining in the movement this did not cease until Richards had run over and finished a lovely try. Carmichael failed with the easy kick. Keen play followed, and Winfield had a shot at goal from a piece of off-side play. He had direction but not distance in his shot.

In a lot of punting Wales had the better of matters, but there was really very little in it. The Welsh forwards gained possession pretty frequently, but the passing of the backs was ineffective against the smart backing up and tackling of the Australians. Once M'Kivatt bolted strongly off, but slipped up, and then M'Kivatt, Prentice, and Russell went clean away. Winfield managed to get the last-named forced into touch, but it was not the way to set about his man. A mishap to Trew, who was kicked on the forehead, robbed Wales of their captain, and here it may be said that the accident could quite easily have been avoided. George Hayward fell back on the wing, Hopkins going in the centre, and this, of course, meant reducing the strength of the forwards for a few minutes.

Fortunately, however, they did not stay off for long, and Wales pressed by due passing which ended in "Ponty" Jones getting off side. Then another rare bout of combination had its inception in good scrummaging work by Owen. Really Wales looked like scoring in the closing moments of a first half which had been keen rather than pretty to look at.

EXCITING MOMENTS.

The second half began well, both sides playing hard forward and backing rather than waiting for aggressive tactics. As a

a W.F.A. international reserve. However, other triumphs will be his, for he has pace and nerve and pluck, and over and above the way he got his try, there was confidence in the way he made two marks in the second half. They were very handy, Hopkins looked well after Carroll.

A MODERATE LEFT WING.

On the other wing Williams was not good. I am not sure that his centre played properly to him, but the fact was he could not look at Russell. And yet Owen in the first half gave an object lesson to all how the Australian could be stopped. Not by flying at his head or buttocks, but by shackling him by the knees before he got into his stride. Australian tours have had their effect on many three-quarter backs; it is to be hoped that Williams is not in the fashion.

J. P. Jones, one of a clever brotherhood, was fairly good. He, too, was making his first appearance in the Welsh jersey, though he had had experience on the Har-nett itinerary. He took and gave his passes pretty well, but there were times when one sighed for the dash though of Gabe or Nicholls. For J. P. Jones was, after all, mechanical. Trew was tip-top. Some times he took the three-quarter back play on his shoulders, as it were, and though he was thrice knocked out, he played a rare game. His first mishap was cruel. He was not only scragged, but kicked, and though he seems to have forgiven the aggressor, one wonders what would have been said about the matter had he been unable to resume and Wales had lost the match! He may try, but there is one thing Dr. Moran cannot do—make angels of his forwards. R. Jones is very far from outplayed. For one thing, his defence was jolly good, and he accepted and dispatched many of Owen's passes cleverly.

There were times when the latter little man was brilliant in tactics. I have referred to his "reverse" movements; his all-round work was fine, and I do not remember his defence being better. More over, he kicked well.

THREE GRAND FORWARDS.

Three forwards stood out by themselves—Travers, Ivor Morgan, and Waller. The last-named I saw for the first time, and I must congratulate Mr. Tom Schofield on the acumen he displayed in advancing the claims of the Newport youngster. He is a glutton for work, and in the open he dribbled splendidly.

But Travers was the forward of the day. Early on he got a bad rap on the head, but it did not affect his zeal; he played like a hero and on the jump on the line-out, in the scrummages, and in the open he was great. Wales have a fine leader in the Pill Harrier.

Ivor Morgan was even better than in the Glamorgan game, and that is saying some-



W. PRENTICE, Australia.

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

thing. Young and hefty, he took a deal of stopping, and I should say he has the best notion of dribbling of any Welsh forward. Hayward was messed about in pursuance of what was called the "Swansea policy," but in the first half he was capital. Some of the older forwards were tired at the close, yet they had fulfilled their mission.

COLONIAL CRACKS.

On the other side of the scrumming two men stood out particularly noticeable. They were in the back row, that is true, but Richards and Dr. Moran were very good. The former scored, and with a wee bit of luck the skipper would have been in the first half. The giants, Burge and M'Cue, have played better, and the former more fairly, but Hammond, Griffin, and Harnett fulfilled their duties in the front row quite successfully. And they do say now that M'Kivatt is even more deadly as a player of the ball in the scrumming than David Gallagher. These were later from the touch-line; the players had little fault to suggest, but Mr. Dr. Evans did find out the Australians' partiality for following the ball and for "picking out."

M'Kivatt has played the better game, and it must not be forgotten that he had a reasonable chance to kick the goal from which Hopkins scored. But he dropped the ball. Ward Prentice had freedom to side-stroke, and did not put in any of his stirring runs. He got well known in stirring runs, and that did not improve his

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Wales had remembered one piece of tactics which paid, but the centres had forgotten the other. At all events Jones had done so, for Trew once or twice did run straight. The consequence then was that the forwards were left to pull the side through, and they did so in fairly good style.

If Wales have been keen judges of those countries who have practised their methods in the past, they must naturally put up with criticism of their own way of playing a game foreign to their wont. They dribbled better than one would have thought, not in the stop-at-nothing manner of Scotland or of Ireland, and with here and there just a tendency to check pace to pick up. The men can take it from me that though that style of dribbling paid on Saturday against backs who will not look at dribbling the Australians are wretchedly weak at taking the ball from the toes of the opposition—it will not do against Scotland next February.

The visitors are rare players of their style. In the matter of gaining possession they are quick, the backs and the forwards handle the ball very well, yet the whole team have no idea of the virtues of footwork. Verily, my readers, the game was a triumph for the old-fashioned. The modern methods, the short passing, the quick movements of the Australians could not prevail against footwork and against forward rushes which gave Wales their two tries, for, after all was said and done, Phil Hopkins was at the heels of the scrum-magers when he spied the chance and dived for the second try. Doubts may be cast upon the soundness of that point. It was as well finished a try as I ever saw made, and the little Swansea back set the seal on his worth by its making.

Equally Balanced Sides.

And yet it must not be understood that the virtue of the old-fashioned was much greater than that of the colonial style. That it was not. There were moments when weakness on the Welsh left flank suggested that Williams was going to be beaten by Russell, that deep-chested athlete who is such an honest runner. Once in the first half—and then Winfield was the luckiest of men to get the Australian pushed into touch; why couldn't he have made sure by going low for his man, who had he side-stepped to the left had gone in, beneath the goal posts?—and again in the closing stages when J. P. Jones had to dash across and tackle the flying three-quarter back, Russell seemed certain to score, and I am not so sure but had he made good on the second occasion and balanced the account the ends of justice would not have been fairly met. There was mighty little between the sides in a game wherein the football was strenuous but far from brilliant to look upon. If the Welsh forwards, and, I dare say, the half-backs were superior the three-quarter backs and the full-back of the visitors were better than the home lot.

For Winfield was clean off his touch-finding, and as he failed to put sufficient boot into a reasonable penalty shot in the first half he had not a great day, even if he did place the goal which constituted the difference between winning and drawing. His inability to find touch made the task of the forwards all the more difficult. Carmichael, on the other hand, simplified the work of the colonial van. Yet he, too, missed the improvement of Richard's easy try. That converted there would have been but one point between the sides, and the 30,000 spectators would have been kept more excited than they were in the closing stages. I had written "spectators"; I might have added players also. What possessed Trew to extract Hayward from the pack when Wales were pressing? I could see the sense of him acting as a banking agent when the Australians were pressing, but in the other "25" and outside of the scrum-mage this fine player was simply in the road. It was an error of frontal tactics which I might have referred to before.

Looking Ahead.

This is not the time nor the place to refer to the prospects of the match at Blackheath on January 9 between the Australians and England, but there was one, at any rate, of the Rugby Union selectors present, and the moral of the match should not have been lost on him. What England need primarily are eight

joining in the movement this did not cease until Richards had run over and finished a lovely try. Carmichael failed with the easy kick. Keenplay followed, and Winfield had a shot at goal from a piece of off-side play. He had direction but not distance in his shot.

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Fortunately, however, Trew did not stay off for long, and Wales pressed by fine passing which ended in "Ponty" Jones getting off-side. Then another rare bout of combination had its inception in good scrum-maging work by Owen. Really Wales looked like scoring in the closing moments of a first half which had been keen rather than pretty to look at.

Exciting Moments.

The second half began well, both sides playing hard forward, and kicking rather than running for aggressive tactics. As a matter of fact, the gripping was far too effective to allow of much passing. In a series of exchanges Winfield beat Carmichael, and the Welsh forwards did some good work till the Colonial back, by rare touch finding, sent them back. However, taking advantage of a misfield by M'Kivatt's, they dribbled away again and Hopkins, being handy as they dashed past Carmichael, fell on the ball and made a perfect try. Winfield just failed to kick a goal. Then Wales did show us some play. Owen got the ball quickly away, and R. Jones sped it to the three-quarters, who were only checked by fine tackling.

By way of return of compliment from Kivatt via Mandible, went to Carroll, who sped fast down the touch-line, but was tackled by Winfield. Wales brought Hayward out when defending, but when attacking he resumed his place in



Mr. GIL EVANS, the Referee.

(Photo by G. and J. Hall, Wakefield.)

the scrum-mage and was in a rare dribble which nearly took Wales out. M'Kivatt got off-side following the ball round a scrum-mage, and Winfield landed a goal from the penalty kick. The Australians replied in great style, but the movement ended in Hickey being handed down after the return pass by Russell.

Relief came to Wales from a touch down. Winfield ran and kicked nicely, but fine passing by Barnett, Burge, and Moran set the Australians pressing. M'Kivatt, Prentice, and Russell then combined, and the last-named dashed over far out. Carmichael's kick fell far short. There was thus only the penalty goal points between the sides, and when Russell again set sail matters looked black for Wales. He screw punted, and Hopkins marked. He repeated the feat a little later. A fine burst of passing by R. Jones, J. P. Jones, Trew and Hopkins very nearly ended in a score, but when the last-named swerved he slipped ever so slightly, and was tackled. At the other end Prentice and Russell seemed certain to score, but the latter was forced into touch, and Winfield relieved his side from grave danger by touch-finding. Then Wales pressed by good forward play to the close.

Notable Welshmen.

And now concerning the players. Regarding Winfield I have already written. He did some good fielding of long shots, and he occasionally kicked well, but I did not like him at close quarters, and he did not find touch nearly so frequently as he should have done.

I believe that during the week the results of Hopkins's first great match had been anticipated with something like anxiety by some of the Welsh committee; those who knew him best had no such doubts. The Swansea man, who, I am told, was when in his teens an expert Soccer player, and was skipper of the college team at Bangor, where he was studying—they know not Rugby in North Wales—has had to wait a long time in one sense for his honours, for he is now 26 years of age. In fact he seemed nearer a Soccer cap than such a Rugby trophy, for years ago he was

W. PRENTICE, Australia.

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

thing. Young and hefty, he took a deal of stopping, and I should say he has the best notion of dribbling of any Welsh forward. Hayward was messed about in pursuance of what was called the "Swansea policy," but in the first half he was capital. Some of the elder forwards were tired at the close, yet they had fulfilled their mission.

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M'Kivatt has played far better games, and it must not be forgotten that he had a reasonable chance to check the rush from which Hopkins scored. But he dropped the ball. Ward Prentice had forgotten his side-stepping, and did not put in any of his stirring runs. He got a bad knock in defending, and that did not improve his play. The three-quarters were clever in handling passes, but, except Russell, were not handy in defence. It was thought the latter was played to over much, but he was up against the weaker wing, for Carroll could make nothing out of Hopkins. Russell ran grandly, and had he possessed just the least swerve Wales would not have rejoiced on Saturday and since. Mandible was nothing patent, and Hickey has been more effective. Carroll got no chance of beating his *vis-a-vis*. Carmichael played his usual sound game at full-back.

Wales.—H. B. Winfield (captain), J. L. Williams (Cardiff), J. P. Jones (Newport), W. J. Trew (Swansea), P. Hopkins (Swansea), R. M. Owen, R. Jones (Swansea), G. Hayward, I. Morgan, D. J. Thomas (Swansea), T. Evans, J. Watts (Llanelli), G. Travers (Pill Harriers), J. Webb (Abertillery), P. D. Waller (Newport).
Australia.—P. Carmichael, G. Russell, J. Hickey, E. F. Mandible, D. B. Carroll, W. S. Prentice, G. M'Kivatt, Dr. H. M. Moran (captain), T. Richards, R. R. Craig, P. A. M'Cue, A. B. Burge, O. A. Hammond, T. S. Griffin, J. T. Barnett.
Referee: Mr. Gil Evans, Yorkshire.

Dec. 12th 08

The Old Country

WHAT I THINK OF IT

By the Wallabies' Manager

[SPECIAL TO "EVENING EXPRESS."]

"Take it down in shorthand," said Captain M'Mahon to "Old Heathen," when asked for his impressions of the tour, and then he began:

"As far as negotiations for this trip are concerned, I had a lot to do with it, and a lot to do with the selection of the team. It meant travelling over 2,000 miles in Australia, and we left on August 8.

"On the way over we endeavoured to keep ourselves to normal weights by skipping, cricket, Indian clubs, and boxing. Skipping was carried on from 6.15 a.m. to 7.45, and we had cricket from two to five, and then from 5.30 to dinner a little talk on tactics. At night we had dancing and other amusements.

"Our first impressions were the best. Our reception upon arrival at Plymouth was very pleasant indeed. We were received by the mayor, Sir Charles Radford, and entertained to dinner. On the Sunday we were the guests of the officers of the Hibernian. After that we made Newton Abbot our quarters until October 5.

"We practised from September 19 to the 26th very hard indeed, and a more nervous lot never went on a field than our team which met Devon. After defeating them I felt we would be able to hold our own—that is, if Devon was representative.

"We were a bit anxious about Cornwall, as they were the champion county, but we began to gain confidence upon beating them, and beating Glamorgan led us to believe we had an equal chance with any.

"I don't want to detract anything from the merit of the win by Llanelly. It was, however, certainly novel in the surroundings."

"You mean the saucepans, &c?"

"Yes, and there were some things that the referee that day didn't quite understand, and which, no doubt, came to him since."

"We have been very kindly received where we went. We thoroughly appreciate all the little kindnesses and all the hospitality, and the Australian people will when they hear of it."

"If ever a Welshman comes along our way we will do our best to return it."

PHYSIQUE OF THE TEAMS

WALLABIES.

	Age.	Height.	Weight.
		ft. in.	st. lb.
Phil Carmichael (Queensland)	24	5 7	11 11
C. Russell (New South Wales)	24	5 9	12 9
D. D. Carroll (New South Wales)	19	5 9	12 4
J. Hickey (New South Wales)	21	5 7	12 4
E. Mandible (New South Wales)	22	5 10 1	12 9
Ward Prentice (N. South Wales)	22	5 7	10 12
Chris M'Kivatt (N. South Wales)	25	5 8	12 0
Dr. Moran (New South Wales)	23	5 9 1	12 7
T. Griffen (New South Wales)	23	5 9 1	12 2
J. T. Barnett (New South Wales)	27	5 10	12 12
C. A. Hammond (N. South Wales)	23	5 11	13 2
P. M'Clus (New South Wales)	24	6 0	14 0
P. Barge (New South Wales)	24	6 0	13 9
R. R. Craig (New South Wales)	23	5 9	13 10
J. T. Richards (Queensland)	25	6 0	13 1

W. Dix (New South Wales) 25 | 5 6 | 11 1 |

A. J. M'Clus (New South Wales) 21 | 5 6 | 11 3 |

F. Woods (New South Wales) 25 | 5 5 | 10 7 |

C. M. Murrice (New South Wales) 27 | 5 11 | 13 7 |

S. Middleton is the giant of the team. He is 24, weighs 14st., and stands 6ft. 1in.

WALES.

	Age.	Height.	Weight.
		ft. in.	st. lb.
H. B. Winfield (Cardiff)	23	5 3 1	12 4
J. L. Williams (Cardiff)	25	5 3 1	11 0
W. Trew (Swansea)	27	5 3	10 10
J. E. Jones (Newport)	26	6 0	12 10
Phil Hopkins (Swansea)	27	5 6	12 6
R. M. Owen (Swansea)	27	5 5	9 5
Dick Jones (Swansea)	27	5 9	12 5
George Travers (Phil. Haverford)	29	6 0	12 10
G. Hayward (Swansea)	21	5 9	15 6
J. Watts (Llanelli)	31	5 4 1	12 4
Tom Evans (Llanelli)	23	5 8	14 0
J. Webb (Abertillery)	23	5 11	15 3
P. Waller (Newport)	20	5 12	12 10
W. Morgan (Swansea)	24	5 10	14 0
D. J. Thomas (Swansea)	31	5 1	15 0

A TOO VIGOROUS COLU
KNOCKS OUT WELSH CA
UNPLEASANT SCENE FOLLO

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

All this time the settled course of the Government was to leave the supporters of Gwalior to their fate when changes of a kind would have to be made, and long before to-day's nation had selected that the hour had come for the plunge.

Next to the natural gratification
result of the game comes the
satisfaction that the recruits,
cloud of doubt had been how
selection, all fulfilled the
appropriately and opportunely
a banner held aloft among
souls on the shilling stand.

Wales expects that even
will do his duty.
Every man did his duty,
lies the supreme and crown
to one's reflections over what
event of the past

It has always been, and it always be, the privilege of a critic to enjoy the liberty of criticism even before a matter is a still greater privilege to give honour where when the turmoil of a great an end.

I have no reason for denying the pleasure of that privilege, in detracting a single word from the macon, I feel it one of the duties as well as just, duties to call on all my heart everyone of us who helped Wales to win her victory not a single failure in the that being the case, their is the most sanguine anticipation of the closest friends.

It must not, however, be inferred that the standard of Welsh is equal to that which has been on some former occasions, and, being in any disparaging spirit given by our men to-day, it is well short of that which has won renown for the Principality. On a rare occasion of the first de Black's three years ago. We breathe let it be said that it is superior to that lifeless English against the Springboks at Swartkops afterwards.

Whatever may be thought of the characteristics of to-day's players, relative merits of the contestants must be conceded that there was no lethargy or indifference in the men's play. They were all trying to end, and, if there was to be a tie, to finish it with finesse and polish and perfection which characterised the play of the Welsh teams, the gamefulness and stability of the men was nevertheless shown. Both in attack and defence they demonstrated the sterling qualities which it was no small advantage to have harnessed over a side strapping and faster men even by the standards of three points.

It may be argued with some force that the Welshmen had some fault on their side, but it cannot be denied that at a single moment that one of the heroes obtained was in the shape of a man in character or the other was thoroughly well deserved. It is true that a win by a pennant holder is satisfactory, but it is a pity to see a contented team being kicked which led to a loss so obvious that it was even an injustice if the three points were given. The Wallabies must have been disappointed that they have failed to reach the goal of their ambition in winning the cup, but no one can deprive them of their credit of having been a hero again that end. It is a pity that their valuable services were not rewarded by a place in the same number of the team.

There was a scene when one of the Colonial forwards showed unnecessary vigour attacking Willie Trew, who was stretched out, and Travers was seen running up to an opponent with clenched fists. The referee intervened, and prevented any display of asticouffs appeared that Trew had been seriously injured, Dr. W. P. Williams being called for. There was a long stoppage, and to the regret of everybody, it was seen that Trew had to leave the field. Hayward was brought out of the pack, and from a scrum in front of the Welsh goal, Owen passed to Jones, who punted down to Carroll, who sent to Winfield, who misfielded and the ball rolled into touch. The Wallabies were pressing hard when a free-kick was given to Wales, but Winfield failed to find touch, and M'Kivatt kicked back to him, and this time he made his mark, but again failed to find touch, and Carroll, who had taken the ball, kicked to J. L. Williams, who made his mark, and the kick, which was taken by Winfield, resulted in touch being found on the centre-line. Trew now returned, amid the delighted cheering of the crowd, and immediately afterwards Wales became aggressive with a smart round of passing, initiated by Owen giving a reverse pass to Jones, who threw to Trew, and he to Hopkins, who ran strongly and cross-kicked, but Mandible saved. Wales were pressing on the Australian goal-line, when the whistle went for the interval.

Wales - - 1 Try, 3 pts

Australians -	1	"	"
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Second Half

It transpired during the interval that Trew had been kicked over the forehead, which bore the mark of the kick. The players retired to the pavilion before re-starting, and, after a few minutes' absence, returned, and Craigrestar led with a cross-kick, from which D. J. Thomas made his mark near his own 25 line and Winfield found touch near the centre. From the line-out the Welsh forwards broke away, but could not go far, and from the scrum which followed a penalty was given to Wales for M'Kevatt improperly picking the ball in scrum, but Winfield failed to find touch, and a possible advantage was lost. There was a terrific fight for possession of the ball in the scrum by the forwards, and the Wallabies were rather more successful than the Welsh eight. The Australians passing was erratic, and they lost several opportunities of putting the Welsh citadel in danger by their faulty transfers. Brilliant dribbling and passing by the Welsh forwards took play well over the Wallabies 25, but the forwards failed to secure from the next scrum, and the ball was shot out to Russell, who kicked down to Winfield, but he again failed to find touch. Clever work by Dick Jones put the Colonial line in danger, but a pass from one of the forwards, though well intended, was slightly forward, and this spoiled what promised to be a successful movement. A scrum was formed in midfield, and, the Welshmen breaking it up cleanly and Tom Evans getting clear of the ruck with the ball at his toes, dribbled splendidly to the 25 line, and Phil Hopkins and Ivor Morgan backing him up, took the ball over the line, and Hopkins, seizing his opportunity, made a dive for the ball and touched down amid

A Scene of Wildest Enthusiasm

Windfeld ad hard lines with the kick, the ball sailing just a couple of inches wide of the far upright. From the kick-out the Welshman settled down to a steady parade of punts, all of them well placed and true. On one occasion J. J. Jones made an splendid burst down the ankle and brought down a few yards from the line. Carroll, on the left, was like a corker, but was only backed by Windfeld, who was miserably covered by the Irish. The Irish were unable to draw level, and were thus having the better of the game. The

		G.	T.	Pts.
Wales	-	*1	2	9
Wallabies	-	0	2	6

* Penalty goal.

[By "FORWARD."]

Following in the wake of the New Zealanders and South Africans the representatives of Australia engaged in the first international contest with Wales on the Cardiff Arms Park this afternoon. Such is the fame of Welsh football all the world over that it is not necessary to state that the occasion was attended by all that interest and enthusiasm which serve to make the match one of historic importance, and one which will rank with preceding contests of a similar character as a battle royal in the best sense of the term.

There were early indications that the crowd would not fall far short of a record one, notwithstanding the abnormally high level of public interest attained on the memorable occasion of the All Blacks' visit three years ago. As early as 12.30, when the gates were opened, there was a big rush for seats, and within the space of half an hour some thousands of people had taken up their positions on the shilling stand. Most of them were surprised to find the ground having made such a satisfactory recovery under the influence of the driving wind and the bright sunshine of the morning, and except that it was soft in front of the grandstand, its condition in other parts were such that neither team could find fault with it.

Wallabies' Fitness

Throughout the morning some thousands of people from all parts of South Wales and from several of the English Rugby centres, and also from all points of the compass, poured into Cardiff, and the majority of them made a point of visiting the Queen's Hotel, the headquarters of the two teams, with the object of seeing what manner of men were they who had been chosen to represent the two far-distant countries a few hours later in the day. None of them could help being impressed by the fine physique and the palpable fitness of the Wallabies, and it needed no great power of observation to notice in the tight-drawn faces an expression of determination and keenness.

It is but the dark truth to say that ever in the annals of Australian football has a representative side felt the weight of responsibility more than the Wallabies did on the occasion, and it is equally true to say that the determination to be equal to that responsibility was never a greater reality in Colonial football. Our kinsmen realised that the result of this match would have a far-reaching influence upon the future history of the Rugby game in the land of the Southern Cross, and this transparent spirit of sincerity may be properly regarded as a striking proof of the intensity of the patriotic fervour which animates the

strong sons of our dominions beyond the seas.

Whatever fault may have been found with their methods in previous matches there is no gainsaying the fact that one's admiration of the Wallabies grows stronger with the improved acquaintance of them as men. They are absolutely free from that undesirable characteristic, which is known as "swank."

A Distinguished Visitor

Half-an-hour before the kick-off the stands all round the ground appeared to be quite full, and yet people poured in incessantly, and there was a very distinct prospect of the attendance reaching record dimensions. Special seats had been reserved for the members of the Welsh Union and also the members of the Australian party, and one of the most prominent and picturesque figures in the group was Mr. Palleser, the Agent-General for New Zealand, whose first acquaintance with Cardiff was made when the "Fernlanders" paid their visit in 1905.

Until about a quarter of an hour before the time for starting operations, the crowd had been strangely quiet, being seemingly content with listening to the lively selections played in very good style by the Tongwynlais Band. On the far side of the ground many of the old warriors of the past were privileged with reserved seats labelled "old internationals." An interesting diversion was the holding up of a flag by a couple of enthusiasts on the cheap side of the field, bearing the historic injunction of even the most serious occasion: Wales expects every man this day to do his duty.

30,000 People Present

This reflected the feeling of the thousands assembled, and there was no reason for believing that the champions of "Gallant Little Wales" would not rise to the occasion and fulfil the universal expectation.

All the arrangements, which had been made under the supervision of Mr. Walter Rees, were absolutely perfect, the comfort and convenience of all sections having received attention. Ten minutes from the scheduled time for kicking off there were fully 30,000 people present, but it was anything but the usual demonstrative assemblage to which Wales is accustomed to in international matches. This is probably accounted for by the intense anxiety concerning the ultimate result of the game.

PLAN OF THE FIELD

WALES.

Winfield

Hopkins	Tsaw	Jones	Williams
	Owen	Jones	
Webb	Morgan	Walker	Thomas
Travers	Evans	Watts	Hayward
Moran	Richards	Barnett	Griffin
Craig	M'Crue	Hammond	Burge
	M'Kivatt	Ward	Prentice
Russell	Mandible	Hickey	Carroll

Carmichael

WALLABIES.

The Game.

[illegible]

Travers got over for Waco, some wonderfully clever work who was on his toes all the

the serum followed a penalty was given to Wales for McKeatt improperly picking the ball in scrum, but Winfield failed to find touch, and a possible advantage was lost. There was a terrific fight for possession of the ball in the scrum by the forwards, and the Wallabies were rather more successful than the Welsh eight. The Australians' passing was erratic, and they lost several opportunities of putting the Welsh citadel in danger by their faulty transfers. Brilliant dribbling and passing by the Welsh forwards took play well over the Wallabies 25, but the forwards failed to secure from the next scrum, and the ball was shot out to Russell, who kicked down to Winfield, but he again failed to find touch. Clever work by Dick Jones put the Colonial line in danger, but a pass from one of the forwards, though well intended, was slightly forward, and this spoiled what promised to be a successful movement. A scrum was formed in midfield, and the Welshmen breaking it up cleanly, and Tom Evans getting clear of the ruck with the ball at his toes, dribbled splendidly over the 25 line, and Phil Hopkins and Ivor Morgan backing him up, took the ball over the line, and Hopkins, seizing his opportunity, made a dive for the ball and touched down amid

A Scene of Wildest Enthusiasm

Winfield had hard lines with the kick, the ball sailing just a couple of inches wide of the far upright. From the kick-out the Welshmen settled down to their natural game, and a couple of pretty bouts of passing were brought off in quick succession. On one occasion J. P. Jones made a splendid burst, and he was unlucky when touched on the ankle and brought down a few yards from the line. Carroll, on the left wing, put in a magnificent run, and looked like going through, but was snarly tackled by Winfield, who was smartly covered by Trew. The Wallabies now made desperate efforts to draw level, and were having the better of the game. Their play, however, was ragged. The Welsh forwards now brought off the most

Magnificent Rush

of the day, taking the ball at their toes right from their own 25 to the Wallabies' quarters, and it was only the fearless way in which the Colonials went down for the ball which prevented a rout. For a palpable off-side in his own 25, M'Kivatt was penalised, and the ball was placed for Winfield, five yards inside the ten yards line, and the Welsh custodian retrieved some of his mistakes in not having found touch by kicking a magnificent goal, and thus giving his side a lead of six points, amid another scene of characteristic Welsh enthusiasm. The Wallabies seemed to be stung to the quick to this unexpected reverse, and rushed at a terrific pace across into the Welsh 25. One of the forwards, securing from the line-out, kicked over the line, and Johnnie Williams touched down with a bunch of forwards on top of him. Wales benefited by the kick out, and carried play over the centre line, where Winfield, securing possession, raced across the ground from right to left, and passed to J. P. Jones, who gave a slightly forward pass. The Wallabies kicked down to the Welsh 25, and Winfield had to put in a flying kick, which sent the ball into the hands of Russell, who looked a scorer, until finely tackled by J. L. Williams. In the next minute, however, Russell picked up in the loose, and, putting in a powerful run, got right through the defence, and

Scored Wide Out

the kick at goal failing. With the Australian forwards getting the ball from the scrum much oftener than the Welshmen, there was constant danger of the Welsh lead of three points being wiped out, and this was especially so when Russell kicked across from the right wing, but Phil Hopkins, running across, smartly made his mark and saved the situation. The same player did the same thing a moment later, and deservedly won the applause of the spectators all round the ring. The Wallabies were strong on the attack in the Welsh quarter, when Owen, receiving from his forwards, passed out to Dick Jones, who put in one of his old-time runs, and passed to J. P. Jones, who gave at the right moment to Trew, who gave to Phil Hopkins, who received splendidly, and, after beating the full-back, was tackled by one of the three-quarters, who had out across just in the nick of time. Within a few minutes of the end the Wallabies made a terrific onslaught on the Welsh line through the right wing, and Russell, when he looked bound to get over was finely tackled and pushed into touch by J. R. Jones when five yards from home. Smart work by Owen in passing out to Winfield enabled the latter to punt into touch near the centre and thus remove the danger

The Welshmen Further Improve

their position by putting in a fine forward rush into the visitors' 25, where a penalty for legs up against Wales gained no advantage. In the last closing stages the Welshmen were strictly on the aggressive, but made a point of keeping the ball as close as possible and taking no risks. There was no further incident until the final whistle sounded, with play on the Wallabies 25 line.

FINAL SCORE

	G. T. Pts.
Wales	*1 2 9
Wallabies	0 2 6

* Penalty goal.

"Forward's" Comments

Only a penalty goal, but it sufficed, for it means not only the advantage of a three-point win, but the maintenance of what Wales prizes as a national possession—prestige. That is the one virtue which has to be more jealously guarded than any other, and on the principle that a miss is as good as a mile, Wales has just reason for rejoicing to-night over a triumph which is satisfactory, if not signal, in its character.

Never was a game of football played into which the element of doubt or uncertainty entered more largely than this to-day, for the simple reason that the Wallabies on the one hand had

against the Springboks at Swanscombe the year afterwards.

ALL TRIERS TO THE END.

Whatever may be thought of the general characteristics of to-day's play and of the relative merits of the two sides, it must be conceded or indifference in the Welshmen's play. They were all triers from beginning to end, and if there was a lack of that men's play, the game was not a play of movement characterised by the play of previous Welsh teams, the game was never under suspicion. Both the attack and defence demonstrated the sterling qualities of their race, and it was no small achievement to have triumphed over a side stronger, heavier, and faster men even by the small margin of three points.

It may be argued with some show of reason that the Welshmen had the luck of the day, on their side, but it cannot be contended for a single moment that one of the three scores obtained was in the slightest degree fluky in character. It may also be contended that the Welshmen were not thoroughly well won by a penalty goal is not wholly satisfactory, but again the answer to such a contention is that the irregularity which led to that penalty goal being kicked was so glaring and so obvious that it would have been an injustice if the three points had not accrued from it.

The Wallabies must naturally feel disappointed that they have failed to reach the goal of their ambition in triumphing over Wales, but no one can deprive them of the consolation and the credit of having striven like heroes to attain that end, and to have failed in their laudable endeavour only by the same number of points as their neighbours across the Tasman Sea.

Criticising the game in detail, apart from its general aspect, it must be confessed that in one department at least they held the mastery over Wales. That was in their more scientific scrimmaging and cleaner and more frequent healing out of the ball. Throughout the whole game their forwards were superior to the Welsh eight in this important department of the play, and had the positions of the two packs been reversed it is more than conceivable that the Welsh backs would have piled up a bigger score than they did.

This seems a paradox, in view of the fact that the Australian three-quarters were faster and heavier than the home quartette, but the seeming inconsistency is annulled by the fact that the Welsh three-quarters, though lighter and less speedy, were cleverer and more finished in their methods. What was also a contributory cause to their inability to take full advantage of their physical superiority was the comparative inaptitude of their half-backs, both of whom failed equally to avail themselves of their innumerable opportunities of cutting out openings for their threes.

WELSHMEN'S DEFENCE.

They also made the mistake of playing too much to Russell on the right wing, although it must be stated that the fast and dashing thirteen-stoner came within an ace of saving the game in its closing stages, being only pushed into touch a yard from the line. In the last twenty minutes the Wallabies were so clearly and distinctly on top that a couple of scores seemed inevitable, and that they failed to drive home their attacking powers to a tangible point is a tribute in itself to the sturdy and courageous defence of the Welsh backs. In this connection it is a distinct pleasure to pay the highest made of praise to J. L. Williams for the manner in which he met and fearlessness with which he tackled Russell. Quite half a dozen times did he bring down his much heavier opponent when the odds were unmentionable against him doing so, and I have a reluctance in confessing that he acted wisely, not only in the interest of his own reputation, but in that of his side in retaining his place.

Phil Hopkins, on the other wing, by virtue of playing his first international game, could have been reasonably excused if he had betrayed some amount of nervousness, but he was equally as cool, resourceful, and plucky as J. L. Williams, and the way in which he saved the situation at the time when danger seriously threatened, by his safe catching of the ball and the deft and accurate in the closing stages of the game, was the best and most conclusive proof of his stamina and resource.

J. P. Jones, who was the other recruit in

[For continuation see stop press.]

Crisp Critiques

BY PERCY BUSH

So Wales has been proclaimed the victor. Well, perhaps that is as it should be, because she lagged nine points against the six the Wallabies borrowed. But, speaking dispassionately and in a spirit of calm reflection, one cannot help thinking that the scores might have been reversed without much heartburning. By which I mean that the Welsh certainly be accounted lucky to win on the actual run of the play. This remark will be borne out by what follows. Directly the game started, or, at any rate, before it was five minutes old, it was apparent that the importance of the occasion was going to spoil the contest, as a spectacle, for a time at any rate.

It was a case of "One is afraid and the other dares not," and the men seemed afraid almost to touch the ball for fear that an advantage might be given to the other side by a mistake on the part of the man with the ball.

The very first time Winkley got the ball he dropped his kick overlong, with the intention making them seem out of the Australians by quence was that he was hit very hard, and as a fact, did not recover from the blow for a considerable time.

Just to mention the first bit of luck Wales had, I instance the try which the Wallabies had disallowed twelve minutes from the start. Passing was taking place, and Man dible was left with a clear course, and actually went on and scored. But in taking his pass the ball, which came very high to him, hit him on the shoulder, and he had that was not as it fell from the shoulder. Now, so the try should have been by any means, and the fact that it was not allowed, if it had been, Wales might easily have been on the "Candle Toasting-fork," for the moral effect of the try would have been great.

Control and doing well, but a man cannot see everything, and it, doubtless, looked to him like a knock out.

Later, the Road-guards of applause were opened, when Travers got over for Wales. It was after some wonderfully clever work by Hopkins, who was on his feet, and by way through. On this occasion he doubled and dodged and wriggled, and then, seeing Travers' unmarked, Philip handed over a quick Traversed, and the line were awarded a try. It seemed to me that Travers lost the ball, and did not ground it, and to my mind, Wales were distinctly lucky to bet these 3 points. Some grand forward rushes were seen both by Wales and the attack Australia borrowed the ball, and passing to one another as coolly as if at practice, they scored the grandest try I have ever seen. Three points.

Then Hopkins grandly tackled Carroll when

the cheap side of the singing over the attempts were made to start "Hen Wlad" or attempt died away through feebleness.

So when the Wallabies came into the field, song—by the way was there ever anything more like tomfoolery on the football field no answering melody sweeping over the field with the earnestness and the national enthusiasm as a football crowd has never been moved before.

Still, there was no absence of enthusiasm when the teams came into the arena, and if the crowd were not out to sing they were clearly out to cheer Wales to victory.

Play had not long started before we were promised a fast, open, and interesting game. For the first five or ten minutes it was anybody's game. Both sides were shaping well. The Welshmen were showing great form—initiative, speed, dash, everything that goes to the making of victory. If only they can keep it up!

Very soon there came a brilliant dash by Trew, which ended in the first score. Trew and backs, eluding everybody and not making himself, but he did the next best thing. He enabled Travers to score.

This was an encouraging start. More encouraging still was the shaping of the Welsh three-quarter line. We had all been in great doubt about that line, but here they were passing and back passing with something of the genius and the sting that belonged to Welsh back play in its palmiest days.

Unfortunately, it was after such a bout of Welsh passing and re-passing that delighted the Welsh spectators that the Australians scored. Here, too, was passing and re-passing of the baffling and irresistible order, and Richards scored for the Australians after a movement perfect in its organisation, though slow enough in speed.

The Australians were not without their partisans in the crowd. Sitting in the committee seats were a few ladies—fair-haired and dressed in the pale blue colours of the Suffragettes, shouting down a Cabinet Minister could not have been more enthusiastic or more vociferous.

The game began to get a trifle keen towards the end of the first half. Some of the players were inclined to lose their tempers. In front of the Welsh goal-posts, some ten or fifteen yards out, Trew was very roughly tackled. Whether it was more than a tackle cannot be said with certainty. I was told later that Trew had had a kick in the forehead. My informant said a deliberate kick. I decline to believe that of any man fit to be included in a football team.

Anyway, one of the Welsh forwards came menacingly out of the crush, and one of the Australian players jumped rather quickly out of his way. Trew was hors de combat for a while. But only for a while. His return to the field of play was greeted with a mighty cheer.

At the close of the first half the teams had scored a try apiece. It had been a close, fast game, and it would be difficult to say slightly, perhaps, the advantage was with the Wallabies, whose backs were always more dangerous when they were set in motion. But the Welsh backs were, nevertheless, playing exceedingly well, and it is fair to set down here that J. P. Jones, who had been regarded as the weak link in the chain, played during the first half a game that more than justified his inclusion in the fifteen.

The first great incident in the second half was the try which Phil Hopkins scored for Wales, but for which the forwards, led by Tom Evans, of Llanelly, must be given the credit. The forwards started a dribble and rush movement near the centre. It was a fine, dashing bit of work, heads working as well as feet. Near the end of the forward pass gave a good kick out. There was a rush for the ball, and Phil Hopkins, watching for his opportunities and racing at top speed, got there first. Winfield, whose kicking all through had not been up to his standard, for he was never confident of finding touch with his old sureness, again failed to convert.

But the forgiveness of Winfield was to follow. Wales were awarded a penalty mid way between the half and the Wallabies' 25. It was a penalty for off-side play of a fragrant character. Winfield took the kick, and the ball went sailing through the posts, amidst a tremendous shout.

Nine points to three. Things were looking particularly hopeful for Wales, with less than ten minutes more to play. Only a desperate effort could save the Wallabies from defeat, leave alone secure them the victory.

They certainly made the effort. Quite as desperately the Welshmen tried to keep them out, but they were no denying them, and away in the far corner of the field, Russell, operating on the blind side of the scrummage, slipped through.

There was no goal. With only three points difference and five minutes more to play, the game waged fast and furious. More than once the Wallabies were dangerous, but Phil Hopkins, shone with magnificent feeling, saving the situation as often as it looked serious. Once the Welsh backs retaliated with a passing bout, but that only came to an end when Hopkins, having eluded the full-back, was stopped by an opponent who cut across the field.

A minute later Russell, on the Australians' right wing, was soon making for the line. As a matter of fact, he crossed, but a red flag waving showed that he had been in touch. Relief came with a long kick into touch at half-way.

Excitement was intense to the close, which came soon afterwards—a close which left Wales victorious by only three points, the accurate index margin of a strenuously-fought game.

WHAT WAS THE SCORE?

The Goal That Was No Goal

"You put the score down as nine points to eight," called out Miss Doris Woods to "Old Heathen."

"Why do you wish me to do that?" he asked.

"Because we had a goal after our first try," said Winfield.

The Cardiff full-back, who was near, corroborated her statement, so that the final should read:—

Wales	1 2 9
Wallabies	1 1 8

CWMBRAN V TREDEGAR

Played at Cwmbran, Tredegar started operations, and Cwmbran found touch near the centre. The visitors then put the home-sters on the defence until a free kick brought relief. Good work by the visiting forwards enabled them to press, and their left wing got away fine, and had hard time in not scoring. Tredegar kept pegging away, and Spillane at length dropped a goal, and soon afterwards Tredegar again crossed and scored, but the kick failed.

the penalty was fair. About the tries the Australians had more merit than those scored by their opponents.

WALLABIES' FIRST TRY.

"What about your first try. Was it converted?" It may have been, and Winfield says so. leading side, for they would have attacked with more earnestness, as, instead of defence, our fellows, with a lead of five points to three, would have attacked in better spirit. I am not prepared to say it was a goal, but it is just the general impression. The Welshmen deserved their tries for Hopkins got it.

Owen and Jones were the best of the game, and the Welsh forwards in the end. Waller did well and followed up a

I wish to convey the thanks of the Australian team to the Welsh crowd for the generous congratulatory the Welsh side.

I am Broken-hearted!

FAIR DAMSELS INTERVIEWED

Every one on the ground gazed with interest upon the two young ladies dressed in costly white furs, who came on the field with great stately steps, the Anglo-Australian, and they had come straight down from London to see the match.

Miss DORIS WOODS: I am broken-hearted. I am never going to see any more play. I have prayed and prayed for them. The sun when they are in form.

Miss ALLEN WOODS: I think that the boys played rotten! They didn't play up to their form.

W. DIX—Our fellows lost a lot of opportunities. The same old inevitable penalty, but it was quite right. A very good referee. The first try was allowed.

Mr. E. S. MARKS (one of the Wallabies committee): Hard lines for "Boxer" Russell. He was only a foot out still, it was a good game.

Mr. STANLEY WICKHAM (Wallabies assistant-manager), who was caught whistling "Scapan Fach": Thank God, it is all over. J. T. BARNETT: A hard go. It was deuced hard in front.

The Referee

Mr. GIL EVANS, the referee. No thanks. I must positively decline to oblige you, and I think it is my duty to refuse to express opinions.

WELSH CAPTAIN'S VIEWS

W. Trew (the Welsh captain), was feeling the ill-effects of the kick he received on the forehead, and looked very ill in the pavilion. The Swansea centre, stated that he felt rotten after his injury.

"I am proud of the boys. They played up to form. The Australians are a hard team to beat," said Trew in conclusion. He would not be drawn into further conversation.

ALDERMAN ROBERT HUGHES, the Cymrodor—I am too full for words. If you had come to me when the match was being played you could have had columns of comments from me, and some excited kicks and thumps in the bargain!

Mr. GUS HAYES—Watts played a grand game. That first try of the Wallabies was beautiful, and their last run deserved reward.

Mr. T. R. MILLS, chairman of the Llanelly Football Committee—I think that every Welshman would have been satisfied if the result had been a draw, as on the run of play I do not think that the Wallabies deserved to lose. I believe the referee would have been very different if two Welsh forwards, "Fishguard" Thomas and D. L. Bowen, had been in.

LORD MAYOR OF CARDIFF—It was a very fine game—fast right from the start to finish. Nothing to choose between them, and I think a draw would have been popular.

K. A. GAVIN—Wales deserved to win, although our fellows lost a lot of opportunities. The English papers have been calling our fellows all that is dirty, but I know all our men, and they are the best sportsmen that ever went on a field. It is too bad. When we played Oxford they squeaked every time a man was tackled—you know, a good, hard tackle, like we saw to-day.

ACCIDENT TO A WALLABY

Ward Prentice, who was twice kicked in the month early in the game, had to have a couple of stitches put in after the match.

PROGRAMME OF MUSIC

Tongwynlais Temperance Silver Band

The following was the programme played on the Cardiff Arms Park this afternoon:—

1. March—"Blaze Away".....By A. Holmman
2. Vocal Valse—"My Colleen".....Felix Burns
3. Selection—Welsh Airs.....E. Hare
4. Cornet Polka—"The Cornet King".....J. A. Greenwood
5. Selection—Jolly Jingles on Popular Comic Songs.....John Neat

Synopsis—"Put Me Among the Girls" (a Laeie from Llanochair). "You Shall Live in a Chalet." "I Wonder if the Girl I Am Thinking of is Thinking of Me?" "Red Wing." &c.

Humorous March—"Oh, You Women".....Shirley Douglas

Descriptive Gallop—"A Motor Ride".....Thos. Bidgood

Synopsis—Early morning—the clock strikes seven—arrival of the motor—the start—back of bounds—a collision—halting for repairs—the village smithy, &c.

Waltz—"Queen Alexandra".....J. Peckard

March—"Gladstone's Farewell".....H. L. Blankenshaw

ON THE ARRIVAL OF THE TEAMS.

Welsh team—"Hen Wlad-ry-nhadan."

Australian team—"Our Colonials."

Conductor—Mr. A. W. Oliver.

THE WALLABIES' RECORD

Devon	Won	4	3	29	1	1	7
Gloucestershire	Won	5	1	18	0	2	6
Cornwall	Won	5	3	37	0	1	3
Glamorgan	Won	3	1	24	0	1	3
Pennsylvania	Won	3	1	11	2	0	3
North and Abercrombie	Won	3	2	19	0	1	3
London	Won	5	0	12	0	6	3
Morgantownshire	Won	3	3	24	0	0	3
London (Richmond)	Won	5	1	24	0	0	3
Cornwall (at Stadium)	Won	1	0	2	0	0	3
Army and Navy	Won	1	0	2	0	0	3
Durham	Won	1	0	2	0	0	3
N'hamland & Cumbland	Won	1	0	2	0	0	3
Wales	Won	3	3	24	0	0	3
Cheshire	Won	3	3	24	0	0	3
London (Blackheath)	Won	3	3	24	0	0	3
Cambridge	Won	3	3	24	0	0	3
London	Won	3	3	24	0	0	3
Oxford	Won	3	3	24	0	0	3
Leicestershire	Won	3	3	24	0	0	3
Yorkshire	Won	3	3	24	0	0	3
Southern	Won	3	3	24	0	0	3
Midland Counties	Won	3	3	24	0	0	3
Angle-Welsh	Won	3	3	24	0	0	3

Summary—Played, 21; won, 19; lost, 2; Points for, 57; against, 54.

* Excluding to-day's match.

when touched on the ankles and brought down a few yards from the line. Carroll, on the left wing, put in a magnificent run, and looked like going through, but was finely tackled by Winfield, who was smartly covered by Trew. The Wallabies now made desperate efforts to draw level, and were having the better of the game. Their play, however, was ragged. The Welsh forwards now brought off the most.

Magnificent Rush

of the day, taking the ball at their toes right from their own 25 to the Wallabies' quarters, and it was only the fearless way in which the Colonials went down for the ball which prevented a rout. For a palpable off-side in his own 25, McKivatt was penalised, and the ball was placed for Winfield, five yards inside the ten yards line, and the Welsh custodian retrieved some of his mistakes in not having formed touch by kicking a magnificent goal, and thus giving his side a lead of six points, amid another scene of characteristic Welsh enthusiasm. The Wallabies seemed to be stung to the quick to this unexpected reverse, and rushed at a terrific pace across into the Welsh 25. One of the forwards, securing from the line-out, kicked over the line, and Johnnie Williams touched down with a bunch of forwards on top of him. Wales benefited by the kick out, and carried play over the centre line, where Winfield, securing possession, raced across the ground from right to left, and passed to J. P. Jones, who gave a slightly forward pass. The Wallabies kicked down to the Welsh 25, and Winfield had to put in a flying kick, which sent the ball into the hands of Russell, who looked a scorer, until finely tackled by J. L. Williams. In the next minute, however, Russell picked up in the loose, and, putting in a powerful run, got right through the defence, and

Scored Wide Out

the kick at goal failing. With the Australian forwards getting the ball from the scrum much oftener than the Welshmen, there was constant danger of the Welsh lead of three points being wiped out, and this was especially so when Russell kicked across from the right wing, but Phil Hopkins, running across, smartly made his mark and saved the situation. The same player did the same thing a moment later, and deservedly won the applause of the spectators all round the ring. The Wallabies were strong on the attack in the Welsh quarter, when Owen, receiving from his forwards, passed out to Dick Jones, who put in one of his old-time runs, and passed to J. P. Jones, who gave at the right moment to Trew, who gave to Phil Hopkins, who received splendidly, and, after beating the full-back, was tackled by one of the three-quarters, who had out across just in the nick of time. Within a few minutes of the end the Wallabies made a terrific onslaught on the Welsh line through the right wing, and Russell, when he looked bound to get over was finely tackled and pushed into touch by J. R. Jones when five yards from home. Smart work by Owen in passing out to Winfield enabled the latter to punt into touch near the centre and thus remove the danger

The Welshmen Further Improve

their position by putting in a fine forward rush into the visitors' 25, where a penalty for legs up against Wales gained no advantage. In the last closing stages the Welshmen were strictly on the aggressive, but made a point of keeping the ball as close as possible and taking no risks. There was no further incident until the final whistle sounded, with play on the Wallabies 25 line.

FINAL SCORE

	G.	T.	Pts.
Wales	-	-	*129
Wallabies	-	0	26

* Penalty goal.

"Forward's" Comments

Only a penalty goal, but it sufficeth, for it means not only the advantage of a three-point win, but the maintenance of what Wales prizes as a national possession—prestige. That is the one virtue which has to be more jealously guarded than any other, and on the principle that a miss is as good as a mile, Wales has just reason for rejoicing to-night over a triumph which is satisfactory, if not signal, in its character.

Never was a game of football played into which the element of doubt or uncertainty entered into more largely than this of to-day, for the simple reason that the Wallabies on the one hand had shown such varying form in previous matches as to puzzle the best judges of true Rugby merit, while the Welsh team on the other hand was to a very material extent, an experimental one.

more try over Wales, and that was in their more scientific scrumming and cleaner and frequent heeling out of the ball. Throughout the whole game their forwards were superior to the Welsh eight in this important department of the play, and had the positions of the two packs been reversed it is more than conceivable that the Welsh backs would have piled up a bigger score than they did.

This seems a paradox, in view of the fact that the Australian three-quarters were faster and heavier than the home quartette, but the seeming inconsistency is annulled by the fact that the Welsh three-quarters, though lighter and less speedy, were cleverer and more finished in their methods. What was also a contributory cause to their inability to do full advantage of their physical superiority was the comparative inaptitude of their half-backs, both of whom failed equally to avail themselves of their innumerable opportunities of cutting out openings for their threees.

WELSHMEN'S DEFENCE

They also made the mistake of playing too much to Russell on the right wing, although it must be stated that the fast and dashing thirteen-stoner came within an ace of saving the game in its closing stages, being only pushed into touch a yard from the line. In the last twenty minutes the Wallabies were so clearly and distinctly on top that a couple of scores seemed inevitable, and that they failed to drive home their attacking powers to a tangible point is a tribute to the sturdy and courageous defence of the Welsh backs. In this connection it is a distinct pleasure to pay the highest made of praise to J. L. Williams for the magnificent pluck and fearlessness with which he tackled Russell. Quite hair-raising times did he bring down his much heavier opponent when the odds were unmentionable against him, and he has a reluctance in confessing that he acted wisely, not only in the interest of his own reputation, but in that of his side in retaining his place.

Phil Hopkins, on the other wing, by virtue of playing his first international game, could have been reasonably excused if he had betrayed some amount of nervousness, but he was equally as cool, resourceful, and plucky as J. L. Williams, and the way in which he saved the situation at the time when danger seriously threatened, by his safe catching of the ball and the skilful marking in the closing stages of the game, was the best and most convincing proof of his stamina and resource.

J. P. Jones, who was the other recruit in [For continuation see stop press.]

Crisp Critiques

BY PERCY BUCH

So Wales has been proclaimed the victor. Well, perhaps it should be, because she bagged nine points against the six the Wallabies borrowed. But, speaking dispassionately and in a spirit of calm reflection, one cannot help thinking that the scores might have been reversed without much heart burning. By which I mean that we may certainly be accounted lucky to win on the actual run of the play. This remark will be borne out by what follows. Directly the game started, or, at any rate, before it was five minutes old, it was apparent that the importance of the occasion was going to spoil the contest, as a spectacle, for a time at any rate.

It was a case of "One is afraid and the other dares not," and the men seemed afraid almost to touch the ball for fear that an advantage might be given to the other side by a mistake on the part of the man with the ball.

The very first time Winky got the ball he delayed his kick overlong, with the intention of making time for the Australians by making them follow all the way. The consequence was that he was hit very hard, and, as a fact, did not recover from the blow for a considerable time.

Just to mention the first bit of luck Wales had, I instance the try which the Wallabies had allowed twelve minutes from the start. Passing was taking place, and Man dible was left with a clear course, and actually went on and scored. But in taking his pass the ball, which came very high to him, hit him on the shoulder, and he had to catch it as it fell from the shoulder. Now, that was not a knock-on by any means, and so the try should have been allowed; if it had been, Wales might easily have been on the "Candide Toasting-fork," for the moral effect of the try would have been great.

Gil Evans was keeping the game well under control and doing well, but a man cannot see everything, and it, doubtless, looked to him like a knock on.

Later, the flood-gates of applause were opened, when Travers got over for Wales. It was after some wonderfully clever work by Hopkins, who was on his toes all the way through. On this occasion he doubled and dodged and wriggled, and then, seeing Travers unmarked, Phillip handed over the spheroid, the few steps to the line were quickly traversed, and Wales were awarded a try. It seemed to me that Travers lost the ball, and did not ground it, and, to my mind, Wales were distinctly lucky to bet these 3 points. Some grand forward rushes were seen, both packs playing grandly, and then with Wales on the attack Australia borrowed the ball, and passing to one another as coolly as if at practice, they scored the grandest try I have ever seen. Three points all.

Then Hopkins grandly tackled Carroll when he seemed bound to score. Ted Maubille lost a grand chance through having a bad pass sent him.

A nasty incident occurred hereabouts. Trew had stopped a rush splendidly, but was

passing and re-passing that delighted the Here, too, was passing and re-passing of the Wallabies after a movement perfect in its execution, though slow enough in speed.

The Australians were not without their partisans in the crowd, sitting in the committee seats were a few ladies—fair-haired and dressed in the pale blue colours of the Australians, with white, fur cloaks. Suffragettes shouting down a Cabinet Minister could not have been more enthusiastic or more vociferous.

The game began to get a trifle keen towards the end of the first half. Some of the players were inclined to lose their tempers. In front of the Welsh goal-posts, some ten or fifteen yards out, Trew was very roughly tackled. Whether it was more than a tackle cannot be said with certainty. I was told later that Trew had had a kick in the forehead. My informant said a deliberate kick. I decline to believe that of any man fit to be included in a football team.

Anyway, one of the Welsh forwards came menacingly out of the scrum, and one of the Australian players jumped rather quickly out of his way. Trew was hors de combat for a while. But only for a while. His return to the field of play was greeted with a mighty cheer.

At the close of the first half the teams had scored a try apiece. It had been a close game, and it would be difficult to say which side had really held the upper hand. Slightly, perhaps, the advantage was with the Wallabies, whose backs were always more dangerous when they were set in motion. But the Welsh backs were, nevertheless, playing exceedingly well, and it is fair to set down here that J. P. Jones, who had been regarded as the weak link in the chain, played during the first half a game that more than justified his inclusion in the fifteen.

The first great incident in the second half was the try which Phil Hopkins scored for Wales, but for which the forwards, led by Tom Evans, of Llanelly, must be given the credit. The forwards started a dribble and rush movement near the centre. It was a fine, dashing bit of work, heads working as well as feet. Near the line one of the forwards gave a good kick over. There was a rush for the ball, and Phil Hopkins, watching for his opportunities and racing at top speed, got there first. Winfield, whose kicking all through had not been up to his standard, for he was never confident of finding touch with his old sureness, again failed to convert.

But the forgiveness of Winfield was to follow. Wales were awarded a penalty mid way between the half and the Wallabies' 25. It was a penalty for off-side play of a fragment character. Winfield took the kick, and the ball went sailing through the posts, amidst a tremendous shout.

Nine points to three! Things were looking particularly hopeful for Wales, with less than ten minutes more to play. Only a desperate effort could save the Wallabies from defeat, leave alone secure them the victory.

They certainly made the effort. Quite as desperately the Welshmen tried to keep them out, but there was no denying them, and away in the far corner of the field, Russell, operating on the blind side of the scrum, slipped through.

There was no goal. With only three points difference and five minutes more to play, the game waged fast and furious. More than once the Wallabies were dangerous, but Phil Hopkins shone with magnificent fielding, saving the situation as often as it looked serious. Once the Welsh backs retaliated with a passing bout, but that only came to an end when Hopkins, having eluded the full-back, was stopped by an opponent who cut across the field.

A minute later Russell, on the Australians' right wing, was seen making for the line. As a matter of fact, he crossed, but a red flag waving showed that he had been in touch. Relief came with a long kick into touch at half-way.

Excitement was intense to the close, which came soon afterwards—2 close which left Wales victorious by only three points, the accurate index margin of a strenuously-fought game.

WHAT WAS THE SCORE?

The Goal That Was No Goal

"You put the score down as nine points to eight," called out Miss Doris Woods to "Old Heathen."

"Why do you wish me to do that?" he asked.

"Because we had a goal after our first try. Ask Winfield."

The Cardiff full-back, who was near, corroborated her statement, so that the final should read:—

Wales	1	2	9
Wallabies	1	1	8

CWMBRAN V TREDEGAR

Played at Cwmbran. Tredegar started operations, and Cwmbran found touch near the centre. The visitors then put the home-sters on the defence until a free kick brought relief. Good work by the visiting forwards enabled them to press, and their left wing got away finely, and had hard lines in not scoring. Tredegar kept pegging away, and Spillane at length dropped a goal, and soon afterwards Tredegar again crossed and scored, but the kick failed.

Half-time score:	G.	T.	Pts.
Tredegar	1	1	7
Cwmbran	0	0	0

Final score:	G.	T.	Pts.
Tredegar	2	3	13
Cwmbran	0	0	0

but it was quite right. A very good referee, but we think Travers lost the ball when the first try was allowed.

Mr. E. S. MARKS (one of the Wallabies committee): Hard lines for "Boxer" Russell. He was only a foot out still, it was a good game.

Mr. STANLEY WICKHAM (Wallabies assistant-manager) who was caught whistling "Scapan Fach": Thank God, it is all over! J. T. HARNETT: A hard go it was denced hard in front.

The Referee

Mr. GIL EVANS, the referee.—No thanks. I must positively decline to oblige you, and I think it is my duty to refuse to express opinions.

WELSH CAPTAIN'S VIEWS

W. Trew (the Welsh captain), was feeling the ill-effects of the kick he received on the forehead, and looked very ill in the pavilion. The Swansea centre, stated that he felt "ruken" after his injury.

I am proud of the boys. They played up to form. The Australians are a hard team to beat," said Trew in conclusion. He would not be drawn into further conversation.

ALDERMAN ROBERT HUGHES, the Gymnast.—I am too full for words. If you had played you could have had columns of comments from me, and some excited kicks and thumps in the bargain.

Mr. GUS HAYES.—Watts played a grand game. That first try of the Wallabies was beautiful, and their last run deserved reward.

Mr. T. R. MILLIS, chairman of the Llanelly Football Committee.—I think that every Welshman would have been satisfied if the result had been a draw, as on the run of play I do not think that the Wallabies deserved to lose. I believe the result would have been very different if two Llanelly forwards, "Fishguard" Thomas and D. L. Bowen, had been in.

LORD MAYOR OF CARDIFF.—It was a very fine game—fast, right from the start to finish. Nothing to choose between them, and I think a draw would have been popular.

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Synopsis—"Put Me Among the Girls," "She's a Lassie from Lancashire," "You Shall Live in a Chalet," "I Wonder if the Girl I Am Thinking of is Thinking of Me?" "Red Wing," &c.

6. Humorous March—"Oh, You Women".....Shipley Douglas
7. Descriptive Gallop—"A Motor Ride".....Thos. Bidgood

Synopsis—Early morning—the clock strikes seven—a rival of the motors—the start—a pack of hounds—a collision—halting for repairs—the village smithy, &c.

8. Waltz—"Queen Alexandra".....J. Poccardine

March—"Gladstone's Farewell".....H. L. Blankenburg

ON THE ARRIVAL OF THE TEAMS.

Welsh team—"Hen-wlad-y-nghedd." Australian team—"Our Colonials."

Conductor—Mr. A. W. Chivers.

THE WALLABIES' RECORD

Devonshire.....Won	3	4	16	0	0	0
Gloucestershire.....Won	2	4	16	0	0	0
Cornwall.....Won	3	4	13	0	1	5
Glamorgan.....Won	2	4	16	0	1	0
Pembridge.....Won	2	2	11	0	0	1
Neath and Aberavon.....Won	3	3	15	0	0	0
Llanelly.....Lost	1	0	3	1	2	8
Monmouthshire.....Abandoned						
London (Richmond).....Won	0	1	3	0	0	0
Cornwall (at Stadium).....Won	5	7	32	0	0	1
Army and Navy.....Won	2	0	8	0	1	6
Durham.....Won	4	5	23	0	1	7
Northumberland & Cumb'land.....Won	1	1	13	0	2	6
Cheshire.....Won	5	3	27	0	0	1
London (Blackheath).....Won	3	2	24	0	0	1
Cambridge.....Won	1	2	11	0	2	9
Oxford.....Won	2	2	19	0	0	1
Lancashire.....Won	0	4	12	0	2	6
Yorkshire.....Won	3	3	24	0	0	0
Somerset.....Won	1	1	8	0	0	0
Midland Counties.....Lost	1	0	5	0	2	15
Anglo-Welsh.....Won	3	5	24	0	0	0

Summary—Played, 21; won, 19; lost, 2. Points for, 367; against, 84.

* Excluding to-day's match.

The Welsh Victory.

AUSTRALIA'S FIRST TRY.

FULL-BACK SAYS HE GOALED.

P. Carmichael, the Wallabies' full-back, claims to have majorised the first Australian try in the match with Wales at Cardiff on Saturday. Writing to the editor of the "Echo," Carmichael says:—With reference to the question whether I converted Richards' try, I would crave leave to unhesitatingly state that the ball passed within the post fully a foot. It was as fair a goal as ever I kicked, and I remarked to Richards immediately afterwards, "That makes my fiftieth, Tom." He replied, "Yes, Phil, and a good one, too." I do this in fairness to the team as well as myself.

Commenting on the play and dealing with Carmichael's share of the day's honours, "Old Stager" says:—"I now come to Carmichael, the full-back. He had the better of the kicking duel with Winfield. Carmichael, however, did nothing sensational, but his play was good. How he missed that easy goal shot is a mystery. He is emphatic in declaring he goaled. It is significant, however, that Mr Roberts, the Australians' touch judge, did not signal a goal, and Mr Ack Llewellyn, the Welsh official deputising Mr Tom Williams, the appointed touch judge, is equally emphatic that the goal was missed.

Most of the Australians, I hear, maintain that the ball flew high several inches inside the post with an outward swing like a boomerang, and Richards, who scored the try and placed the ball for Carmichael, agrees with the full-back. Fortunately this would not have affected the issue—had a goal been gained Wales would have won by one point instead of three. I regret, however, that the question of the ruling of the referee and both umpires has been raised. Appeal there is none, and a consensus of opinion on the part of the three officials should have satisfied Carmichael and those who incline to his belief that they must be wrong and the authorities right."

The "Manchester Guardian" representative says:—Carmichael's kick at goal, too, from one of their tries was only inches outside the post, so much like a goal in fact did it look that many spectators were astonished to see the ball dropped out from the 25 instead of kicked off at half-way, and began to clamour that the Australians had been "done" out of two points.

Mr Walter Rees thinks that the "gate" at the Wales v. Wallabies' match will total about £2,000. The record is the "gate" at Swansea when Wales met the South Africans. The next largest was that at Cardiff, when Wales met the New Zealanders, when the receipts amounted to approximately £2,600.

Among the spectators was Mr Leopold Hirsch, who chartered a special train from Swindon to Cardiff. He travelled alone.

In the big crowd were 7,000 excursionists from West Wales, Swansea and Llanelli being strongly represented. There were no scenes of disorder about the streets.

We are officially informed that the receipts at the gate in the Wales v. Wallabies match on Saturday amounted to £1,990.

Saw Match For Nothing.

The Oxford and Cambridge Rugby match is not a Society event, like the cricket match at Lord's, but it brought to Queen's Club on Saturday nearly 20,000 supporters of the rival teams. Queen's Club has never held a larger crowd. Indeed, so great was the stress at the gates just before the kick-off that the authorities very wisely threw the gates open and hundreds saw the great match of the year for nothing.

TRAVERS'S TRY.

Sir,—We, the undersigned, have read with great surprise some of your correspondents' remarks re Travers's try in Saturday's match. We were in a thoroughly good position to see what occurred, and we agree that the try was as fair a try as any ever scored on the park.—We are, &c.,

WM. MILLWARD,
W. D. PHILLIPS,
D. MILLWARD,
J. JENKINS,
S. GEORGE,
MORGAN MILLWARD,
J. MORGAN,
W. JAMES DAVIES,
EMRYS EVANS,
DAVID HUGHES.

Taff's Well, Dec. 15.

AUSTRALIAN AND CARDIFF COMBINATION.

MR. PERCY BUSH'S TEAM PLAY FOR CHARITY.

[By "PENDRAGON,"]

	G.	T.	P'ts.
Percy Bush's Team	4	4	31
Cardiff Roxburghs	0	1	3

The Cardiff Arms Park was in a very soft condition for the charity match played there on Wednesday to assist the fund to provide Christmas dinners for poor families. Percy Bush's team was a combination of Australian and Cardiff players, who played seven forwards and three half-backs. The Roxburghs, who were much lighter and younger than their opponents, were allowed seventeen men, and they played five three-quarters and nine forwards. Teams:—

Percy Bush's Team: Back, H. B. Winfield; three-quarter backs, H. Daley, C. E. Parkinson, J. Stevenson, and E. E. Booth; half-backs, F. Wood, D. Furniss, and P. F. Bush; forwards, C. M'Murtrie, K. Gavin, J. Powell, E. McIntyre, T. Griffen, J. Pugsley, and N. E. Row.

Cardiff Roxburghs: Back, S. R. Jackson; three-quarter backs, T. Evans, C. Tombs, Ewan Davies, J. V. Thomas, and Rhys Williams; half-backs, T. Good and J. Tait; forwards, J. Fletcher, R. H. Gunn, E. C. M. Whitmore, E. Martin, H. Barte, J. Partington, W. Partington, D. K. Roberts, and Norman Coppock.

Referee: Mr. D. L. Evans, Cardiff.

The combined team did most of the pressing in the early stages, but the strenuous defence of the Roxburghs kept them from scoring. Booth, of the famous All Blacks, who was at left centre for Bush's team, made a couple of powerful, straight runs in true New Zealand style. T. Good, the Roxburghs inside half, made one excellent tackle of Percy Bush, which probably prevented a try. C. E. Parkinson, on the left wing, put in some clever play for the combined team. The nine Roxburgh forwards gave a lot of trouble, and twice nearly scored, and Tom Evans took a hasty pot shot at goal, the ball going low. When Pugsley, Row, and Gavin were making a fast dribble, S. R. Jackson effected a plucky save and kicked well to touch. Just after Jackson was injured, and Percy Bush getting a pass from the scrum, dropped one of his prettiest goals. Just after Wood, Bush, Booth, and Parkinson passed prettily on the left wing, and Wood receiving an inward pass ran in behind the posts for M'Murtrie to convert. In mid-field, however, the powerful Australian forward, caused much merriment by tackling Jock Tait, and gently turning him head over heels high in the air. Percy Bush made a wonderful run, and put Stevenson over for Winfield to convert.

Soon after the re-start Tom Evans made a clever dribble, and passed to Ewan Davies, who beat a number of opponents in brilliant style, and, showing a rare turn of speed, he ran in under the posts. Jackson made a wretched attempt to convert. After this Parkinson made a dashing run, and scored in the corner, the kick failing. Then tries were scored in rapid succession by Booth, Griffen, Gavin, and N. E. Row, the try by Griffen being converted by M'Murtrie. For Percy Bush's try Percy Bush made a great run from his own 25, and passed on the line. During the last ten minutes the Roxburghs attacked hotly, but could not score again.

FEATURES OF SATURDAY'S BIG MATCH.

DID TRAVERS SCORE?—DID CARMICHAEL GOAL?

There were two extraordinary features of Saturday's international match at Cardiff (writes "Pendragon") which have not received the notice they deserve. First of these was the alleged try scored by Travers, which was no try at all. As a fact, Travers was heavily collared just outside the line, and as he was falling to the ground the ball flew out of his grasp, rolled over the line, and was promptly touched down by an Australian. When Mr. Gil Evans, whose line of vision was obstructed by a group of players, awarded a try, scores of people behind the goal-posts, myself amongst them, were amazed, but, of course, Mr. Evans, like spectators in other parts of the field, didn't really see what happened. Personally, if I were asked to give evidence on the point, I should unhesitatingly say it was no try, and I know in this I should be supported by a large majority of the people behind the goal-posts, as we all began to talk about the incident immediately after the try was awarded.

The other extraordinary feature was the alleged goal kicked by Carmichael. This would seem to be a matter into which the element of doubt enters more deeply. At the same time, Carmichael himself, a number of the Australian players, H. B. Winfield, the Welsh full back, and numerous spectators who were at that end of the ground aver that Carmichael certainly did kick a goal. When it is recollected, however, that the umpires were in the best position to see, the matter will probably never be satisfactorily settled.

At the same time, if Carmichael kicked a goal and Travers didn't gain a try, then the Australians really scored eight points to six.

Therefore, it would be extremely interesting to have correspondence from spectators who were in a position to see, and who have their own opinions as to what really happened.

THE WALLABIES V. NEWPORT.

As the Newport committee have sold the copyright of the programme for next Saturday's match Australia v Newport, they felt themselves in honour bound not to disclose the home team, which was provisionally selected on Monday night. It may be taken, however, that the players are about as follows:—Back, F. W. Burt; three-quarter backs, Stanley Williams, Jack Jones, W. Priest, and Melville Baker; half-backs, T. H. Vile and Walter Martin; forwards (selected from), E. Thomas, P. D. Waller, J. E. C. Partidge, Dr. Smythe, E. Jenkins, G. Staite, H. Jarman, A. Hockey, J. Adams, and C. A. Evatt. There has been some talk of the two Caseys (J. and W.), who, though Newport men, have been playing for Cardiff, being desirous of helping Newport occasionally, and also a suggestion that G. Travers, the Pill Harriers' captain and Welsh forward, should be asked to play for Newport on such an occasion, especially as Newport will want weight and strength in front. Travers, however, has so far never parted with his allegiance to Pill to play for any other club.

THE WALES-WALLABY CONTROVERSY

Carmichael's Goal and Travers' Try.

CROWD AS REFEREE—A SUGGESTION

[By "FORWARD."]

One of the newest and least desirable developments of Rugby football is the craze for disputing the fairness or validity of tries and goals scored in big matches. The echoes of the fierce controversy over Deans' alleged try for the All Blacks against Wales three years ago have not yet died away, and one can never discuss the incidents of that historic struggle without hearing the question asked, "What about Deans' try?" Thousands of people who saw the match cling tenaciously to the belief that Deans scored, and will not at any cost forsake the opinion that the match ought to have ended either in a draw or a win for New Zealand. Poor Deans is dead, and lies buried in "God's country," but the memory of that disallowed try lives after him, and will ever remain one of the contentious points in football history. Mr. J. Dallas, who referee'd in that match, was perfectly convinced that Deans had been tackled a yard outside, and that, according to rule, he ought to have played the ball with his feet and not carry it forward in his hands with a second effort in order to place it over the goal-line. That is a rule which is overlooked by ninety out of every hundred football devotees who watch matches regularly Saturday after Saturday and season after season, and many of them cannot or will not be convinced that there is such a rule in existence. But, good or bad, it is a clear and distinct part of the laws of the game, and that is why Mr. Dallas refused to allow the try claimed for Deans.

By an extraordinary coincidence, a controversy has arisen over the try scored by Travers against the Wallabies last Saturday, the contention of a section of the spectators being that the Pill Harrier did not ground the ball over the line. Mr. Gil Evans, the referee, was convinced that he did, and allowed the try accordingly. No one can question the exceptional smartness or competence of Mr. Evans, and those who disagree with his ruling in this case can only urge against him that he made a mistake. All referees, being only human, are liable to make mistakes, and there never was a match played in which some mistakes have not been made. But the making of those mistakes does not alter the fact that the referee is the sole arbiter in a game, and he alone has the power to decide whether any score has been properly obtained or not. The spectators may disagree with his rulings, and they may rave and shout and even write letters to the newspapers, but all these things are waste of time and energy and are altogether in vain.

It is only right that it should be so, or we should soon arrive at a stage when a vote would have to be taken of the spectators as to whether a try was a try or a goal was a goal. It would, undoubtedly, add to the gaiety of nations to see an official, armed with a megaphone, trotting out to the centre of the enclosure after every try had been scored and shouting, in stentorian tones:

"All in favour of a try say Aye,"
and afterwards,
"All against a try say No."

The same performance would have to be repeated after every kick at goal had been taken. I don't know what could be done in the event of the "Ayes" and the "Noes" being equally balanced. To count 30,000 hands would be a rather big job. It would be splendid fun, but it would not be sport. As the line of vision between me and Travers when he made a leap for the line was obstructed by a bunch of forwards, I was not in a position to see whether he grounded the ball over the line or not, but that is perfectly immaterial. I am content to know that the referee awarded the try, and, as he is the official in charge of the game, and is in a better position to see what is happening than the spectators can possibly be, his verdict ought to (and must) be accepted as final. If it is not so accepted the only logical outcome is chaos and confusion.

There is not a try scored which some spectator or other could not bring into question on a thousand and one grounds, and there are no two spectators out of 30,000 or 40,000 who would give exactly the same version of any one particular incident in a game. That is the reason, the fundamental principle, underlying the appointment of one capable and competent person to act as referee. Referees, I say again, make mistakes, but it will be news to many who find fault with them, or who profess to see more than them, to know that, according to rule, "A referee, once he has given a decision, cannot alter it, and his decision alone is final." For sport's sake, it must be so, and the makers of the laws knew what they were about.

There is a distinct tendency, if not something more, in these vain protests against the legality of scores to whittle away the credit due to the side which is fortunate enough to make them. Heaven knows, there is prejudice enough against Wales outside the country's borders without encouraging it within those borders, and it never was more painfully evident than in some of the London press criticisms on the match this week. Of course, we can well afford to laugh at them and be amused so long as they cannot alter the result of any game, whether that result be favourable to Wales or not. At the same time, it is grossly unfair that these attempts should be continuously made to belittle the prowess of Wales and to deprive her players of the credit due to them for their splendid achievements.

Another bone of contention was the alleged conversion of the Wallabies' first try by Carmichael. This is even more absurd than the dispute raging round Travers' try. The referee and two touch judges, representing either side, placed themselves in the best possible position to judge whether the ball passed between the two posts or not. All three were of one mind that the ball went outside, and to argue that it went inside is tantamount either to saying that the three officials were wrong, or that they connived at depriving the Australians of two points that were justly due to them. Is it likely that the Australian touch judge would have kept his flag down if the ball had passed over the crossbar? It is almost an insult to ordinary intelligence that such a question should be asked. It may be of advantage to many followers of the game to be reminded of the rule on this point also. It states: "The fact that it is now the duty of touch judges to stand at the goal-posts when kicks at goal are being taken does not affect the right of the referee to decide for himself whether a goal has been kicked or not, in the same way as he may decide whether the ball has gone into touch or not, he being the sole judge of matters of fact." That is plain English enough, and the fact that neither the referee nor touch judges thought it was a goal ought to put an end to a controversy which has no basis in fact, and which can only be productive of infinite harm.

