

Dec 17<sup>th</sup> 08

## THE WALLABIES WIN AT PONTYPRIDD.

GLAMORGAN LEAGUE PLAY A GOOD GAME.

[By "PENDRAGON."]

	G.	T.	P'ts.
Wallabies .....	1	2	11
Glamorgan League .....	0	1	3

Unfortunate weather prevailed at Pontypridd on Thursday for the match between Glamorgan League and the Wallabies, and in consequence the Taff Vale Park proved heavy going, and a pretty game was not anticipated. There were two changes in the Glamorgan team, D. G. Griffiths playing at full-back instead of Daly James, and J. Parker (Llwynypia United) at three-quarter instead of George Llewellyn. In the Australian team N. E. Row turned out in the forwards instead of Richards, the famous Cymric Australian "crack." There was a very fair attendance when the players lined out as follows:—

Australians: Back, P. Carmichael; three-quarter backs, W. Dix, A. J. McCabe, E. Mandible, and C. Russell; half-backs, F. Woods and M. Kivett; forwards, Barnett, Griffen, M. Arthur, Burge, M. Murtrie, Gavin, Row, and Craig.

Glamorgan League: Back, D. G. Griffiths; three-quarter backs, D. Davies (Penygraig) (right wing), J. Donovan (Mountain Ash) (right centre), J. Parker (Llwynypia United) (left wing), and H. Gravelle (Mountain Ash) (left centre); half-backs, D. Maide (Llwynypia) and Wyndham Jones (Mountain Ash); forwards, P. G. Dick Thomas (Mountain Ash), W. Morgan (Treorky), J. Polson (Treorky), Gordon Eustace (Treorky), Mog Griffiths (Pontypridd), Evan Evans (Penygraig), J. Caple (Mountain Ash), and M. Coleman (Maesteg).

Referee, Mr. T. D. Schofield (Bridgend).

Naturally, the ground was in a very sodden condition, and to make matters worse a heavy downpour was experienced just before the kick-off, and as a result there were numerous small pools on the field. Considering the importance of the match the attendance was disappointing, for at the start there were not more than 2,000 spectators present. Wood, the Australian captain, got the ball away very smartly from three successive scrums, and Dix put in good work on the left wing. McCabe cut out a really clever opening, but Mandible missed his pass. Mead, Wyndham Jones, and Parker brought off smart passing. Gravelle broke through nicely, but D. Davies (Penygraig) knocked on Donovan's pass. Again Mandible missed a pass with a good opening, and then fine passing between M. Kivett, McCabe, and Dix ended in the latter brilliantly dodging the opposing backs and scoring behind the posts, for Carmichael to add the extra points. W. Morgan made a great dribble, and the home backs then started a smart movement. J. Caple (Mountain Ash) received the ball about eight yards from the line, and, finding only one opponent in front, did the right thing in not risking another pass. When the Wallaby tried to tackle him Caple plunged and went over. The try was not converted. The League were playing surprisingly good football. McCabe was heavily thrown, and changed places with Dix.

There were about 3,000 present at the restart. Dix got across, but the pass was forward. Mandible scored from Wood's opening. Carmichael failing to augment, D. Griffiths, the home full-back, did some courageous tackling, and once stopped Russell magnificently when the other defenders had been beaten. M. Kivett made a clever burst, and when tackled two yards from the line by Griffiths managed to get the ball away to Row, who scored. Carmichael failed with the kick. At half-way Row got the ball on the fringe of the scrum and ran through the League backs, but Griffiths grassed him grandly. In the last minute Griffiths, who had played heroically for the home side, had to leave the field through injury to an arm.

## COMMENTS.

It was a good game, keenly and cleanly contested. As on Saturday last, the Australian forwards were beaten in the loose, but the Colonials' heeling was better. In the League team D. Griffiths, the young Penygraig full-back, was the hero of his side. His tackling was wonderful, and even the dashing "Boxer" Russell found him an insurmountable obstacle. The League backs did not possess the tactical skill of their opponents, but they all did fairly well, and, considering their opportunities, Wyndham Jones and Mead gave an excellent display at half. All the home backs defended ably. W. Morgan (Treorky) was the best of the forwards, and he certainly merits consideration from the Welsh Union. Caple and E. Thomas also performed creditably. Mandible was the poorest of the Australian backs, and made several serious errors. Dix, Carmichael, McCabe, and Wood did well. Craig, Row, and M. Arthur were the best of the forwards.



## A YULE-TIDE SCENE.

The Wallaby "Waits" in a Hot Quarter.



Is there More to Come ?



# WALLABIES' SLIM WIN

## GRUELLING GAME

### FIVE POINTS TO THREE

## Uskside's Big Fight

Nothing could be more depressing from a weather point of view than that which prevailed at Newport this afternoon for the first game between Newport and the Wallabies. The favourable change which began in the weather yesterday afternoon, with a rise in the barometer and a nice drying wind, was not maintained. Before midnight the rain had begun again to fall, and when the dawn dully broke this morning there was still hovering a dense mist. About noon a dirty fog began to settle, which thickened in the Newport arena until, at 2.30, the advertised time for starting the match, it was only with difficulty that the spectators could distinguish their friends on the opposite side of the ground.

The inclement conditions considerably interfered with the gate, which was 2,000 or 3,000 less than would have been the case on a dry day. At most the attendance could not have totalled more than 14,000 or 15,000, the top places on the grand stand and portions of the enclosure being very thin. There was a considerable number of people who do not usually attend football matches. The mayor (Mr. Graham W. White, J.P.) was on the grand stand in a silk hat, and with him the deputy-mayor (Dr. L. Davies, B.P.), as well as many members of the corporation and the town-clerk. Inside the ropes there was a considerable representation of the Monmouthshire County Council. A late start was occasioned by the non-arrival of Jack Jones from Pontypool, one of the Newport centre-three-quarters.

When the Wallabies appeared they were led out by the Giant Auger, who is this week at the Newport Empire. The teams were as follow:—

Newport: Back, Stanley Williams; three-quarter backs, R. C. S. Plummer, F. W. Burt, J. P. Jones, and Melville Baker; half-backs, T. H. Vile and W. J. Martin; forwards, E. Thomas, P. D. Waller, E. Jenkins, G. Staiter, J. E. C. Partridge, A. Hockley, H. Jarman, and J. Adams.

Wallabies: Back, Carmichael; three-quarter backs, C. Russell, W. Dix, J. Jicky, and E. Mandible; half-backs, F. Woods and C. H. M'Kivatt; forwards, J. P. Barnett, T. Griffin, C. A. Hammond, S. A. Middleton, A. B. Burge, T. Richards, N. E. Row, and Dr. H. M. Moran (captain).

Referee, Mr. J. Games, W.F.U., Abercarn.

## THE GAME

It may be noted that Middleton resumes his places in the Wallabies' pack. The Australians strongly resented his suspension for the Oxford match until to-day, alleging that he had struck the blow only after extreme provocation. Before the case was considered by the English Union they claim that they did it after duly inquiring into the custom of this country, where, indeed, it is the practice to keep playing a man until he is suspended. In Australia the custom is to hold inquiry within three days, and to give the player an opportunity to cross-examine the referee or any other official. There was a bit of theatrical work before the kick-off, the tallest actor in the world, who is appearing in the local Empire, leading the Wallabies into the field. This evoked a laugh, which gave way to general cheering when it was seen that Jack Jones was coming a long way behind his colleagues near the pavilion.

Rowe kicked off, but a mark was made by Plummer, and a second kick by the latter sent the ball well over the half-way. From the throw-out an Australian knocked on. A couple of centre scrummages saw the Newport forwards getting the advantage, and carried play over the mid-way line into the Wallabies' half. Woods, the inside half, however, put in a nice punt to the home 25, where Stanley Williams failed to return, and had to be content with turning the ball into touch. A series of "lines out" well in the Newport 25 ensued, and a pretty dodge on the part of one of the visitors in putting the ball back to his rear men came off. They lost ground with their passing, but more than made it hot with their kicking, the Newport men being unable to hold the Wallabies forward. The

## WALLABIES WERE PENALISED.

but Burge put in a splendid relieving kick into touch. The Wallabies quickly developed a smart handling game, and the ball passed quickly through four or five pairs of hands, and Dix, their left wing, crossed near the corner, which Carmichael converted, eight minutes from the start. With the kick from the mid-way mark the Wallabies showed far more spirit than Newport, and accommodated themselves more to the slippery state of the ground than Newport did. A long punt by Jack Jones saw the ball being worked into the visitors' half. This was followed by further ground being gained for Newport by means of a nice penalty kick, which was sent into touch. Woods, the visitors' half, got possession, and gained a few yards with the kick into touch. A nice

## DEVELOPMENT OF THE GAME

saw Plummer, the Newport right wing, in a good position to make a sprint for the line, but Dix, who had to look after him, was on him quickly. Some very slovenly passing on the part of the Newport backs nullified their chances, and J. T. Jones, to whom the transfers were chiefly directed, only aimlessly kicked into the hands of the visitors. At last Jack Thomas got away in rather better shape, and gave up to Baker a dozen yards from the Wallabies' line. Baker, with his usual dash and daring, made no mistake in the way he made for the line. Raffle, the visitors' right wing, went to him with desperate earnestness, but Baker brushed him off and

## SCORED A WIDE TRY.

amidst great cheering, Burt just failing with the kick. After the drop-out the homesters were again seen doing some wretched kicking, which was aimless and ill-timed. This was in direct contrast with the footwork of the visitors, whose shots were both longer and more accurately directed to touch. The Wallabies were getting dangerously near the Newport line again, when one of their half-backs got off-side, and they were penalised. Centre play from a penalty kick saw the home forwards, led by Partridge, breaking up the scrimmage and forging their way into the visitors' half. A desperate encounter ensued, the forwards on both sides getting a great gruelling. A couple of nice chances presented themselves, but Newport were quite off the game so far as keenness in scoring went. Some very sharp passing amongst the visitors' backs, with more than one forward ball was seen. Beddoe Thomas was temporarily knocked out whilst the forwards were struggling a few yards from the home line. Stanley Williams got in with a relieving kick into touch, and as the struggle proceeded just outside the Newport 25 a few unnecessary rough incidents occurred. Still the struggle proceeded outside the Newport 25, only to be carried, however, further out to the centre by a nice kick on the part of Jack Jones. The Newport forwards were now heeling out with better effect than formerly, although they had to give away a good deal of weight. They stuck manfully to their task, and seemed to be settling down to a better appreciation of their possibilities. The visitors were penalised for offside play on the part of Row, and Jack Jones, putting in a long kick.

## FAILED TO FIND TOUCH.

Jack Adams, on the Newport side, was playing a very effective wing forward game, and nicely accounting for some of the Wallabies who had a proneness for offside play. He did not, however, always stop little Woods, the visitors' half. Approaching the interval Newport forwards made a grand rush up to the visitors' 25, and looked like scoring. Walter Martin unsuccessfully dropped for goal, and Carmichael touched down. From the drop out a deliberate foul was made by one of the visitors against Plummer when the latter attempted to field the ball. Whilst Newport were playing hard in the visitors' half Mandible cleverly intercepted and broke away, and it seemed as if he could get in all on his own, but he hesitated to give a pass, and the chance was lost. Another deliberate foul on the part of one of the Wallabies escaped the notice of the referee. Newport had quite as much left in them as the visitors, and seemed to have quite as good a chance of running out winners when the interval whistle sounded.

## Half-time score.

Wallabies	G.	T.	P'ts.
Newport	1	0	5
Fog still hung thicker over the ground than when the game began. At 3.27 Beddoe Thomas re-started for Newport, who pressed early, and saw the visitors make some mistakes in feeble kicking, just as Newport did in the first half. The Australians' forwards broke away, and started passing, but Burt whined in, intercepted, and nicely found touch. Vile plunkily gathered the ball at mid-field, and found touch half-a-dozen yards from the visitors' line, but M'Kivatt	0	1	3

got it away with a nice punt. Stanley Williams fielded well, and again found touch at the visitors' 25. Here Newport were penalised for offside forward work. Carmichael kicked to centre touch, but the ball was soon driven to the visitors' 25. The Wallabies' forwards opened out smartly, and began to feed their backs. Plummer, in attempting to bring the ball out, was tripped in a nasty way, and the game was stopped for a minute or two whilst Partridge got the turf out of his mouth and eyes. Carmichael took a shot for goal, which went wide, and Stanley Williams touched down. The ground was getting increasingly heavy and slippery, and it was very difficult to gather or handle the ball. Carmichael cleverly found touch in the Newport 25 with a pretty shot, and after the line-out there was a series of very smart and fast transfers amongst the Wallabies, who looked very dangerous until a stoppage was called for to repair the nether wear of one of the players. Whilst the pressure was going on at the Newport 25, Staiter went and played at extra back for Newport. The Wallabies again made a series of useful passes, but Newport's defence was very sound. A temporary stoppage occurred, owing to a slight injury to Dix, the visitor's left wing. Phil Waller, leading the forwards, put in a useful relieving dribble. The visitors three-quarters getting the ball out, again started a series of passes, but Hickey, the right centre, knocked on at a critical moment, and a good chance was lost. The Newport forwards struggled like trojans, disputing the ground inch by inch, and giving no chances away. The Wallabies were penalised, but Jack Jones was beaten in touch-finding by Dix. Mandible further improved the visitors' position with a long kick, finding touch only three yards from the home line. Newport, however, were again equal to the occasion, the ball being gathered up by Vile and sent to touch at mid-field. For a very long time, however, play ruled in the Newport half. The Wallabies were penalised, but the kick only sent the ball to mid-field touch. The fog got thinner, and the spectators were now able to see the players more clearly. A ding-dong struggle among the forwards showed that the Newport pack was quite capable of doing its part. Things had slowed down greatly from a spectator's point of view, although the players, especially the forwards, were busy enough. There was at times a good deal too much vigour imparted to the play, but when such desperate keenness on the one side is met by exactly the same quality on the other side, then this can be expected. The Newport forwards were continually playing a close bottling-up game. Dix, the visitors' left wing, made his mark, and Carmichael got a kick into the Newport 25. When the ball was brought out and the visitors began some sharp attacking matters looked ugly for Newport. Every attack of the visitors was cut off by sharp sprinting and keen tackling. At last Baker relieved splendidly with a long kick into touch, and the danger which had so long threatened the Newport line was removed. A minute later the Wallabies were penalised, and Jack Jones found touch at mid-field.

Carmichael misfielded the kick, and allowed Newport, for the first time in twenty minutes, to get into the visitors' half. As the closing minutes of the game sped by Newport gained the Wallabies' 25, but Middleton, one of the visitors' back forwards, splendidly took the ball from the line-out, and passing to Hickey, saw the leather sent to centre touch. Newport forwards made a sharp, determined rush, and neither side was allowed to go more than a few yards at a time. Stanley Williams was tackled in possession at his own 25, but when the scrum broke up Vile got the ball out, and it was booted to mid-field touch. The final whistle was then sounded, and the field slowly cleared, the spectators apparently being satisfied with the visitors' performance.

## Final score.

Wallabies	G.	T.	P'ts.
Newport	1	0	5
Wallabies	0	1	3



Dec 19<sup>th</sup> 08**"Forward's" Comments**

Newport showed their old, old weakness of failing to settle down to their game in the opening stages of play, and their slackness to-day was so pronounced that they seemed to be waiting for the Wallabies to score. They paid the penalty of losing a game which they might have won, or, at least, have saved. They had a couple of glorious chances in the first half of scoring, but they failed to avail themselves of them in a manner that was aggravating. Just a dash of opportunism would have done the trick, but it was not forthcoming.

A try was practically a gift when two of the Newport forwards dribbled down to Carmichael. One of the twain had only to cross-kick to his colleague to make the score certain, but instead of doing that he made the fatal mistake of stopping to pick up the ball, and thus rendering it easy for the Australian custodian to take it from him and kick into touch. In this the first half the Usksiders were clearly and distinctly on top, and it is not difficult to imagine what would have happened had the Swansea men, for instance, been presented with similar opportunities.

**SCRAMBLE BETWEEN FORWARDS.**  
The second half was almost entirely a scramble between the two packs of forwards, and there was far too much deliberate and palpable fouling on both sides to make the game either pleasant or enjoyable as a spectacle. Firmer and more efficient refereeing would have checked it, and it is to be hoped that a thoroughly competent and experienced official will be selected for the Swansea match next Saturday.

Every credit is due to the Newport forwards for the hard, dogged game they played, and they would not have to mourn defeat had they adequately supported by their backs. Newport's attack almost invariably broke down at outside half, where Martin seemed nervous and lacking in knowledge of the right thing to do at the right moment. He defended pluckily, but he has yet to cultivate cleverness and initiative in opening out attacking movements for his three-quarters. Llewelyn Lloyd at his best would have been invaluable to Newport to-day, but his successor, unfortunately, has not yet been discovered.

Tommy Vile played with his usual game-ness, and did not suffer by comparison with Woods, although the latter was more frequently served by his forwards and shielded by the winging tactics of Row, whose play is more in accord with the letter than with the spirit of the laws of Rugby football as we have learned to know it in this country. He is not quite so much as an obstructionist as Gallagher, the captain of the All Blacks, but it is only a very thin line that divides them.

There were occasions when the Newport forwards packed raggedly, and this was accountable for the success of the Colonial forwards in securing possession of the ball in the scrum. It was due more to excessive zeal than anything else, and if there is one thing more than another English and Welsh forwards have learned from the Wallabies it is the value of restraint and intelligent method and definite system in scrummaging. Proper packing and solid, straight pushing are the only means by which the Australian forwards can be beaten for possession, and as an object lesson one has only to refer to the Llanelly match.

While the first half of to-day's game was bright and full of interesting incidents, the second portion was one long drawn-out scramble between the forwards. For a brief period the Australian backs were enabled to handle, but their passing broke down every time before the keen tackling of the Newport backs, among whom Jack Jones and Melville Baker were easily the pick of the basket.

In front Beddoe Thomas once again played a game of sterling soundness, and I have yet to be convinced that he is unworthy of his place in the Welsh pack this season. There was not a harder scrummager on the field to-day, and his splendid play was only a repetition of his form in the Swansea and Cardiff matches. Phil Waller was also a prominent figure all through the piece, and was the cleverest forward in the loose.

The Australian back play was almost as disappointing as that of the Usksiders, and Mandible especially failed to sustain his reputation as the star artiste of the side. Russell, the heavy-weight wing, had some chances given him, but he was too slow in getting off the mark to give full value to his combination of pace and weight. With the exception of Carmichael, whose play was clean and safe at all times, the other backs were only moderate, and will have to show better form to avert the third defeat of their side on Welsh soil next Saturday.

Newport may be justly congratulated upon having run the Wallabies to the narrow margin of two points, but with the same breath it can be truly said that they would have altered the complexion of things had they taken full advantage of all the opportunities that came their way in the latter portion of the first half. They did not do so, and when all considerations are weighed in the balance, there is nothing to be found wanting with the victory of the Colonials.

**THE "WALLABIES" AT NEWPORT.****A NARROW WIN.**

Australians... 1-0... 5 Newport... 0-1-3

[BY CYMBIC]

THE Newport Club were unfortunate in the weather for their match with the Australians. A nasty drizzle accompanied by a white mist made the conditions as bad as they possibly could be, and affected the attendance. The start was delayed through J. P. Jones having missed his train, but the lengthy three-quarter travelled by motor, and was not ten minutes late. There were probably 10,000 spectators present when the game was commenced.

**NEWPORT'S STRONG FORWARD PLAY.**

With good attacking position the methods of the visiting side were interesting. Clever knocking back by the forwards was utilised by the backs, but good defence saved Newport for a while. Then after Martin had a kick charged down, the ball was quickly thrown out to Dix on the Australian left wing, and the little man ran well for his try, which Carmichael converted into a goal from quite near the touch line.

A couple of penalties against the visiting side for obstruction helped Newport, but all the back play was on the other side, the Newport forwards being the best part of their side. Slowly but surely they got to their opponents' ground, their footwork and tackling being very good. The ball was passed out smartly from some loose play, and although J. P. Jones knocked on he was allowed to pass to Baker, who beat Russell, and gained a try. The position was difficult and Burt failed with the place kick. The Australians again pressed, and J. P. Jones and Stanley Williams saved several times under difficulty. A good effort by Mandible failed through hesitation, but his punt to touch found its billet.

The second half was devoid of scoring. The Australians used every opportunity to work their backs, but Newport relied on their forwards, who played stubbornly. Attempts to open out the play were met by deadly tackling, and the end came with the score:—Australia, 1 converted goal (5 points); Newport, 1 try (5 points).

**THE BETTER SIDE.**

It was one of those hard games where the grit and courage of both sides were severely tested, and brilliancy made room for stubbornness to an excess. Close as the scores were the play was even closer. And yet there was no mistaking the better side. Even stranger is the fact that the two scores of the game were marred by informalities, which though they escaped the referee's eyes did not pass unnoticed by the big majority of the spectators.

All the same the Australians were the finer side, for their methods were better. Their forwards, against a real good pack, played well, and at times entered into the rushes favoured by their opponents with real zeal. Most of their energies were, however, directed to feeding the backs, and in the line-out and scrummage they succeeded well in that direction. Woods at half-back was more in evidence than McKivatt. The three-quarters did well under the circumstances, Mandible playing his best game since his reappearance. Hickey was determined, but at times at fault with his hands. Dix was good all round, but Russell found Baker a difficult obstacle. Carmichael was never at fault at full-back, his place kick, which won the game, being fine, while his general punting was marked by good length and direction.

**WHERE NEWPORT MISSED THEIR WAY.**

Newport can be credited with having played a hard game. Possibly had their forwards gone more on their own they might have won. The best of the eight was Beddoe Thomas, whose work for the side cannot be over-estimated. Waller, though playing a good game, was tame compared with him, and for scrummage and open work Thomas was always in the picture. The half-back play was the weakness of the side. Baker was easily the best of the three-quarters; Burt most useful as a spoiler, and Plummer least effective of the line. Stanley Williams at back made no mistake, but did not compare with Carmichael.

Newport:—Stanley Williams; R. C. S. Pummer, Fred Burt, Jack Jones, Melville Baker; T. H. Vile (captain), W. J. Martin; Beddoe Thomas, Eric Jenkins, Phil Waller, J. E. C. Partridge, G. Stait, H. Jarmen, A. Hickey, and J. Adams.  
Australia:—Carmichael; Dix, Mandible, Hickey, Russell, McKivatt, Woods; Barnett, Griffin, Hammond, Middleton, Barge, Row, Dr. Moran, and Richards.  
Referee, Mr. J. James, Abercrombie.



## WON BY A KICK.

## Wallabies beat Newport.

## KEEN TUSSLE AT USK SIDE.

## Fast and Foul Game.

## REFEREE BADLY AT FAULT.

## By "Old Stager."

Cardiffians who made the journey to Newport this afternoon soon found themselves getting into a grey fog which got thicker and thicker as the banks of the Usk were approached. Those of them who experienced the Wales v. England match at Bristol last January were fearful that the wretchedness of the weather would spoil to-day's game, which all had been anxiously awaiting and hoped to see played on a dry, springy turf.

It was evident from the crowded state of the railway station and neighbouring streets that a huge "gate" would be realised. Overnight and in the early morning heavy rain had fallen, and this naturally affected the ground, but Butcher with his usual skill had managed to put a good face on it, and though there were clay-like patches in front of the grandstand, the field as a whole looked likely to be dryer than that at Cardiff last Saturday.

The Wallabies arrived early. They were delighted with the accommodation at the pavilion, and were much struck with the gymnasium, the pioneer of those belonging to Welsh football clubs.

The Australians received a civic welcome from the Mayor (Councillor Graham White), who was accompanied by Dr. Lloyd Davies (the deputy mayor), Councillor T. Parry (the ex-Mayor), the town clerk, the medical officer, and a number of councillors. As many of the leaders in the public life of the town have passed through the playing ranks of the club, the gathering of old and famous footballers was numerous. During the long wait for the kick off the big crowd on the popular side—where, by the way, the club has shown its enterprise by covering a big central stand—sang a couple of Cymric hymns, led by a man in a white mackintosh. But the fog was depressing, and there were none of those spontaneous, happy hits that usually make the time pass merrily. Much concern was engendered by the non-appearance of J. P. (Jack) Jones, from whose added experience in the Welsh match much was expected, and whose association with the sprinter, Melville Baker, was hoped to yield surprise results.

As the time wore on the fog threatened to increase, and every minute past the advertised time seemed like ten to the expectant crowd, anxious for a start, so as to get as much play as possible while the light lasted.

The teams were:—  
Newport—Back, Stanley Williams; three-quarter backs, R. C. S. Plummer, Fred Burt, Jack Jones, and Melville Baker; half-backs, T. H. Vile (captain) and W. J. Martin; forwards, Beddoe Thomas, Ernie Jenkins, Phil Waller, J. E. C. Partridge, G. Staite, H. Jarman, A. Hickey, and J. Adams.  
Wallabies—Back, Carmichael; three-quarter backs, Dix (left wing), Mandible and Hickey (centres), and Russell (right wing); half-backs, McKivatt and Woods (inside); forwards, Barnett, Griffin, Hammond, Middleton, Burge, Row, Dr. Moran, and Richards.

Referee, Mr J. Games, Abercarn.

It will be noted that Middleton resumed his place in the Wallabies' pack. The Australians strongly resented his suspension from the Oxford match until to-day, alleging that he struck the player only after extreme provocation. With reference to the foolish criticism directed against them for playing the man before his case was considered by the English Union, they claim that they had done so after duly inquiring into the custom in this country, where, indeed, it is suspended. In Australia the custom is to hold an inquiry within three days, and give the reported player an opportunity of cross-examining the referee or any other official.

There was a bit of theatrical work before the kick off. The tallest actor in the world, who is appearing at the local Empire, led the Wallabies into the field. This evoked a laugh, that gave way to general cheering when it was seen that Jack Jones was making his way a long way behind his colleagues from the pavilion. Rowe kicked off, but a mark by Plummer and a second kick sent the ball well over halfway. From a throw-out an Australian knocked on, but a premature whistle prevented the Newportians from taking advantage, as they were about to do. From the first scrummage Woods got away, and after feinting to pass to McKivatt he punted high against Newport's left wing. Russell, McKivatt, Hickey, and Mandible followed quickly, and Baker was beaten. Stanley Williams at full-back missed gathering the ball through a slip, but fortunately the Australians kicked it to touch.

This let the Australians into a strong attacking position. From a pretty back pass by a forward from the line out, McKivatt seemed to have the line at his mercy, when he had the bad luck to get into a bad spot, and before he could recover the defence was around him.

The Australians evidently meant business. Following some splendid forward work the backs started passing, and Hickey, Mandible, and Russell came within an ace of scoring. Melville Baker failing to field a rolling ball within a yard or so of his line, Stanley Williams, however, just managed to twist it out of play.

## Dix's Clever Try.

Then an attack was made against Newport's right wing, and after splendid work, chiefly by McKivatt, Dix got a chance, and made a try which could only have been scored by a player of nippiness and resolution. Dix, by his try against Glamorgan, and by this one has avenged at the last minute the preference given to Carroll over him in the Welsh game.

The try was made almost in the extreme corner, and Carmichael goalied with a brilliant kick when the game was barely 10 minutes old.

This was not exactly what the bulk of the crowd had expected. It was fortunate that good sportsmanship prevailed, for during the next five or six minutes several bad errors in the refereeing were made, knock-ons and forward passes in close play escaping the vigilance of Mr Games. He had had at this early stage a great deal of running about, for the play was fiercer up to this period than in any game the Wallabies have yet taken part.

Players on both sides lost their sense of fair play under the strain of a fast and gruelling contest, but the mischief was probably more apparent from the grand stand than from the field of play itself, or otherwise there would have been, at least, some stern talking from the referee.

There was continued pressure on the home goal when Newport were given a free kick, and Burt put in a splendid screw punt half the length of the field, which gained touch. Beddoe Thomas, Ernie Jenkins, Partridge, and Waller were playing magnificently, and their following up and tackling made the task of the touring backs an arduous one.

## Newport Score.

Yard by yard they went until they got to the Wallabies' 25, and here Partridge took the ball excellently on a long line-out and passed to J. P. Jones. It was a critical moment for Newport, and it depended for a score on the ex-Pontypool man and Welsh left centre keeping his head. He appeared to hesitate and all seemed lost, when he fielded the ball, and with a twist of the head more than by a movement of the leg he drew the defence on to him and passed to Melville Baker on the left wing. Baker had five or six strides to go, took the ball on the run and scored with a Wallaby round his shoulders. It had been a fine try, but Burt, though his kick was by no means a bad one, was not lucky enough to goal.

This reduction of the lead to two points inspired the Usksiders, and the play continued at a terrific pace. Carmichael was once very lucky not to be observed knocking on, or his side would have lost quite 35 yards. Burt, Jack Jones, and Williams gained ground on the touch line, but this was recovered through Richards and Moran following up into Martin before he got his kick.

Adams, whose special province it was to watch Row, was so successful that Row soon buried himself in the pack.

Foul after foul ensued, and Newport, the lighter side, were knocked off their play by the want of control by the referee. Play varied in position from one 25 to another with great rapidity, but for quite 15 minutes there was no real chance of scoring.

Old-time Cup Tie play was seen, and most of the players on both sides lost their usual restraint, and it was not an unusual circumstance to find six men in Newport's front rank of forwards.

Once feeling ended in what looked from the grand stand as a deliberate punch by a Wallaby on the far touch-line, but there was no penalising. The Newport players now came very near scoring on one occasion. A splendid dribble by the three-quarter in position to overtake him, and a colleague was practically beaten, so that Carmichael was by an attempt to pick up instead of using the foot.

In the five minutes before the interval Dix relieved by taking a pass from Carmichael very cleverly, and a hot raid was made on Newport's goal after Mandible had intercepted at halfway. The taking of the ball and the breakaway had been cleverly done, but Mandible's cross-kick was ill-directed, and Melville Baker, Jones, and Stanley Williams were able to save with consummate ease at a time when a try should have been a certainty.

## HALF-TIME SCORE—

WALLABIES..... 1 0 5

NEWPORT..... 0 1 3

If the referee could keep control, or if he penalised for every infringement of rule, there was still a chance of Newport winning the match. The forwards had shown excellent stamina, and with the reopening of the match were going the stronger.

Stanley Williams found touch with a kick that deserved cheers. Beddoe Thomas headed a rush, and Vile, eluding Woods and Rowe, found touch with a superb screw kick to touch within a few yards of the Colonial goal.

Exciting play followed. The ball was scarcely ever put properly into the scrummage. Richards brought relief from a breakaway and passed to Row about 10 yards over halfway. The ball, however, was not taken, but in the scramble Martin was upset, and the referee had something to say to a Wallaby forward. Dix then had a shot for goal, the ball going wide. Hickey and Russell almost got over the line in time to score.

Some line attempts were made by the home men to get clear, but too long kicking gave Carmichael a chance to go steadily for the ball, and after to more than regain the ground by clever touch-finding. For nearly 15 minutes play hovered around the home 25 line, but the attack was undisciplined, the Wallabies playing each for himself rather than for his own side. Hickey, Mandible, and Russell tried to get together, only to be met by a courageous defence.

By degrees Newport forwards, chiefly by heeling and by screw-kicking by Vile, advanced out of the danger zone, but when they were almost at half-way the Wallaby forwards heeled clean. Woods passed to McKivatt, and the ball went along the line perfectly, the five-eights and Mandible doing their part perfectly, but Hickey failed to take advantage of the quick opening made for him. This mistake let Newport up to half-way, and Jack Jones further improved the position by two screw punts to touch.

Up to now the throws from touch had been usually long, but Dix now jumped in for the ball. He took it well, but he was not allowed to go more than a couple of yards.

The Australian forwards then settled to heeling and, as in the Welsh match, played to secure a monopoly of the ball. McKivatt and Mandible failed badly to profit their side by the number of chances that came their way, for Hickey, Dix, and Russell were starved at a time when if they had been fed the defence indeed must have been sorely tried.

Temporary relief came to Newport through Burge being yards offside, but a few minutes afterwards Australia got a penalty which, under ordinary circumstances, they would have attempted to place a goal. A short respite came through Dix being wounded, and when play was resumed Beddoe Thomas rallied up the Newport forwards, he himself still playing splendidly.

Vile was hurt a bit, and this gave another "breather." Then, passing between Wood, McKivatt, Hickey, and Russell, looked like threatening danger, but Young Baker, diving for the heavy-weight sprinter, forced him over the touch-line.

Play had now deteriorated in pace and indeed in skill, the Wallabies with their faster backs never attempting to depart from the orthodox, and the defence, good indeed as it was, was much aided. Once after a kick by Martin, fed on the blind side, by Vile, J. P. Jones and Baker followed up. Had Carmichael been the least trifle nervous a try was probable, even from halfway, considering Baker's speed. Carmichael, however, took the ball as solidly as a rock, and got his kick in.

McKivatt made the longest run of a Wallaby back to date, but when it looked any price on his going

over he passed to Russell, and the opportunity was lost.

The match was bearing a striking resemblance in the closing stages to that against Wales last Saturday, for the attack of the Wallabies was now concentrated in Russell. Time after time he tried to barge through, but Baker and Stanley Williams had him in hand always.

The crowd in the vicinity of the goal, who in the failing light could alone see the real merit of the tackles, cheered themselves hoarse. Slight relief was gained by a screw kick by Vile, and then Burt sent play to halfway with a penalty kick.

It was likely to be an exciting finish. Newport further improved their position by an excellent kick by Stanley Williams, who got the ball away up to the 25, just as Hickey swung him off his legs with a diving tackle. Carmichael knocked on, and this gave away more ground, and then a little screw punt caused play to go well inside the Colonial quarter.

The crowd now looked for a score, for a minute or so, but the Colonials got back nearly to halfway. Then came a great rush by the Newport forwards, and McKivatt failing to stop it cheer after cheer went up. A little steadiness only was needed at this stage to win the match. On several occasions the Colonial backs were mixed up with the forwards.

In the closing minutes the Colonial forwards rushed well over halfway. The ball was returned, and Carmichael mis-kicking had a slice of luck, the ball going over the touch-line exactly at midfield, when the whistle blew "No side" after a pointless second half.

## FINAL SCORE—

WALLABIES..... 1 0 5

NEWPORT..... 0 1 3



### The Game Summed Up.

It was a game that will be remembered for the doggedness shown in defence, and its strenuousness from start to finish than for any single brilliant incident in attack. As a whole it was not pretty as a spectacle, but it was exciting enough in all conscience. Much was done on both sides that probably most of the players would hardly recognise themselves as being capable of doing, but for the many fouls that marred the game, the slowness, and the general weakness of the referee is really responsible.

The effect of the poor control was more felt by Newport, the lighter and less physically robust side. The win, however, was deserved on the run of the play, and the difference between the sides—a successful goal kick—was the result of a great effort by Carmichael, who has now put on 51 goals in the tour. The narrowness of the victory should give stimulus to Swansea and Cardiff.

While the defence of the Ulsterers was deserving of the highest praise and their forwards were excellent, their back play was more conspicuous for soundness and defence than for ready-skilled initiative in tact.

In a word, nippiness was wanted. The Wallabies played an admirable forward game. It was their backs that disappointed. They played more like a Barbarian side of years ago than as a skilled combination with opportunities of knowing each other's peculiarities in method, and so of acting in perfect unison. Now and again there was a smart individual burst, but there was no rhythm in the swing of the play of the halves and three-quarters, and once more the great Mandible failed to reach the Australian form.

Hickey again showed qualities that mark him out for a wing rather than a centre, and Dix was a greater success with all-round workmanship than Carroll. Woods and McKivatt worked well together, and the failure to make openings for the wings was not due to McKivatt nearly as much as to Hickey and Mandible.

Carmichael, the full back, was better than against Wales, and some of his returns were excellent, though he was lucky in the first half in not being detected in knocking on.

Except Beddoe Thomas, no one on the Newport side specially distinguished himself, though no one failed to rise to the importance of the occasion. Young Baker on the left wing marked Russell successfully, and being faster off the mark than the leviathan, he would have beaten him with half the chances that came to the heavy-weight Wallaby.

### From an Australian Standpoint.

By ERNEST E. BOOTH,

OF THE FAMOUS ALL BLACKS, 1905, AND NEW SOUTH WALES, 1907-8.

The match was one of the hardest forward struggles I have ever seen, and was reminiscent of the All Blacks match at Newport in 1905, when they won by such a small margin. Newport's main strength again lay in a superb forward division, and worthily upheld their prestige. The play was most determined throughout, especially the tackling, which was of the "gloves off" nature. The only excellence the Colonials could show was in obtaining possession in the scrums. This advantage was hardly worked to its fullest benefit by them, Woods being a trifle slow in transferring. Hickey's knocks-on lost two scores, and in the second half too much blind side work was tried. Newport put up an heroic struggle, and some of the mustard and pepper forwards are worthy of international caps. Vile's captaincy and play was of a high order.

Had Australia adopted more open and varied attacks they would have won easier.

The number of "fallen in" scrums was remarkable and some grand wheeling by both sides was done. Carmichael's great goal made the contest a notable one.

It was a most trying struggle for the stamina of both packs, and play, if not scientific, was nevertheless most exciting and in that respect should have pleased the crowd.

The win can hardly be termed lucky as Australia were the better team.

The crowd's singing was a feature of the event. The referee gave a rather too literal interpretation of the rules, making the game fast but very ragged and full of blemishes.

### THE "GATE."

We are officially informed that the "gate" at the Newport v. Wallabies match to-day was about £560.



## SPLENDID FIGHT BY ABERTILLERY. DRAWN BATTLE WITH THE WALLABIES. THE WELSH FORWARDS PLAY GRANDLY.

[By "PENDRAGON"]

	G.	T. P.'ts.
Wallabies	1	0 3
Abertillery	0	1 3

\*Penalty goal.

Once again the Wallabies were pursued by unfortunate weather conditions in their match with Abertillery on Monday. The ground was very heavy, and the fact that most of the grass had been worn off made the surface very slippery. The Abertillery ground is very picturesquely situated, and in this respect it struck the imagination of the visitors. It was late when the Australians reached Abertillery, where they were given a most hearty reception, thousands of people having assembled outside the station, and flattering cheers were raised as the train steamed in. It was nearly 3.15 when the teams fielded, in the presence of close upon 10,000 spectators, as follows:—

Abertillery: Back, Charlie Hodges; three-quarter backs, W. Bowen, "Chick" James, D. J. Boots, and L. W. Thomas; half-backs, W. Hodges and J. Richardson; forwards, J. Winmill (captain), J. Webb, J. Blakemore, Tom Dykes, Jack Webb, W. Powell, J. Howells, and Tom Williams.

Australians: Back, P. Carmichael; three-quarter backs, C. Russell, E. Mandible, W. Dix, and J. Hickey; half-backs, F. Woods and C. H. M'Kivatt; forwards, J. P. Barnett, T. Griffin, C. A. Hammond, J. M'Cue, A. R. Burge, N. E. Row, S. A. Middleton, and Dr. Moran.

Referee: Mr. Ben Lewis (Pontypridd).

Abertillery started well, and Russell failing to field the ball bounced, and Tom Williams led a dribble to the Australians' line. Just afterwards Abertillery, who were in great form, got a minor. However, the Wallabies were getting the ball from most of the scrums, and Woods broke away nicely, but his pass was not taken. Fine kicking by the Colonials helped them to attack, but the rushes of the home forwards were giving the visitors a lot of trouble. Dix saved one rush in great style. Then M'Kivatt ran brilliantly, but held on a trifle too long, as also did Mandible, and the latter was grassed by Charlie Hodges. The defence was entirely beaten on this occasion, and the Colonial three-quarter backs should really have scored with ordinarily clever play.

Just after M'Kivatt marked in a good position, but Carmichael just failed with an easy shot. Dr. Moran led a rush of the Australian forwards, and play was again taken to the home 25. Play was going in the Wallabies' favour, but the defence of "Chick" James, Dai Boots, and C. Hodges kept them out. Woods got the ball away cleverly, but both he and M'Kivatt ran their three-quarters too close to the touch-line, and the movement was easily stopped.

Although the score sheet was a blank at half-time, the run of the play gave one the impression that the Australians would have been at least a try up if the ground had been dry. Abertillery restarted in dashing style, and, carrying play into the Australians' 25, the ball was kicked out to Bowen on the left wing, who just failed to score. Directly afterwards Lionel Thomas came within an ace of scoring. In the growing darkness the Australians reached their opponents' 25, where Russell was injured in a close bully. The Colonials tried several passing movements, each of which was stopped either by faulty handling or good tackling. The Wallabies had their best chance of the match when a pass was thrown out to Russell on the right, but he failed to take it when it was long odds on his going in. There was some warm play near the Abertillery line, and the home side were penalised. Carmichael kicking a home goal from near the touch-line. The home side made a desperate attack immediately after this, and Bowen scooping a wide try, amid a hurricane of applause. Jack Webb failed with the kick, and the scores were left even.

### COMMENTS.

Abertillery rose to the occasion like a true Welsh side. Reviewing the game as a whole, it can fairly be said that there was little or nothing between the teams, for, although the Wallabies played rather more stylish football than their opponents, the home fifteen showed the greater dash and determination. With the major portion of its surface denuded of grass, the ground was a peculiar one, and it was remarkable that the players kept their feet so well as they did. Nevertheless, it was not surprising to see the ball frequently misfielded, and in this respect Abertillery did not err so often as their opponents. It is quite fair to assume that the Australians were handicapped to some extent by the condition of the ground and ball, but they have had a lot of practice under our conditions now, and should be able to show very nearly their best form under such circumstances, as our Welsh teams are capable of doing. This the Wallabies are likely to learn on Monday next if the Cardiff Arms Park is in anything like the state it was for the famous match with the South Africans.

In yesterday's game Abertillery's chief strength lay in the forwards, who, although beaten for heeling, were better than the Colonial pack in all other phases of the game. Some of their pell-mell rushes were terrific, and more than one of the Australian backs showed that they did not like them. Jim Webb played very finely for Abertillery, but there were other men in the home pack who fell little below his standard, and J. Winmill, Jack Webb, and Tom Williams were all good. Certainly, the main credit for the great fight Abertillery put up is due to the front rankers, who never gave a moment's rest to the visiting backs. It was a day for forward play, and the home pack made the most of their opportunities.

In the rear division the Abertillery men were chiefly conspicuous for sound defence, and in this respect J. James was a host in himself. His tackling was wonderful, and Hickey is long likely to remember that throw in the first half. Undoubtedly, James is as fine a defensive player as there is in Wales at the present time. The home halves were rather slow in getting the ball away when their forwards heeled, and the Abertillery backs went in for very little passing, mainly devoting their attention to kicking to touch. W. Bowen was, as usual, very skilful on the left wing.

The Colonial backs once again proved that they are far from their best on a wet ground, and for once in a way even "Boxer" Russell played badly. He did nothing of note all through the match. Dix and Hickey played very well, and Mandible was better than at Pontypridd last week. Although he failed to stop some of the Abertillery rushes, Carmichael gave a very good show at full-back, and his penalty goal was a marvellous feat in the circumstances. By his kicking powers he won the match for the Wallabies at Newport on Saturday last and he saved yesterday's game. Except in heeling, the Colonial forwards did not show to advantage. The best were Middleton, Hammond, and M'Cue. A. B. Burge made several bad mistakes, and Dr. Moran reached nothing like the form he showed against Wales. The Wallabies are very confident of beating both Swansea and Cardiff, but they will have to show better tactics and more varied methods.

The Abertillery match was the first in which they had failed to cross their opponents' line, and this is a matter of infinite credit to the Monmouthshire Club. It was a case of touch-and-go all through, and a bit of luck would have given Abertillery the victory.

### THE TEAMS AT DINNER.

#### FOOTBALL NOT PARLOUR PING-PONG.

After the match the Australians were entertained to dinner at the Station Hotel. Mr. J. H. Jones (president of the local club) occupying the chair.—In proposing their health, Dr. R. Jones thought the welcome accorded their visitors and the game given them had fully justified the fixture. The criticism levelled against the methods of the Australian players was of a very carping nature. Football was not parlour ping-pong, and, he hoped, never would be. Incidents which occurred in so dashing and robust a game were, he believed, quite as prevalent in Welsh and British football generally as in the Australian play.—M'Mahon, responding in the absence of Dr. Moran, referred to the industrial ties between South Wales and New South Wales.—F. Woods (the vice-captain) also responded, remarking that that game was really the best they had had on their tour. (Cheers).—The local team was also toasted, acknowledgment being made by the president and secretary (Mr. W. F. Harrison).

On leaving for Newport the Australians were given an enthusiastic send-off.

### WALLABIES TO PLAY AT MERTHYR.

A match has been arranged to take place at Merthyr on Thursday, between a mixed side of Wallabies and Cardiff players and a North Glamorgan team. The visiting fifteen will consist of ten Wallabies and five Cardiffians. E. E. Booth, the famous "All Black" three-quarter, has promised to play.



## FOOTBALL.

### Draw With Wallabies.

#### ABERTILLERY PLAY WELL.

#### COLONIALS MEET A STURDY PACK.

##### By "Old Stager."

Although the weather promised to be wet, a big crowd welcomed the Wallabies on their arrival at Abertillery, and at the railway station they were formally and heartily welcomed by the chairman of the District Union and his colleagues on that body, and the leading residents of the district.

The Australians put out a strong team, the back division being identical with that which played against Newport, but in the forwards P. McCue came in to give Richards a well-needed rest.

For the club the full team was out, but in the forwards W. Powell took the place of Abe Jones.

The ground, which is provided with a commodious grand stand, forms half of the Public Park, and is entirely cut off from the general recreation field by a cycle track. The club showed creditable enterprise in making their arrangements, and it was in no way their fault that the approaches were crowded and mud abounded. Mr Ben Lewis, of Pontypridd, was the referee. Teams—

Australians—Back, D. Carmichael; three-quarter backs, C. Russell (right wing), J. Hickey (inside), E. S. Mandible (outside), and W. Dix (left wing); 5-8th, C. C. McKivatt; half-back, S. Woods; forwards, Dr. Moran (captain), N. E. Row, F. Middleton, P. McCue, A. B. Burge, C. C. Hammond, T. S. Griffin, and J. C. Barnett.

Abertillery—Back, C. Hodgeson; three-quarter backs, L. W. Thomas (right wing), D. J. Boots (right centre), J. James (left centre), and W. Bowen (left wing); half-backs, J. Richards (outside) and W. Hodges (inside); forwards, J. Winnill (captain), Jim Webb, C. Dyke, Jack Webb, Tom Williams, W. Powell, J. Howells, and J. Blackmore.

Along one side of the ground there is a mountain, and on its series of natural terraces, upon which crowds of spectators assembled. On the hillside, too, lining the roads to Blaenau there were hundreds of people near enough to get their view for nothing, regardless of the needs of the club's finances. Unfortunately, through some misunderstanding, the match did not start within half an hour of the advertised time. In fact, the Colonials did not arrive until nearly 2.30, which had been the time fixed for the kick-off. The wait in the wet—for there was a misty rain—would doubtless have caused many people to kick and wrongfully blame the home officials, but popular selections well played by the Abertillery Silver Band put the spectators on good terms with themselves.

It was 3.10 when the Wallabies gave their war-cry, and it was decided to play only 35 minutes each way. Jack Webb kicked off, and Carmichael, making a fine field, found touch at halfway. Row got away on the throw-out, but had to be recalled for a knock-on. From the first scrummage Wood gained touch far down the field, when the home forwards broke away well after a high punt, and Russell and Carmichael failed to field. A try seemed easily obtainable for the club, when Hickey, who was playing on the far wing, showed fine pace and courage and dived for the ball. This was before the game was a minute old, and before another 60 seconds had gone by Abertillery had the hardest of hard lines in not scoring, the ball going out of play in goal.

Relief came chiefly through McKivatt, Dix, and a good punt by Carmichael. Webb was penalised at halfway for putting the ball into the second rank, and a minute afterwards Abertillery were penalised for legs up.

Woods put in a screw kick after Russell had knocked on, and a lot of work by the forwards followed in midfield, the sloppiest part of the ground, which has a clayey soil so that football was difficult and accurate handling almost impossible.

Carmichael was in difficulties, and threw the ball as he was being brought down over the touch-line.

Charlie Hodges, the full-back, was then hard pressed. He twice had the ball away with good punts to touch. Abertillery got well over halfway chiefly through Jack Webb's kicking, followed up by Blackmore, Windmill, and Jim Webb.

Then the Colonials got the better of the fielding, but Woods did not make the game as open as he should have done. Once McKivatt got clear, and gave a dummy pass that beat the home half and centre, but his pass to Dix was knocked on. Soon afterwards McKivatt marked in good position, but Carmichael's kick went wide. The home forwards outplayed the Colonials in footwork, and when nearly in the visitors' 25 Burge got offside, and Jack Webb tried for goal, but the ball did not rise enough. Then Carmichael let Abertillery close in through knocking on in trying to take a high punt of Charlie Hodges. Woods playing the ball offside, started a dribble, joined in by Mandible, McKivatt, Middleton, Rowe, and Barnett, and Russell, to whom the ball was sent across, was swung into touch by Bowen. A tick afterwards Russell, following up a punt after Chick James had pockily saved, tried to make a run in, but Chick James again came to the rescue. Twice in as many minutes

the Abertillery line had narrow escapes. The third time the backs made a very clever opening for Russell, who failed to get under way, and then McKivatt passed to Mandible in the loose, and the centre nicely kicked toward Hickey's wing. Twice more in as many minutes the Colonials almost got over. Woods made a good opening, but too many men bunched together, and the defence was helped. Then Mandible hesitated as he did at Newport, and Dix was grandly tackled by Chick James. Relief came through very fine work by Lionel Thomas and Charlie Hodges followed by a grand rush by Blackmore. Thomas had got in from the right wing to the extreme left and saved a certain try. Exciting play followed, and Russell was tackled before he could get the ball, and Jack Webb soon forced play into the visitors' 25 by a clever kick. In the three closing minutes before the interval the Australians pressed very hard, but Hickey and Dix only of the backs had safe hands and played with the necessary resolution. On the stroke of half-time the ball was kicked over Tillery's dead-ball line, and the Australians—for the second time in the tour—had failed to notch a score in the initial half.

##### Half-time Score—

Abertillery	G. T. P.
Wallabies	0 0 0
	0 0 0

A knock-on looked like letting the Wallabies in immediately after the kick-off, but a splendid rush was made by Chick James and Winnill, who sent the ball well past halfway. Blackmore, Webb, Winnill, Dyke, and Howell then rushed in fine style, and Carmichael was collared about 15 yards from the line. Before relief was gained Abertillery must have scored but for Bowen just missing to hold the greasy ball when there was no one in front of him, and he had only three strides to make.

Carmichael and Dix kicking well sent play for a minute to the home 25, and then Bowen following up his kick pushed Carmichael over as he was fielding the ball, and after some quick passing Thomas all but got over in the corner.

Dr. Moran started the backs from a line-out, but they lost ground by their passing, and for a while midfield play followed, the men slipping about and the ball stopping where it alighted. Middleton did some fine work on the line, but Abertillery were fighting every inch of the ground in their 25.

It was now fast getting dark, and the spectators on the hillside were simply a black mass, and the individual players were only distinguished by their figures. A short delay took place through Russell being winded.

Again by passing the Australians lost ground, and a fine rush carried play to halfway. Jack Webb, Winnill, and Blackmore bug in the van, and another bout of passing by the Wallabies ended in Russell cross-kicking and Jack Webb saving.

Mandible lost the next chance, and then the home forwards came away up to Carmichael, who saved regardless of his neck. Another run by the Australians saw Russell stopped by C. Hodges when only a couple of yards off scoring.

Then on the extreme left wing and about 15 yards out Abertillery were penalised, and Carmichael placed a goal with a brilliant kick.

Nothing daunted, the homesters set to work, and Bowen scored a try, which Webb failed to make.

Abertillery	G. T. P.
Wallabies	0 1 3
	* 1 0 3

\* Penalty.

#### Good Game on Worst of Fields.

It was a surprisingly good game played on the worst field the Australians have yet encountered. The Tilleryites to a man went about their work as though the fate of Empires depended upon their play. They merit commendation for the way in which they played.

While the international forward, Jim Webb, played a good game, Blackmore again demonstrated his claims to be included in an international side. He was the biggest and heaviest forward on the field, but he lasted splendidly, his tackling being good, and he was ever in the front of the rushes. Jack Webb, too, played a great game, his fielding, kicking, and saving being of much value to his side.

The Colonials lost chances, through not making the game sufficiently open and at a time when they should have been adding on points some of the backs were doing too much touch-finding, as though they had a big lead and were resting on their laurels.

The successes of their back division were Dix and Hickey, and if the latter had been fed in the earlier stages his dash and speed would probably have resulted in a try or two. Mandible again was disappointing. He failed to field accurately, and did not make a clean opening all through.

Of the home backs, Bowen had hard luck in not being able to take the ball, or he would have had two tries instead of one to his credit. Hodges at full back played a fine game. Chick Jenkins did more defensive work than any other player on the field.

#### Good Refereeing.

The refereeing of Mr Ben Lewis was good. He soon gave the players unmistakable evidence that he would keep them strictly to the rules, and the result was a clean sporting game. The only occasion when he failed to please some of the Australians was when Bowen following up his own kick pushed Carmichael off the ball as he was about to field it. Those who expressed opinion that this was a foul are wrong. There is a special ruling of the International Board that legalises this form of obstruction.

E. E. Booth writes:—The trip to and match at

Abertillery were unique and educative for the Colonials, mining and rustic Wales being strangely blended. The ground was about the most sloppy the Wallabies have encountered. The peculiarity of the surroundings will live long in the memories of the visitors. The local enthusiasm was marvellous. The opening stages were full of incident and excitement. Russell's failure to field an easy catch and Carmichael's failing to "go down" to the ensuing rush put Abertillery almost in Hickey's save being a gem. Play became mediocre for some time. The Abertillery forwards demonstrated extra keen dash in following up, and with better footwork would have scored twice within ten minutes of the start. Their tackling was a proof of their muscular energy. Australia demonstrated their superiority in getting possession. Dix fumbled an easy chance. The slippery and elusive leather caused the visitors to fumble somewhat. Hard footwork became prominent, the locals holding their own. Several passing rushes by the Australian backs were not creditable to an international side. Dix's rare dash was an outstanding feature, and in brilliant contrast to the display of the Colonial backs. The first of thousands on the mountain side set up a noise which sounded like the roar of the sea when a wave came with no score. On the restart, after the terrific forward work, Abertillery lost a golden chance on the left wing by fumbling, Dix and Hickey saving superbly. The palpable and glaring foul of Carmichael nearly let Abertillery score. The Australian full-back was deliberately hand-pushed. Had Thomas scored from this episode it would have been extremely hard luck for Australia. Blackmore and Jack Webb were well backed in their powerful rushes. Woods injudiciously used the touch-line far too frequently in the primary portion. Abertillery got most of the ball, using safe defensive measures, seeming to be most at home under the conditions. Later the Australians brightened up at a terrific rate. Carmichael's goal saved the match, and was a great effort. Failure to fall on the ball by quite three Australian backs let Abertillery score. It was a Titanic struggle forward in the mud, the local handling being the safest and their line kicking sure. The drawn game was taken like a victory locally. On the day's play both teams were about on a par, and the pace and energy infused by both sides was marvellous. The referee came through a trying ordeal most creditably. Failure to use the chances offered them in the first 15 minutes really put the game out of the Australians' hands. The ball became heavy and greasy, and passing latterly required great ability in this particular unit. Both sides played well under the conditions.

#### After Dinner Talk.

In the evening the Wallabies were entertained to dinner at the headquarters of Abertillery Club at the Station Hotel, the president, Mr J. H. Jones, presiding, and he was supported by the Australian manager and Dr. Rodyn Jones and other members of the Welsh Football Union, the Abertillery secretary (Mr P. Harrison), and representatives of several Monmouthshire clubs were also present. Dr. Rodyn Jones proposed "The Australian Team." After expressing delight at the way the Abertillery men had acquitted themselves, Dr. Jones referred to the criticism which had been levelled at the Australians, and said that whatever the Australians might have done in the course of playing was certainly no worse than was continually being witnessed in football games at home. Captain McMahon and Mr F. Woods responded, and the latter described the Abertillery pack as the best they had encountered during the tour. Captain McMahon gave "The Abertillery Club" and the president and Mr W. S. Harrison responded. Mr J. Jarrett proposed "The Referee," and Mr Lewis responded.



## SIGNAL TRIUMPH

## For Swansea Football.

## WALLABIES WELL BEATEN.

## Issue Never in Doubt.

## ALL WHITES EVER AGGRESSIVE

## Colonial Ordered Off.

BY "OLD STAGER."

Bank Holiday crowds have, for very many years, been the rule at Swansea, and the extra attraction of the visit of the Wallabies, with the widely prevalent feeling that the club was going to score a triumph, attracted so large a crowd that an hour before the match commenced the popular parts were well filled.

By arrangement between the club and the tourists special stand accommodation had been provided, under the supervision of Mr. Walter Rees, the secretary of the Welsh Union. The natural banking along the Bryn-road-terrace—every window of which was occupied—was speedily filled, and so was the artificially raised ground at the Mumbles goal end. A new stand had been erected across the cricket pitch by the other goal, and a double row of seats had been provided inside the ropes. The stand will have to come down to be re-erected for the International match, Wales v. Ireland, but the seating round the ropes will remain.

It was well that this extra accommodation had been arranged for, otherwise the crowd must have broken through, and the enterprising foresight of the club and the Colonials were repaid in the takings, for long before noon tickets were being exchanged at heavy premiums. The record club gate at Swansea realised a few shillings over £821.

This was on the occasion of the memorable game against New Zealand, when the club and the thousands of spectators had the mortification of seeing Swansea beaten by a dropped goal to a try in a game in which the local side had had much the better of the play. It was the famous Scrim, who then played his very best game as wing forward, who scored the try, and Wallace dropped the goal from a very difficult angle, his kick being much aided by the strong wind.

That was a great game, and the New Zealanders frankly admitted that the club had deserved to win, especially as on one occasion little Willie Arnold had only to field the ball to score under the posts, after an opening which had attested the genius of Owen.

To day's crowd observed perfect order, thanks to the efficiency of the official arrangements. There was no rushing at the gates or rowdiness on the cheap stands. It was very cold, but the "snap" in the air and wind again reminded one of the day when the Maorilanders played in 1905 and when the breeze was a potent factor in the getting of the winning goal. There was a little spasmodic singing and that Llanelly was strongly represented was evident by the volume of sound in the singing of what has taken the place in the West for the National Anthem. The people were bundled together so that they scarcely felt the cold, and there was very little of the bye-play and none of the incidents that are usually associated with a big football match in Wales.

Flanagan and Burns were cheered as they crossed the ground and posed before a group of photographers, and the two Australian girls, the nieces of the famous cricketer, Sam Woods, also posed, and were the cynosure of all eyes as they walked from one side of the ground to the other. They were all the more conspicuous because they were dressed as they were at Cardiff, in the national light blue of the Commonwealth, with white fur tippets and toques to match.

The home team was at its strongest possible strength, though Jack Bancroft, who played against the Watsonians yesterday, contrary to the doctor's orders, was not at his best, for influenza was still affecting him, and it was only after pressure from his colleagues that he turned out to-day. Edgar Morgan, too, was not as he would have liked to be, for a strain in the leg muscles had twice caused him to leave the field yesterday in the Watsonians' match. Swansea, however, had played so well and won so easily on Christmas Day, and the exertion of playing two important matches on successive days was really not expected to have prejudiced their stamina. Their clever, quick passing movements against the Watsonians had been witnessed by the Wallabies, and were expected to have caused them serious qualms as to winning to-day's match.

With the customary accompaniments the teams filed as follows—

Swansea—Back, J. Bancroft; three-quarter backs, R. Toft (left wing), W. J. Trew (left centre), Harvey Thomas (right centre), and Phil Hopkins (right wing); half-backs, R. Jones and R. M. Owen; forwards, D. J. Thomas, Ivor Morgan, G. Hayward, H. Hunt, D. Griffiths, Edgar Morgan, and Ike Williams. Australia—Back, P. Carmichael; three-quarter backs, C. Russell (right wing), McCabe (right centre), E. F. Mandible (left centre), and J. Hickey (left wing); half-backs, C. C. McKivatt and F. Woods; forwards, T. R. Richards, J. McMurtie, N. E. Row, S. A. Middleton, P. McCue, C. C. Hammond, T. S. Griffen, and J. T. Barnett.

Referee, Mr. Harry Bowen, Llanelly.

## The Game Described.

BY "OLD STAGER."

Swansea had the initial advantage of the wind, which was much in their favour when the Australians kicked off from the Mumbles end. The opening kick was twice taken. The first scrum was rushed by the visitors, and Mandible came through and looked like getting a good chance of breaking away from just over half-way, but he knocked on. From the next scrum Swansea got out the ball, and pretty work between them and Jones left Trew in possession, and he gained touch in the Australian twenty-five.

There was no mistaking the earnestness of the players on both sides. Australia, chiefly by the means of a breakaway from the line-out, drew except the ball out of immediate danger, and Trew checked and Phil Hopkins stopped the rush before they got quite to half-way, both centres being rewarded with cheers for their pluck. Here a scrum was held in line with the goal mouth, and Jack Bancroft tried hard to kick a goal, but the ball fell short.

Swansea continued to press, and Owen and Jones half-backs beat Woods, McKivatt, and McCabe. Russell was out of the line, and McCabe

## Censure of the Crowd.

McMurtie, for tackling W. J. Griffiths, called upon him the censure of the crowd and the talk of the referee. Swansea were then within a yard from the line.

It was Richards who now saved, and within the next five or six minutes this great forward was the brains of the whole side. Even he has never played a better game. The Swansea forwards, to a man, were playing excellently, and whenever one or other of the Australians did manage to make a few strides, extra speed and thorough tackling prevented them developing the attack.

The prettiest work of the match followed. Owen started it, and Dick Jones, Trew, Toft, and Hopkins each took and gave his passes superbly. Hopkins, who played in the Welsh match on the right wing, but was now at right centre, deceived the defence by feinting to throw to Thomas on his wing, and then giving to Trew, who had only a few yards to go to score. It was a superbly conceived and excellently-executed movement, and 99 times out of 100 it would have succeeded. Carmichael, McCabe, and Hickey got round, but Richards had more to do with stopping the try than anyone else.

Exciting play followed, and after a while Craig kicked to touch. McCabe made a good opening, swerving very neatly, but his pass was knocked on.

## Griffen Ordered Off.

Some undisciplined rushes by the Wallaby forwards followed and Griffen was ordered off.

Owen and Thomas held back, and threw the ball out of play, and so prevented Rowe, Middleton and Richards from getting into Swansea's quarters.

Bancroft continued to play a wonderfully clever game. He seemed unable to make a mistake in fielding. His judgment as to when to play and when to kick was unbeatable. It was now less than fifteen minutes from the end, and it was by means of fine work by Richards, who was also doing dashing work, that the Colonials got well into Swansea territory.

Trew now called Hayward out of the pack. One bout of passing by Australia prepared one for seeing a repetition of the famous try which the South Africans made at Llanelly when, after nine or ten backs and forwards had handled, Loubser sprinted over in the corner. After six passes, however, the attack failed. The men, indeed, had taken the ball more by fluke than good play.

Richards, who was playing extra back, did a lot of tackling and twice high kicks were made, the ball falling close to the home goal. Once Harvey Thomas relieved finely, then Bancroft did ditto, but on the third time there was risk of a score, for the ball was fumbled. A magnificent dash by the home forwards, however, sent play almost to halfway again. Mandible then put in a high punt and followed up hard to Thomas, who eluded him, run to the twenty-five, and passed to Trew, who found touch beyond the half-way.

## Chance Missed.

An admirable bit of workmanship immediately followed, and Trew ran 30 yards and passed to Toft, and the defence was palpably beaten if Trew could re-pass, but he was thrown over and pulled down by two men, so that the chance could not be taken.

Trew was hurt and had to take the touch-line, and Ivor Morgan was brought out from the pack. Swansea continued to have the better of the play until the end, and cheer after cheer went forth when "No side" left them winners of the game in which their opponents had had clearly the better of the luck.

SWANSEA	FINAL SCORE—	G. T. P.
WALLABIES	.....	* 1 1 6
		0 0 0
		*Penalty.

## Notes on the Game.

BY "OLD STAGER."

Swansea played a game worthy of their reputation. Throughout the play and in every phase, that combination which has been the distinguishing feature of Welsh club and national play was apparent in their methods. On the part of the Wallabies, on the other hand, unity in action was conspicuous only by its absence. It has been said that a side can only play as their opponents allow them to do. This epigrammatic expression is not axiomatic, for Swansea had the defence absolutely beaten on at least three occasions when no scores accrued.

The regrettable feature of the match was that some of the Wallabies imported too much feeling into their play. The only penalty they paid was not that they were short of Griffen in the last quarter of an hour, for the lack of restraint was reflected in the general play of the side. There was not a single section that did justice to itself. Wildness was seen in every department. There were, in fact, times in the game when steadiness might have resulted in a score for the Wallabies.

Richards, had he been captain, would probably have been able to get the men to work together.

Griffen was not sent off the field for a solitary act. He had been twice previously warned, and the referee had no alternative but to give him marching orders when he saw him with fists up.

Mandible did a lot of kicking and seemed to be captaining the side more than Woods, who is vice to Dr. Moran. Except for some good kicking now and then, and one straight run Mandible did nothing in the way of example.

The Wallabies' lack was in generalship and unison of action, and in these two points Swansea reached the very highest standard.

Trew deserves the highest praise, not only for his own work, but for his splendid leadership, and the home forwards have never played better. They cared nothing about set formation, and they quite upset Australian theories on this head. The tackling was brilliant, but their rushing and dribbling were quite unstoppable.

At half-back no one who saw the match can say that it was not a contrast in ability as much as in style, and that honour rested with Owen and Jones. The little "midst" was extra good both in initiating attack and in the sterling quality of his defence. He took a lot of knocking about, and there was a lot of it, and he never lost his imperturbability or wavered in going down in front of such giants as McMurtie, Middleton or McCue.

Dick Jones did not do much showy work, but he took his passes ever so much better than he did in the Welsh match and his openings were clearly made, whilst on several occasions he tackled in thorough fashion.

The combination between the "Dicks" at times fairly confounded the visitors, and McKivatt, McCabe, and Mandible often took the dummy pass, though this was an introduction to a movement. On the three-quarter line Trew was the shining light of the field. The efforts of the Australian three-quarter backs were spasmodic, and even

## SWANSEA

from his bruised shoulder, said he was well pleased with the victory. "I am delighted," he added, "with the win, and our forwards played a great game."

## BY OUR SWANSEA CORRESPONDENT.

Certainly the Swansea halves and backs were more in evidence for efficiency than their opponents. Only once in the first half did the visitors get into the home seconds, whereas Swansea attacked times galore, and at least on five occasions were within an ace of scoring, especially in the first portion of the contest. Three penalties were given the Wallabies in five minutes during the first 30 minutes of the game, and this allowed them to effect clearances at critical junctures. The tackling of the home forwards was of the highest degree, whilst the footwork of the home front line continuously forced their opponents in or near their territory.

Swansea were never seen to better advantage, and played up with the same verve and dash as they did against the Watsonians on the previous day, when they carried all before them. Never, as before stated, except on one occasion, did the All Whites give the Australians a chance of retrieving the fortunes of the game.

Jack Bancroft, the home custodian, stands out as a shining light. His kicking and touch finding was of the highest order. He followed the ball admirably, and continually wore out the Wallabies forwards, driving them back times galore. Only once he failed to reply, and then he was frustrated by a couple of the visiting forwards getting up to him.

Jones and Owen were in their best mood, the former putting in some adroit runs by skirting the opposing front line, whilst Owen got the ball out and away in his best style. Trew and Toft made headway, and frequently changed the venue from neutral territory to in or near the Wallabies' 25 line. Territorially the All Whites had by far the better of the game and won by sheer merit, and were somewhat unlucky in not scoring additional tries. The credit of the victory rests primarily with the forwards, who have never played a better game.

Fortunately Swansea put their best team into the field, and only about twice this season have they been able to do so. It would be somewhat cruel to single out pungently any Swanseaite for special mention, as one and all contributed to the victory and there was not a member of the home team who exhibited the slightest sign of weakness.

## TREW'S COLLAR-BONE BROKEN?

Another correspondent writes, "The doctor's examination of Trew was only preliminary, and there is a fear that his collar-bone has been broken."

## Dr. Moran on the Game.

Dr. Moran, the captain of the Wallabies, said:—"Swansea won fairly and squarely. The back play struck me as being very skilful, and the line-out work very good. The full-back played an excellent game. Jones's back play was particularly fine, the way he went through our men being especially striking."



## The Game Described.

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There was no mistaking the earnestness of the players on both sides. Australia, chiefly by means of a break-away from the line-out, and the dashing play of Richards, Middleton, and Row swept the ball out of immediate danger, but Trew checked and Phil Hopkins stopped the rush before they got quite halfway, both centres being rewarded with cheers for their pluck. Here a scrum was held in line with the goal mouth, and Bancroft tried hard to kick a goal, but the ball fell short.

### Bancroft Lands a Goal.

Swansea gave the visitors no chance to develop attack, and the forwards having worked almost to the 25, the Australians were again penalised and this time Bancroft with a beautiful shot landed a penalty goal.

This drawing of first blood sent the crowd into ecstasies. The visiting forwards followed up the kick-out at top speed, but Bancroft marked like a rock and had the best of Craig in some return punting, one kick screwing into touch beautifully.

After loose play, in which Hunt, Griffiths, Ivor Morgan, and Hayward were prominent, Russell was in difficulties, but knocked Toft away from the ball with that elbow trick that is rarely seen in the Rugby field, but is sometimes adopted by professional Soccer men. Swansea were pressing hard, and Hopkins several times thwarted breakaway by the Colonial forwards.

Then Carmichael took a penalty kick, but Bancroft prevented the ball going into touch and found it himself far down the field. McKivatt tried to break away, and passing ended with McCabe kicking behind his head, and Trew, who was given a pass, aimed to gain touch close to the line, but the ball rolled into touch in goal. Richards, Littleton, and Hammond played well amongst the forwards, and a rush to the 25 was stayed by Owen and Toft.

From the next scrum the Wallabies had a chance to get on the attack from a penalty, but Craig's kick was fielded by Bancroft on the verge of the touch line, and he drove the ball out of play with a magnificent kick which won for him a hearty round of cheering.

Then a little kick was put over the scrum, and some of the forwards went for the line. D. J. Griffiths fielding the ball it looked any money on a try. The defence was palpably beaten, but a yard off the goal-line Griffiths's pass went astray.

### Referee's Shoestrings.

There were some delays now which handicapped Swansea. One could understand a little time being lost when the ball was kicked over the heads of the people, but the crowd became restive when for a third time Mr Harry Bowen, the referee, interfered with the progress of the game to attend to his shoestrings.

The pressure was relieved by Craig running and kicking well. Toft saved and complaint was made by the visitors that he held on to the ball, but the referee took no notice of the protest, probably observing that the courageous little player could not get off the ball with two men on top of him. Hayward picked up from the feet of the opposing forwards and put in a huge punt which Craig fielded, but the Colonial full-back lost nearly 30 yards with his return kick.

Nearly half an hour had now gone and not once had the Australians come within measurable distance of scoring, whilst Swansea had been within an ace of it on three occasions.

### Edgar Morgan Scores.

After admirable work by the home backs the Swansea forwards got away in a bunch, and first Woods and then Russell failed to go down, and Edgar Morgan gained a try. The score had been made wide out, and Bancroft's kick failed to goal, but the effort was so good as to deceive most of the crowd.

Swansea continued to play as a team. On two occasions lectures were given to Australians by the referee, which further irritated the crowd, who clamoured for penalties and not words.

Several times the Swansea men looked like scoring. Hicking once making a great diving tackle at Harry Thomas, throwing him over his shoulder. The ball had gone to Thomas from Hopkins after fine work by Owen and Hayward, and when Thomas was tackled Hopkins followed up with a pretty screw point to touch.

Only five minutes remained to the interval, and during this time Swansea attacked continuously. Mandible kicked once or twice cleverly, but again he failed to show any of his reputed great attacking power.

### Hunt Kicked Unconscious.

Trew was given a pass after clever reverse transferring, and when most people thought he was going to take a drop at goal he found the touch line a yard or so from the line. In a rush that followed, Hunt was kicked on the head and was carried off the field unconscious. When half-time arrived Swansea were untaking hotly, and their play had been well in advance of the number of points they had gained.

	G.	T.	P.
Swansea	1	1	6
Wallabies	0	0	0

With the restart the Wallabies did their hardest to break up the scrummages, but they met with as stubborn resistance. Trew received a quick pass and found touch well in their 25.

Mandible, who had limped a bit when returning to the field after the interval, now made his first real attempt to break through, but he was stopped by Hopkins and Thomas, who closed on him. Toft fumbled after trying to field from a rush, when McKivatt, Middleton, and Richards bore down on him. Trew made to the rescue. Ivor Morgan and Hayward led a dribble, and McCabe and Craig saved. Then Jones made an opening for Toft, but Russell and Mandible barred his progress.

### Swansea Continue to Press.

Since the interval play had been conducted wholly in Wallaby territory, and most of it within 10 or 11 yards of the line.

Middleton was being held, but not securely, and he passed forward. Trew got to the ball, but unfortunately for an infringement not observable from the Press table a scrum took place. Middleton made another trial to run through, and in a short rush showed more dash than he had exhibited yet in Wales, but his pass was that of a novice.

Good kicking by Wood, McKivatt, McCabe, and Craig brought about an invasion of the Swansea half, while dashes were made by the Australian forwards. Trew and Hopkins fielded well and kicked accurately, and within three minutes Swansea were working hard to get over the Wallabies' line again. Some of the Australian forwards now lost all sense of restraint, and absolute lock saved the position more than once.

home forwards have never played better. They cared nothing about set formation, and they quite met Australian theories on this head. The tackling was brilliant, but their rushing and dribbling were quite unstoppable.

At half-back no one who saw the match can say that it was not a contrast in ability as much as in style, and that honours rested with Owen and Jones. The little "midgel" was extra good both in initiating attack and in the sterling quality of his defence. He took a lot of knocking about, and there was a lot of it, and he never lost his imperturbability or wavered in going down in front of such giants as McMurtie, Middleton or McCue.

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The combination between the "Dicks" at times fairly nonplussed the visitors, and McKivatt, McCabe, and Mandible often took the dummy pass as though this was an introduction to a movement. On the three-quarter line Trew was the shining light of the field. The efforts of the Australian three-quarters were spasmodic, and every man on their line took his pass as if overcome by the excitement of the occasion.

Phil Hopkins, Trew's fellow centre, was the next best. The prettiest movement of the match was engaged in by the centres. Toft was not at his very best but he did some really smart things, and Harvey Thomas was better in defence than attack. Everyone of them, however, defended with great gameness and there was never any hesitation in going down to the ball.

The man to add the most to his reputation and popularity was Jack Bancroft. Some time before the match his more famous brother—the finest tactician and kicker withal that ever played in this position—told me that Jack would be consulting his best wishes if he stood out of the match. He, like the rest of Swansea people, must feel glad that Jack Bancroft, recking not of influenza, listened to the advice of his colleagues and seized the opportunity to play the game of his life.

Swansea is proud of its team to-night, and of its triumph. The Welsh club have proved that the win of Wales was not the fluke that non-patriots have pronounced it to be. What Swansea have done to-day, what Llanelli was the first to achieve, is a Tocsia to Cardiff to give of its very best on Monday.

## Reflections.

BY HAMISH STUART.

The Swansea forwards were immense. Splendid as most of the tackling of the Swansea backs was, the forwards fairly carried off the honours. They united with skill in the first and with the opportunism of a Welsh pack blended with the dash in the loose of an Irish or Scottish pack, they fairly won the match for Swansea. They were better in the loose and with their feet than any Welsh pack I have ever seen. Every man worked his hardest, and though one or two men stood out from the others they were all so good that to individualise would be invidious. The Australians were utterly beaten forward.

The Swansea backs gave a display worthy of their forwards, their combination and general cleverness being ahead of anything forthcoming from the Wallabies, who were not at their best, and were a beaten side practically throughout.

But for the Australians' malpractices of "downing" a man after he has passed, Swansea would have scored a much more decisive victory. To "out" a man waiting or a repass is not fair football. In today's match the Wallabies more than once prevented a sure try after splendid movements by this unfair means.

## From Australia's Standpoint.

By MR ERNEST E. BOOTH

(OF THE FAMOUS ALL BLACKS 1905, AND N.S.W. 1908).

All Swansea seemed agog and bent on having a day out. Football was fairly simmering in the air. The crowd was tremendous, and decidedly enthusiastic. The keen fresh air seemed to affect the Wallabies immediately on entering the enclosure.

Both sides commenced with faulty scrum work, less up being prominent. Swansea opened with the right method of free and loose play. Australians' second offence in scrummaging gave Swansea their first score. The opening stages of the play were not so exhilarating as the match at Cardiff. Swansea had the advantage of the play generally, and used the wind with effect. Quite three Australians were responsible for not falling on the ball when Edgar Morgan scored, and their saving measures were not equal to the occasion. The Australian touch finding was very weak, although staying off several dangerous attacks.

The Whites attack was of a varied nature, but the visitors tackled with rare vim, and showed the benefit of the object lesson learned at the big Cardiff match. The brisk opening of the second spell demonstrated that the Australians' chief hope lay in their forwards, as the rear division made a poor show in their passing attacks.

McGabe's weakness in defence was most palpable, whilst Owen on the other side added some offences. Richards was the hero of the Australian's side, saving them continually by his brainy anticipation. Both sides displayed better rugby as the game proceeded. Griffiths going off seemed to be the necessary effect of steadying the players, which his frequent cautions had not. The play did not rise to the highest standard generally expected by the public. It could not be classed brilliant.

The keen biting wind seemed to effect the Colonials play very considerably, especially among the backs. The Swansea team played keener, and except in some special department played better football, and were easily on the day's play the better team. The Swansea lead of six points up at the interval somehow seemed to have had a moral effect plainly visible. The local backs worked more harmoniously than their opponents, handling with far more exactitude and system. Trew, Jones, and Bancroft were the backbone of the White defence, whilst Ivor Morgan and Thomas figured well in the forwards. Richard stood out most prominently amongst the visitors, who, however, all played hard football.

### SWANSEA CAPTAIN'S INJURY.

#### His Tribute to the Forwards.

At the close of the game the crowd broke into the field of play and closing round the players cheered them enthusiastically. A rush was made for Trew, but when discovered he was found to be suffering from an injured shoulder and the crowd were obliged reluctantly to abandon their intention of carrying him off the field. Dr. Perkins was called, but after examination the doctor was able to reassure the Swansea captain that no bones had been dislocated or broken, and that he would probably be well in the course of the week.

Interviewed on the result of the game Trew, the Swansea captain, said he did not wish to discuss it, adding, however, "it has been won and lost," and he put the result down "to the magnificent work of our forwards."

Mr Trew, interviewed by our Swansea correspondent in the pavilion immediately after the close of the match, when he was evidently suffering much pain



Dec. 26<sup>th</sup> 08

# WALLABIES BEATEN

## Fisticuffs on Field

### A TOURIST ORDERED OFF

### Gate of Nearly 40,000

[By "FORWARD."]

The arrangements between the Wallabies and the premier-Welsh club at Swansea to-day were on quite an international scale, the usual extra stand accommodation being put up as for country against country. The match created great interest, and the excitement was great. Trains full of excursionists arrived from all over Wales. The stand tickets were all sold long before the day of the match, and the anticipation of a good gate were quite realised.

The crowd which had assembled probably numbered between 30,000 and 40,000. There was great excitement, the visitors wishing to see what the Australians would do against the cream of Welsh members. It was recognised that the Wallabies had no easy task, as their poor scores recently made against Welsh clubs indicated, but these were more or less accounted for by the poor state of the ground. The weather kept fine and the ground was in a good condition, but the light was decidedly bad. The teams were not made known until the last moment.

There was a general feeling in Swansea that the home team would win, but not until after a great struggle. The Australians had set their hearts on this match to lower the colours of the foremost Welsh club. The ground, as previously mentioned, was in first-class condition. The band, as usual, enlivened the proceedings for the waiting crowd. Teams:—

Australians: Back, Carmichael; three-quarter backs, O. Russell, J. Hickey, E. S. Mandible, and McCabe; five-eighth C. C. McKivatt; half-back, F. Wood; forwards, M. Murtrie, J. T. Barnett, T. S. Griffin, N. E. Rowe, C. C. Hammond, S. Middleton, P. McCue, and T. R. Richards.

Swansea: Back, Bancroft; three-quarter backs, P. Hopkins, W. Trew, H. Toft, and Harry Thomas; half-backs, Owen and Jones; forwards, Edgar Morgan, Ivor Morgan, W. J. Thomas, H. Hiams, D. Davies, B. Davies, G. Hayward, and D. Griffiths.

#### THE GAME.

The Australians were the first to field, and were received with ringing cheers.

The Australians were the first to field, amid applause, and performed their war cry, facing the pavilion. Swansea soon followed, and took up their position on the Mumbles side, the wind being behind them. In the first half the Australians started the ball, but the forwards not keeping in line a scrum was formed in the centre. From the second scrum Trew kicked, and gained fifteen yards, amid applause. The Australians were penalised, and Bancroft gained much ground. Once more Owen gave the ball to Jones, who ran on, and just as the all whites were getting through the defence Toft failed to take his pass. Swansea were evidently holding their own in front. The Australians in the next few minutes were penalised, and Bancroft took the ball, and placed it beautifully between the posts.

#### GIVING SWANSEA A LEAD

At three points within five minutes of the start, Swansea continued to press, but at length Hammond came through, and kicked up the field into touch. In reply to this the Swansea forwards brought on a good burst, and but for the referee's whistle would probably have scored. The Australians kicked up well, and tackled Bancroft, but the latter got a big advantage by getting in his return kick. Trew kicked up to the corner, but the ball went into touch over the line. Once more the Australians pluckily gained ground against the wind, Mandible breaking through for the first time, but the Whites carried play back, aided by the wind, and Hopkins followed up well. Toft put in a kick from the scrum, from which McKivatt made a mark. Dicky Owen from the next scrum received, and passed out. The Australians, however, rushed the ball up to Bancroft, who made a beautiful mark in the midst of the Australians. They came on in fine style, Toft, who just failed to kick into touch, and others arriving in time to stop the Australians going over. Hayward with a useful kick sent the ball down to Carmichael, but could not regain the lost ground. Immediately after the next scrum, mage Woods was caught handling the ball on the Swansea side of the scrum. Bancroft took the penalty kick, but the ball went outside. Directly afterwards Swansea brought off a forward rush, from which

EDGAR MORGAN SCORED A TRY, but the angle was too difficult for Bancroft to convert. From the next scrum the Australians lost the ball, and Toft kicked into touch close to the goal-line. Try as they would the Australians could not shift out of their 25. The first penalty was now given against Swansea, but not much ground was gained. Again Bancroft made his mark in the teeth of a terrific rush. A tremendous loose forward drove forward. Hickey cleverly ward contest, and landed play in the Swansea. Bancroft gained twenty yards by kicking away. Bancroft kicked vigorously the

cleared their line excellently. Harvey Thomas with a fine kick gave to Trew, who kicked finely into touch. The game was strenuously contested for the remaining few minutes, and Trew and Toft by some tricky passing play got right up to the line, but Trew was stopped, being slightly injured in the rush. Swansea again dribbled to the line, but with no more luck. During the last few minutes both Hayward and Ivor Morgan were put out amongst the three-quarters. Swansea, however, could not score, and the whistle blew amid a scene of intense excitement.

	Final score.	G.	T.	Pts.
Swansea	.....	*1	1	6
Wallabies	.....	0	0	0
* Penalty goal.				

#### SAMMY WOODS'S NIECE SORRY.

Miss Doris Woods, one of the Australian twin sisters, who came so much into prominence on the occasion of the Wales-Wallabies match, said: "What do I think of it? Only one team in it, so far as I can see—Swansea. But the chief thing I am sorry about is that one of our boys should have to go off the field. I don't know what is was for, but I did match, and there is not doubt they can play football in Wales."

#### "Forward's" Comments

Had Swansea enjoyed an ordinary share of luck they would have piled on not only six, but something nearer sixteen points against their powerful opponents.

In no match of the tour since the Wallabies first set foot on English ground have they been beaten so badly in every department of the game. It is true that the Midlands put on more points against them, but those who witnessed the two matches have no hesitation in declaring that they were more fully routed by the Swansea men than they were by the Midlanders.

It was really one of the extraordinary features of the game that Swansea, holding such a clean upper hand, should have failed to score so frequently, and this failure to some degree is attributable to the solid defence of the Australians, who have proved one thing conclusively—that, while they are not a good scoring team, they are, undoubtedly, a hard team to beat.

#### SWANSEA FORWARDS.

Never have Swansea forwards risen to the occasion in a more masterly style than they did to-day their play in all phases being better than that of any pack of forwards yet seen this season.

The Wallabies' forwards at some stages of the game almost gave one the impression of their being novices, and they were completely outplayed by their opponents in white.

The Swansea back play, however, did not reach the same high standard of excellence, and had there been a little more finesse in their passing movements it is quite conceivable that half-a-dozen tries would have been scored.

It was more through bad luck on several occasions than by the faulty work of the three-quarters that several brilliant passing bouts did not culminate in tries, especially in the latter portion of the game, when Swansea were literally all over the Wallabies. And during this portion one witnessed a remarkable and unprecedented spectacle, two of the forwards being taken out of the pack to play in the back division, whilst on the Wallabies' side Richards was brought out to assist his three-quarters, so that with Griffin off the field there were only six forwards on either side.

#### REGRETTABLE INCIDENT.

The incident which led up to the marching orders being given to Griffin was one which everyone regrets, but Harry Bowen, who controlled the game admirably, had practically no alternative but to take this extreme step after giving Griffin several cautions during the game.

Now that the Colonials have been beaten twice in Wales and have only managed to draw another game and win another by a very small margin—a goal kick—one must feel a sense of satisfaction that the prestige of Welsh football has been practically vindicated. There was not a single individual among the 40,000 people on the ground who did not feel at the end of the game a clear and firm conviction that Swansea was not only the better team, and had won, but that the play would have been more adequately represented had the score been at least doubled.

At the very outset Swansea made it clear that they meant business, and one could not wish to see a team settling down to their work in a better spirit of earnestness than the Swansea men did to-day. It was an object lesson in the value of determination on the occasion of a strenuous grueling game such as that of to-day.

While everybody felt convinced of the vast superiority of the winning side, everybody on the other hand must have felt disappointed with the very very ordinary exhibition of the Wallabies, whose play was really not worthy of a representative national side.

The centres, especially, broke down badly, and failed to initiate a single round of passing which placed the Swansea citadel in danger.

For the whole of the first half Swansea played in the Wallabies' ground, and there was not a single occasion when the home 25 line was crossed at all, so that, territorially, Swansea had a tremendous pull over their opponents, and would, in my opinion, have done better if they had shown a little more confidence in their individual and collective ability by opening out the game a little more, and not keeping so close. Inasmuch as have been to their advantage, inasmuch as they had the benefit of a strong wing at their backs, and were showing, individually, better skill in kicking. In this particular respect the Wallabies never gave a more worse exhibition. Even Carmichael failed to find more than a few yards, where he had plenty of time and plenty of room to put in long kicks.

#### OWEN'S CLEVERNESS.

The Swansea man on the other hand, found the touch-line almost without fail, and their kicking was of excellent length, and their Owen once again demonstrated his little dash, the genius of the side, his little dash being absolutely bewildering not that he was watching him very cleverness being who was watching him very cleverness being who was watching him very



South Hammond came through, and kicked up the field into touch. In reply to this the Swans for the referee's whistle would burst and but for the referee's whistle would burst up well, and tackled Bancroft, but the latter return kick. Trew kicked up to the corner, but the ball went into touch over the line. Once more the Australians pluckily gained ground for the first time, but the Whites Hopkins followed up well. Toft put in a kick from the scrum, from which M'Kivati scrum received, and passed out. The Australians, however, rushed the ball up to Bancroft, who made a beautiful mark in the midst of the Australians. They came on in touch, and others arriving in time to stop the Australians going over. Hayward with a useful kick sent the ball down to Bancroft, but could not regain the lost ground. Immediately after the next scrum on the Swansea side of the scrum, Bancroft took the penalty kick, but the ball went outside. Directly afterwards Swansea brought off a forward rush, from which EDGAR MORGAN SCORED A TRY, but the angle was too difficult for Bancroft to convert. From the next scrum the Australians lost the ball, and Toft kicked into touch close to the goal-line. Try as they would the Australians could not shift out of their 25. Swansea, but not much ground was gained. Again Bancroft made his mark in the teeth of a terrific rush, and Hayward put in a clever screw kick. A tremendous loose forward contest followed. Hickey cleverly kicked away, and landed play in the Swansea half. Bancroft gained twenty yards by kicking into touch, but strenuously the Wallabies regained their way to the centre, only to lose it again. A fast, real, good round of passing now occurred, Harvey Thomas failing to come up right at the end. There was no gentleness about the Australians' tackling the next time Swansea tried this on, Harvey Thomas being lifted and thrown on his back. From the next scrum Rowe got the ball from the halves and kicked down into touch, and Toft, following up well, looked dangerous. In reply to this one Australian forwards came on, and Hunt was here injured.

Half-time score.	G.	T.	P'ts.
SWANSEA .....	1	1	6
WALLABIES .....	0	0	0

#### SECOND HALF.

The game re-started with fourteen men on each side, Wood on the one side and Hunt on the other being temporarily laid out. Swansea at once, as in the first half, took advantage of their position, and immediately got up to the Australian quarter-line. The Australian forwards tried to rush Owen, but the little man could not be shifted, and immediately afterwards Dick Jones broke away, and was only tackled from behind as he was passing to Toft, who likewise broke down. D. Thomas broke away with the ball at his feet, and Ivor Morgan and Hayward handling seemed to have the line at their mercy, but again the Whites over the quarter line. Swansea continued to have the advantage, and were doing as well against the wind as with it. On the re-start the Wallabies did their hardest to break up the scrum, but they met with a stubborn resistance, and Trew receiving a quick pass twice found touch well in the Wallabies' 25. Mandible, who had limped on returning to the field, now made his first real attempt to break through, but he was stopped by Hopkins and Thomas closing on him. Toft fumbled a bit in trying to field, W. M'Murtrie, Middleton, and Richards bearing down on him, but Trew came to the rescue. Ivor Morgan and Hayward led a dribble to M'Cabe, but Craig saved. Then Jones made AN OPENING FOR TOFT.

but Russell and Mandible barred his progress. Since the interval play had been conducted wholly in the Wallaby territory, and most of it within ten or a dozen yards of the line. Middleton was being held, but not closely, and he passed. Trew got the ball, but, unfortunately, for an infringement not observable from the press-table a scrum took place. Mandible made another trial to make a straight run through the centres, and in his short run showed more dash than he has yet done in Wales, but his pass was that of a novice. Local hopes justifiably ran high, but here the Australian forwards for the first time really burst through Swansea and came away finely against all obstacles. Hayward was put out in the three-quarter line. Phil Hopkins by a big kick gained some ground, but the Australians were unquestionably showing improved form. Swansea were penalised, but the lost ground was got back by good work along the touchline by Hunt and Harvey Thomas. A very exciting rush, in which most of the Swansea team participated, roused the crowd to a

HIGH PITCH OF EXCITEMENT, but the defence was broken up, and Swansea once again were beaten back to the centre. Against the wind the Swansea forwards were beautifully rushing at times, and were only just back in time. At last one of the bursts throw by Edgar Morgan prevented a score. Harvey Thomas was all but over on the wing. Just after Owen was penalised which kicking out the ball, and thus stopped the attack. Swansea three-quarters got the ball two or three times, and it was keen disappointment to see their efforts frustrated. A line of three-quarter passing enabled Phil Hopkins to go straight for the line. He passed to Trew, who only missed scoring by inches. The Australians were beaten to the world, and Swansea were playing with machine-like attack, the Australians keeping them out through clever kick out to touch. M'Cabe and Mandeville came down the field with a grand run, but were stopped.

#### UNFORTUNATE INCIDENT Australian Ordered Off the Field

At this stage Griffin, after being warned several times, was sent off the field by the referee. It was stated that there had been some shufflings.

The Australians now showed some very good passing, but Bancroft made a mark and kicked into touch. From the next scrum Harvey Thomas gave the Australians a "free." The Swansea goal line now became more dangerous. Once more good footwork by Swansea stood them in good stead, and

At the very outset Swansea made it clear that they meant business, and one could not wish to see a team settling down to their work in a better spirit of earnestness than the Swansea men did to-day. It was an object lesson in the value of determination on such as that of to-day.

While everybody felt convinced of the vast superiority of the winning side, everybody on the other hand must have felt disabition of the Wallabies, whose play was really not worthy of a representative national side.

#### OWEN'S CLEVERNESS.

The Swansea men, on the other hand, found the touch-line almost without fail, and their kicking was of excellent length. Little Dicky Owen once again demonstrated that he is the genius of the side, his cleverness being absolutely bewildering not only to Woods, who was watching him very closely, but also to the whole team. Time and again he dribbled away from the scrum, and after the ball had been heeled out by the Colonials' forwards, and the Swansea front rankers, adopting themselves to this manoeuvre, broke quickly, and repeatedly gained long stretches of ground with magnificent rushes.

Their skill and speed in the open combined with irresistible dash, and their cleverness in securing the ball from the scrum puzzled the Wallabies so grievously that they did not know what to expect at any moment during the match.

This variety in the play of the Swansea men proved their wonderful versatility, and almost felt instinctive sympathy for the Australians, as they seemed to be beaten too often by the deceptive expert passing of Dicky Owen and the brilliant feinting and dribbling of Dick Jones, who played his best game of the season, and was very much of his old form in his palmiest days.

All the Swansea backs, as a matter of fact, played with admirable cohesion, and were all good individually, with the possible exception of Harvey Thomas, who has not yet got out of his old fault of failing to take the ball with a safe pair of hands. Except for this fault, he played a sound, useful game, his passing being particularly good.

While Trew distinguished himself by his usual clean, classy game, and his beautiful run in the last five minutes of the game was one of the prettiest and most exhilarating instances in the whole game. Phil Hopkins was a success in the centre, although he was out of his place, and Harry Toft, on the other wing, gave further proof that he is playing better than ever this season. Jack Bancroft at full back never made a single mistake, and his kicking and fielding of the ball were such that commanded the unstinted admiration of everybody.

Among the forwards, Edgar Morgan, Ivor Morgan, and Hunt were the pick of the basket, the first named especially doing a lot of hard graft in the pack, and he was of great service in the open.

#### WALLABIES' FORM.

It is difficult to understand and more difficult to explain the poor form shown by the Wallabies, and it is regrettable that when they realised that they were beaten by a better team they resorted to tactics which were questionable, to say the least.

There was too much fouling on either side, and certain players in the two teams were to blame. However, there is some extenuation in the fact that it was an exceptionally keen and strenuous contest between two perfectly-trained teams, and some little allowance must be made for the intensity of the desire to win the laurels of the day.

Swansea have every reason for feeling gratified with their victory because it was won fairly and squarely on merit, and except for the few fugitive occasions when the Wallabies kicked into the Swansea quarters in the second half there was only one team in it.

#### CENTRAL STARS V CANTON CRUSADERS

##### Player Ordered Off

The two unbeaten rivals for the championship in connection with the Cardiff Boys League met at the Sophia Gardens to-day. The large crowd of spectators continually infringed on the touch-line, and their excitement spread to the players. Referee Dit-ordered Smith (Centrals) off for rough play. The struggle was fast and furious, but at the end there was no score. The referee stated his intention of reporting one of the clubs for refusing to divulge the name of a player who, it is alleged, insulted him immediately the match was over.

#### WHITCHURCH V PORTHCAWL

At Whitchurch. Both teams suffered from absences after the matches of the previous day. The villagers were first to attack, and Llewellyn's failure to take the final transfer after a passing bout lost a certain try. Smart play by Randal Davies enabled the home-keepers to keep up the pressure, but Porthcawl relieved with a fine forward rush. There was no score at half-time.

Resuming, the visitors came away with a dribble and Wilkins crossed, Jones converting. This reverse roused the home-keepers, Lewis especially being constantly prominent. Although play was seldom out of the visitors' half they could only register minors, several of which were near things for tries. The Villagers' luck was quite out, and they had a hard dinner in being defeated after having three parts of the play. Final—Porthcawl 1 goal; Whitchurch, nil.



## THE OLD FIRM.



A little business Cardiffians hope to see transacted next Monday.



## SWANSEA'S SUCCESS.

### AUSTRALIANS' FOURTH DEFEAT.

Swansea ... 1-1, 6 Australians... 0-0, 0

(By CYMRIC.)

SWANSEA were distinctly fortunate in securing the Boxing Day fixture with the Australians, and it was early foreseen that only fine weather was necessary for history making, so far as the attendance at a club match was concerned. The elaborate arrangements similar to international matches were wise provisions, for with the Clerk of the Weather in a generous mood, the attendance proved a record so far as the Swansea ground was concerned, and the receipts are certain to far exceed that of any club game in any country—save America. Except that Dr. Moran stood down, and that Carmichael took the place of Dix, who had been preferred to him, the Australians turned out as had been expected, while Swansea were at full strength. When Row kicked off for the tourists it was estimated that well over 40,000 people were present, and it was thought policy to close the gates.

#### THE PLAY.

Swansea had the advantage of the wind, and made full use of it. Breakaway by the visitors were checkmated by clever kicking to touch, and the earnestness of the opposing forwards boded trouble, and penalties were deserved. From one of them Bancroft kicked a goal, the three points being hailed with enthusiasm.

The visiting forwards played harder, but were thwarted by safe catching and smart marking. Play was, however, taken to the home "25," but the Swansea forwards relieved with a rushing movement that beat man after man. Hunt, when approaching the goal line, crossed the ball to Edgar Morgan, who scored a try that Bancroft failed to convert.

#### GRIFFEN ORDERED OFF.

The second half saw the Australians do nothing better, though they had the advantage of the wind. Twice or three times they pressed, but they failed to get through. For the rest of the time they were a palpably beaten side, and a quarter of an hour before the end Griffen received



A. J. MCCABE, Australians.

(Photo by Scott & Co., Manchester.)

marking orders for an offence for which he had previously been warned several times. The home lot looked like adding to their score, but the end came with Swansea possessed of an advantage of 6 points.

#### A WELL-DESERVED WIN.

There was no getting away from the fact that the victory was fully deserved. The disengaged tourists—those who watched their preferred colleagues from the touch line—were prompt and frank in proclaiming that their team were beaten by more than the actual score would suggest. It was not a win gained through superiority in one particular department, but really through a superiority in every phase of play.

Swansea were an excellent well-drilled and disciplined contingent, controlled by a captain whose word was heard by spectators and immediately acted upon by his players. In the scrummages they beat their opponents for possession of the ball, while in the lines out they nullified the natural advantages of the other side by jumping for the ball. Still more effective was their quick breaking-up from the packs, and their remarkable dash and footwork were quite demoralising to the Australian backs.

The Internationals, Thomas, Ivor Morgan, and Hayward, were always prominent, but the cleverest of the eight was Hunt, whose footwork in the rushes was brilliant in the extreme and whose keenness from start to finish was remarkable.

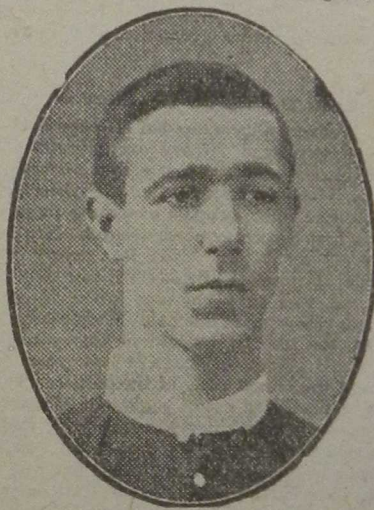
#### OWEN AT HIS BEST.

At half-back the comparison was in favour of the club, for Owen was at his best in attack and defence. His partner, Jones, now on the slow side, was as finished and clever in his movements as of yore, and the three-quarter backs could have no difficulty in taking the clean passes he invariably gave. There was not as much three-quarter back play as could have been wished, but that which was came mostly from the Swansea side. Trew, the captain, appeared to dominate every movement, and his captaincy was never more real and apparent than in the international game. His covering of mistakes and his general defensive work were wonderful for so frail a player, and it was a matter of regret that his being cannoned back into the hands of Carmichael by two of his own forwards robbed him of a certain try which would have crowned his great display.

Hopkins, the International wing man, playing in the centre, was not so sure in fielding, while the same fault applied to Toft and Harvey Thomas on the wings. Yet all three played well and had a full share in the big victory. Bancroft, at back, overshadowed Carmichael and kicked further against the wind than his opponent did with it.

#### THE AUSTRALIANS DISAPPOINTING.

The Australians disappointed the huge crowd, and comparisons to their disadvantage of course with previous touring com-



W. J. TREW, Swansea.

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

binations were frequently heard. As a matter of fact they played as well as their opponents allowed them, and the little scope given accounted for their moderate exhibition. They were suited admirably by the fine hard ground and dry ball, and yet they failed to play well enough to make the issue of the game really doubtful. They were as strenuous as ever, and in that matter firm refereeing made the play cleaner than in many other matches of the tour.

Griffen's punishment, though fully deserved, was not the result of a despicable offence, but previous cautions weighed heavily against him. Richards was again the best of the eight, with Middleton and Hammond runners up. Woods was beaten by Owen, and M'Kivatt failed partly in consequence, and more so by reason of the smart following up of the opposing forwards.

The three-quarter back line never got fairly going. Mandible still disappointed; Russell was outwitted and outpaced, and Hickey was so much out of work as to make him faulty in handling when a rare opportunity came his way. McCabe was the best of the line, and a clever dodger it would be difficult to find.

Carmichael has lost his form in recent matches, and is clearly out of luck at present.

AUSTRALIANS.—P. Carmichael; C. Russell, A. J. McCabe, L. Mandible, J. Hickey; F. Woods (captain), C. H. M'Kivatt; T. Richards, J. T. Barnett, T. Griffen, S. A. Middleton, P. M'Que, N. Row, C. O. Hammond, and J. M'Murrie.  
SWANSEA.—J. Bancroft; H. Toft, P. L. Hopkins, W. J. Trew (captain), Harvey Thomas; R. M. Owen, R. Jones; D. J. Thomas, Ivor Morgan, G. Hayward, H. Hunt, D. Griffiths, Edgar Morgan, D. Davies and I. Williams.  
Referee: Mr. D. H. Bowen, Idagally.

Swansea  
Dec. 26<sup>th</sup> '08



SNAPSHOTS AT THE CARDIFF v. WALLABIES MATCH.



(1) Before the match. Some hard patches being broken up by a Cambridge roller. (2) The ground being frost bound at Newport gave the Barbarians an opportunity to witness the match. Inset is the Ba Ba's mascot. (3) How some people made themselves comfortable notwithstanding the inclement weather. A stern chase. (5) A reply to the Australians' war cry.—("S.W.D.N." Photos.)



Jan. 13<sup>th</sup> '09 after England. Jan 9<sup>th</sup>

## A WIN FOR THE WALLABIES

### BRISTOL AND CLIFTON GIVE THEM A HARD GAME.

	G.	T.	P'ts.
Australians .....	1	2	11
Bristol and Clifton .....	0	1	3

Before 7,000 spectators a team representative of Bristol and Clifton met the Wallabies at Bristol on Wednesday. During the first ten minutes the homesters had the better of the play, and Victor Eberle went over, but was called back for a knock-on. The Colonials after that improved, and Gavin scored an unconverted try after a good run by M'Cabe. The game ruled even until half-time, when the Australians led by three points.

The second half was evenly contested. The home forwards played a particularly hard game, but the Wallabies were superior behind. Hickey scored an unconverted try after a fine run. The home forwards dribbled over the line, and J. Spoor scored. M'Cabe next crossed for the Colonials. Hickey converting. The homesters attacked hotly towards the close, but were kept out.

#### COMMENTS.

It was a splendidly-contested game, and, although the Wallabies had the same lot of forwards as against England, they were well held by the home eight, who rose to the occasion in fine style, and at the end were pressing their opponents. The Colonials had to work very hard for their tries, the tackling being splendid. The "star" performers for the winners were M'Cabe and Hickey, who were very hard to stop. The forwards met their match in the loose, and some of the dribbling by the home pack was very good. Bristol's try came as the result of keen following up. The Colonials always had the home attack well in hand, but some nice rounds of passing were seen, and Holbrook kicked well. The refereeing of Gwyn Nicholls gave every satisfaction. Among the spectators was Winfield, the Cardiff full-back.

## BRISTOL & CLIFTON v. WALLABIES.

Played at Bristol on Wednesday, before 5,000 spectators. The Colonials, with the exception of Carmichael and Ward Prentice, played the same side as against England. Dix went back, and Carroll and Parkinson filled the vacancies at three-quarter. Bristol had their best three-quarters, Shewring and Kingston, away on the injured list. The weather was stormy, and the ground on the soft side. At the start the Colonials pressed. After 25 minutes' play, after a good burst by M'Cabe, Gavin got an unconverted try. The game continued rather scrambling, both sides finding the greasy ball hard to hold. Bristol did some pressing in a keen forward game, and Moore missed a penalty goal at an easy range. Towards the interval the Colonials pressed, but could not get over.

	G.	T.	M.
Australia .....	0	1	3
Bristol and Clifton .....	0	0	0

The combined side improved and Victor Eberle crossed but there had been a knock-on. His brother also made a good run but Russell brought him down. Bristol had the better of the game, but the Colonials' defence was very sure. Bristol had the advantage of a strong wind, and kept their opponents out by sound tackling. Hickey scored after 10 minutes' play. Ten minutes later Spoor got over for Bristol. M'Cabe went over with the Colonials' third try, and the extra points were added. After this Bristol held their own and played splendidly forward.

	G.	T.	P.
Australia .....	1	2	11
Bristol .....	0	1	3

(1) Before the match. Some hard patches being broken up by a Cambridge roller. (2) The ground being frost bound at Newport gave the Barbarians an opportunity to witness the match. (3) How some people made themselves comfortable notwithstanding the inclement weather. A stern chase. (5) A reply to the Australians' war cry—("S.W.D.N." Photos.)



## 24 POINTS TO 8.

## CARDIFF'S FINE WIN.

## Wallabies Overwhelmed.

## WELSH FOOTBALL SUPREME.

## VISITORS' FOURTH DEFEAT IN WALES.

## Citizens Win All the Way

## SCORES IN RAPID SUCCESSION.

## FORWARDS' BUSTLING WORK.

## Burge Ordered Off.

(By "Old Stager.")

Cardiff played so well against the other two Colonial teams that their match on Monday attracted a very big crowd. In the game against New Zealand the club had on play the better of the deal, and lost only by a goal kick. Winfield's attempt to convert a corner try in the closing minutes was a magnificent effort. The win was by 10 points to 8, and a try was given away through a rare lapse by Percy Bush, who, however, rallied afterwards, and did some positively brilliant work. Against the South Africans Cardiff rose to the occasion, and on a very wet field beat the tourists by 17 points to nil, so gaining victory where Wales had failed and putting on the tallest adverse score of the tour. In the South African match Gwyn Nicholls and Winfield played well, the former opening the scoring with a sensational try. Nicholls had emerged from his retirement for that memorable match, and probably would have been persuaded to come out again but for an accident to the hip muscle while training recently before the Blackheath match.

For Monday's match the home side, judged on its record for the year, was much below the class of those that participated in the other two historic games. Winfield was a spectator, having dislocated his thumb against the Barbarians on Saturday, while Brown was a doubtful starter, for he had had a temperature on Saturday night of well over 100, though he had played against the Barbarians that afternoon. Bush, the captain, had taken a rest on Saturday, and much was expected of him. All the Australians affected to be well able to cope with his tactics, clever as they know them to be, for Bush was one of the successes of the Rev. Mr. Mollineux's team that toured in Australia and New Zealand.

The Australian team differed in four instances from that which played against Wales, Richards, Carrol, Ward-Prentice, and Craig being absentees. In the team that played at Swansea on Saturday McCabe was substituted by Bede-Smith, Richards, McMurtrie, and Griffen being replaced by Dr. Moran, Burge, and McArthur. The loss of Richards and Griffen was likely to be keenly felt, for Richards is the best all-round forward on the side, and Jiffen's "hooking" has been one of the most valuable factors to success. On the Cardiff side J. Brown, under the skilful treatment of Dr. W. G. Williams (the club's medical officer) found himself well enough to turn out; but Sergeant Smith, the vice-captain, had a rheumatic attack, and his absence gave J. Daley a chance of again showing his mettle.

Fortunately it was not so cold as before noon, but it must have been a trial for the hundreds of ladies who were in their seats for a couple of hours before the match in the keen air, though it was an illustration of the enthusiasm which was centred in the match. There were at least 25,000 people present 15 minutes before the match started. The players lined out as follows:—

Australia—Back, P. Carmichael; three-quarter backs, C. Russell (right wing), J. J. Hickey (left wing), E. F. Mandible (outside),

and F. Bede-Smith (inside); five-eighth, C. C. McKivatt; half-back, F. Woods; forwards, Dr. Moran (captain), S. A. Middleton, N. E. Row, P. McCue, C. C. Hammond, J. T. Barnett, A. B. Burge, and M. McArthur.

Cardiff—Back, R. Williams; three-quarter backs, J. L. Williams (left wing), L. M. Dyke (left centre), W. Spiller (right centre), and R. A. Gibbs (right wing); half-backs, P. F. Bush (captain) and W. L. Morgan; forwards, J. Brown, J. Powell, J. Casey, D. Westcott, F. Gaccon, G. Yewlett, J. Pugsley, and J. Daley. Referee, Mr. Gil Evans; touch judges, Mr. F. Roberts (Australia) and Mr. W. T. Morgan (president of the Cardiff Club).

## THE GAME DESCRIBED.

While the usual war cry was being given some merriment was created by Percy Bush advancing with shield and spear. John Brown kicked off for Cardiff from the river end. There was very little wind. Play settled down on the Wallabies' side almost at the 25 where John Brown had galloped in fine style. Several loose scrummages took place, and Bush trying to find touch far down miskicked the ball, but the home forwards got well around.

On the next occasion the Wallabies got the ball, but they lost ground by their passing through quick breaking up by the home forwards, Casey, Westcott, and Yewlett being well up. There was every appearance that it would prove a fast and determined struggle.

Hickey, who was playing on the left wing, opposed to Gibbs, followed up his kick, but Williams, the recruit, took the ball coolly and kicked well. After another good field and kick by Williams, Bush sent play to the 25 with an excellent screw punt. The Wallaby forwards soon regained the ground, and McKivatt picking up in the loose passed to McCue, who was in front of goal, and about twenty yards out, when Dyke jumped pluckily for him, and brought down a man double his size. Then the Cardiff forwards heeled a time or two, and Morgan passing quickly to Bush, ground was gained by kicking.

Twice Cardiff came near to breaking through the defence by smart passing. On one occasion Bush won his way past several opponents by doubling skilfully and then passing to Gibbs, who went hard for the line and beat Carmichael, only to be swung into touch. A second afterwards Cardiff had a splendid chance of scoring, but Spiller held on to the ball too long, so losing a splendid opportunity for Williams on the left wing.

## Cardiff Score Twice.

From a penalty given because Spiller did not play the ball, the Australians got no relief, and Cardiff continued the attacking. After a try had only narrowly been averted against the Australians' left wing, where Hickey was defending brilliantly, Dyke did some grand work in fearless rush-stopping and quick kicking, and then the Cardiff forwards swept the ball before them, and John Brown and another crossed near to the line and W. Morgan made a try wide out, crossing at the identical spot where Deans claimed to have scored in the famous New Zealand match against Wales. Bush took the shot: it was a good kick, but it failed.

Cardiff were then penalised, and the Wallabies tried to make ground with what in Australia is called a "Messenger," because the ruse of short kicking and passing has been so successfully employed by the greatest player playing with the Kangaroos. It had been practically persistent attack by Cardiff, and the home forwards were following the lead of Swansea in not allowing the Australian attacking plan of campaign to develop. For offside work in scrummage Australia was penalised at a spot just over the 25, and about 10 yards from the touch-line. Bush took the kick and landed a fine goal, putting Cardiff six points up at an early stage.

## Hard Luck for Australia.

For a while play veered between the Australian 25 and halfway, and Hickey running after his own kick all but took the ball on the bounce. Had he done so he would have had a clear field. This was hard luck for Australia. A grand rush by the forwards, with Burge, Middleton, Moran, and Row leading, took play to the home 25, where Hickey, joining in, short punted. A section of the crowd could not understand why a mark was not allowed to Dyke, who fielded superbly, but they had not noticed that Hickey had been fouled. Wood took the penalty—a tricky push of the ball

along the ground rather than a kick—and this might have deceived the defence if one of his forwards had not knocked on.

The Wallabies now improved, and showed better combination than at any stage of the match at Swansea, but the outstanding figure was Hickey, and it was lucky for Cardiff that so stout a defender as Gibbs was facing him. Several times the light blue forwards broke clear away from the line-outs. Woods, receiving a short pass, threw out a long one, and if Mandible had been half the man he has been described it would have been touch-and-go for a try, even although he had to travel 20 yards.

## The Wallabies Press.

It was the Wallabies who were now pressing, and there were several squeaks for tries if only the visiting "threes" could steady themselves. Good work by Woods and McKivatt ended in Russell punting over the line. There was an exciting rush for the ball, but Bush was first to it, and promptly touched down.

In another rush a Cardiffian was hurt, but play was only stopped for two minutes. Gaccon, Casey, Yewlett, and Powell then led a loose dribble that worked to the 25, where Pugsley gave a good pass from the line out, and Daley won a round of applause for a fine tackle. Gradually the Wallabies were being driven back to halfway, and once there Cardiff were quite their equals again.

A sensational bit of play followed. Spiller intercepted a pass between the Colonial centres and tore away at a good pace. He passed to Dyke, so beating Mandible and Hickey. Bush cut in between Dyke and Gibbs, and took the ball on. The captain tried hard to double through, but was cut off when, had Gibbs received the pass, a try looked a gift.

## Gibbs Crosses in the Corner.

From the very first scrum after this, and about eight yards out, Casey got away, and after feinting to pass to the centre he swerved towards the wing, and Gibbs crossed in the corner. Bush had another shot at goal, but his kick was not so good as the last one.

## Wallabies' Skilful Try.

Then the Colonials' buckled to, although nine points down. After some good fielding and kicking by Carmichael they got close in to the home goal, and Woods giving Hickey a pass almost on the line the left wing scored a try. From the Press-box at midfield nothing could be seen that gave warrant for the crowd in the neighbourhood to send forth condemnatory shouts. The try seemed to be skilfully secured, and the Cardiffians were fairly caught napping. Hickey had thrown the ball out of touch to Woods, who threw back to the left wing after drawing Gibbs on to him. Hickey deserved every credit for the score, as a reward for the general excellence of his play Carmichael's kick was from the most difficult of angles, and it failed.

The interval arrived without further notable incident:—

HALF-TIME SCORE—		G. T. P.
CARDIFF	.....	*1 2 9
AUSTRALIA	.....	0 1 3

\*Penalty.

During the interval the Cardiff players retired to the pavilion, but the Wallabies remained on the ground. The restarting kick had to be twice taken, Burge then kicking a short punt that he and Mandible followed up at top pace. R. Williams, however, fielded with remarkable coolness, dodged Mandible, and ran almost to midfield, where he short-punted. Burge had wrenched his knee when shooting past the full-back, and play was stopped. Williams's kick had been marked, and Woods punted towards touch, but Gibbs recovered the ball, and with excellent screw punts he and Spiller soon sent play well into the Colonial quarter.

Bede-Smith and Russell saved some rushes, and with the crowd singing "Rule Britannia" Bush drove play to about a dozen yards from the Australian line. Bush was now in the three-quarter line, Gibbs playing next man to Morgan, and frequently rushing in and stopping their half-backs and breakaway forwards. This was a manoeuvre that paid.

A penalty was given against the Wallabies about 30 yards out and 15 from touch. Bush kicked a couple of yards outside the far post, and but for the alertness of Russell Johnny Williams on Cardiff's left wing would have scored—he made a fine effort.

## Burge Ordered Off.



Continued

Pay was proceeding just outside the Australians 25, when A. B. Burge was observed by the referee to kick Westacott when he was on the ground, and when he did not have the ball. Burge was immediately ordered off. The crowd, many of whom had recollection of what happened to Trew in the Welsh match at the feet of the same player, demonstrated their disapproval of such conduct, but the sporting spirit in them soon asserted itself, and the jeering was short-lived, it being felt that the disgrace of being sent off was sufficient punishment in itself. Westacott was attended to by Dr. Williams, and play was resumed in a few minutes, though the position of the kick was in a spot that made the injury most painful, and might have resulted seriously.

### Welshmen's Third Try.

Within a few minutes of resumption a cross-kick was put in from a bunch of players—it seemed to come from Gibbs—and John Brown and several forwards went well for the line. Brown made a dive with the ball, but lost it, and was laid out for his pains. The ball crossed the line, however, and either Dyke or J. L. Williams was in position to score. The lucky man, however, was "J.L." It was by no means an easy angle, and a loud cheer followed the successful goal kick by Bush.

A great rush followed the kick-off, and Cardiff came within an ace of scoring, but Bede-Smith, Carmichael, and Hickey in turn saved. The next raid was made against the right wing, but Russell cleared after a dashing run and quick passing by Dyke and Williams.

Forcing tactics were then directed against the centre, and the way Hickey cut in and checked dribble after dribble was the finest defensive work done by the Wallabies on tour. A fugitive breakaway by Middleton, McCue, McArthur, and Row sent the ball nearly to halfway, and then Mandible was given the ball. He was clear of pursuit from any of the home three, and though it was at half-way he punted direct to Williams instead of running hard for the line. Williams, who had kept his head all through the piece, fielded in perfect fashion, and with the finest kick of the match found touch far in his opponents' 25.

### Excitement Was High.

It had been an exciting struggle, but thrilling incidents were not yet over. Bush tried a shot for goal, and then the home forwards put in the best concerted dribble of the day, and it was only the dare-devil pluck of Hickey that saved a score. A nice bit of play by Woods and Russell sent the game over halfway, and here Dr. Moran knocked on when there was a good opportunity of breaking between the centres.

Mandible now twisted his ankle, and was limping badly, but a dashing run by the visiting forwards, with Row, Middleton, McArthur, and Dr. Moran prominent, improved the position for the Wallabies. A long kick sent the ball down to Williams, who prevented it from going into touch close to his line, and with a superb screw punt caused the welkin to ring with cheers, for he had gained nearly half the length of the field.

The Wallabies, however, did not give up hope, and when the crowd were congratulating themselves that the visitors were altogether spent, and a made-up song was being chanted from the sixpenny side with the refrain, "Who beat the Wallabies? Car—Car—Cardiff," the visitors got away against the right wing, and Gibbs looked like being bottled up, when J. L. Williams crossed from the far wing and saved.

### Wallabies' Last Try.

Then from a line out Middleton, who towered above the Cardiffians, broke away and passed to his captain, Dr. Moran, who scored under the bar, a goal following. But this was only a flash in the pan, as was soon made palpable.

### Scores in Quick Succession.

Bush, after good work by Morgan, broke away in his very best style, drew the defence on to him, and then passed to Spiller. The ball went to Gibbs, and Dyke, with Williams in close attendance, was soon going hard for the line, and a try was inevitable. Dyke did the proper thing in judging his distance and plunging for the line instead of risking a pass.

There was no goal this time, but play had only just been restarted when Bush coolly dropped a splendid goal. This took all the sting out of the Wallabies, and in the closing minutes Westacott fielded from a rebound and

ran straight for the line. When he looked like being stopped by Carmichael and Russell he passed to J. L. Williams, who scored wide out, the goal kick failing. This ended the scoring, and the match soon finished.

FINAL SCORE— G. T. P.  
CARDIFF ..... \*13 4 24  
WALLABIES ..... 1 1 8  
\*Dropped. {Penalty.

### Notes on the Game.

(By "Old Stager")

It is all the more regrettable because the majority of the Australians are sportsmen to the heart that a fine display of football should be marred by the sending off of a representative of a national side. This is the third man among the Australians to have disgraced the Commonwealth by failing to control his temper in the heat of the play. The other two, Middleton and Griffen, may be excused for having so far forgotten themselves as to punch at opponents if it be true that they were irritated or, as it has been put, intimidated to retaliate, but there is absolutely no excuse for Burge, who after his glaring foul of Trew in the Welsh match ought to have been sent home. He was kept out of the match against Swansea, and if he had not played to-day the game would only have been remembered for the skill imported into it; and the pleasure of what was a great spectacular exhibition of a strenuous struggle for supremacy would not have been mixed by the unforgivable offence of the Colonial, who might easily not only have maimed, but have killed his man.

Until Cardiff had put on their second score the Tourists played a better game than they did at Swansea. Their great weakness was where it has ever been, at centre-three-quarters, and Mandible once more played a game undistinguished by any of the cleverness which he is described as having shown in the Antipodes.

The Cardiff team to a man rose to the occasion. Not for several seasons have they played so fine a game, and the spirit that dominated them was that which gave them their historic victory over the South Africans.

The recruit, Williams, the youthful Canton full-back, covered himself with glory. His fielding and kicking alike were brilliant. It is a great thing to say, but it is a fact that Winfield, at his very best, was adequately replaced, and no one was louder in applauding the youngster than the veteran he was substituting.

Cardiff's captaincy was, as Trew's had been on Saturday, an example of perfect generalship, and Bush also, like Trew, ever set an inspiring example for his men. It was a stroke of genius for Gibbs to be placed where the outside half usually stands on several occasions during the game, and particularly when the Cardiff forwards were needing breathers.

The Colonials were absolutely out-played, but they did game. Both their tries were well gained, and neither was in the slightest degree a fluke. The openings were appreciated, and scores aimed for.

It was only in their physical strength that the visitors were superior—in every phase of skilled play, as we understand it in Wales, they were out-pointed, and they were not led with the same ability as their conquerors. Forward they did not secure anything like the same monopoly of the ball as they did in the Wales match and there was no period longer than five minutes when they pressed, and whereas in the Welsh match the Colonials were persistently attacking during the last 20 minutes, it was Cardiff who scored on the last two occasions.

The score would indicate a rout: it was not so on the actual run of the play. Cardiff did not keep them in their twenty-five for such long stages as did Swansea, but the winners' strategy and tactics seemed to mentally paralyse the Tourists. It was the feeling that there was no sign from which quarter a polished attack was coming that caused this embarrassment. Hickey alone of the visiting backs was able to successfully anticipate the attack, the others every one being drawn along after the false thrust.

There were some electrifying passages in the game. The Cardiff forwards learned something from their defeat by Swansea, and several of their rushes really thrilled the spectators. John Brown played one of the best games of his life, and on his day he has every claim to be classed as a great forward. It may seem strange to onlookers, who could not fail to admire his play, but it is a fact that invincibility of spirit overcame physical condition in his case, for Brown late on Saturday night was in the throes of influenza-like pains, and was specially doctored to be able to turn out at all.

Another of the best of the forwards, who would have stood down if he had paid heed to his pains, was John Powell, and only a few of those who witnessed his dashing runs knew that he had hurt his arm and twinged whenever he extended it. Westacott, who was a victim of Burge's brutal act which should put him outside the pale of amateur football for ever, might have been crippled for life, if, indeed, he is not to be congratulated for escaping with it.

Burge brought with him a bad reputation from Australia, and I am giving away no secret when I say that more than a few of his colleagues would have preferred him to have remained there, and that the Wallabies' officials over here had no voice in his selection as most certainly they should have had.

It may be that only the acts are brutal, that there is not the slightest intention to maim. Assuming that to be so, Burge has not the temperament for an amateur Rugby player, and the knocking out by kicks of Hayward, of Swansea, when he was assisting Plymouth in Devonshire, of Trew in the Welsh match, and of Westacott at Cardiff go to prove that he is at least too reckless a player to take part in a game that without strenuousness would lose its charm. None of these fouls were made by over-running the ball, and all of the fouls could have been avoided by a man of normal temperament.

I did not like the demonstration of the crowd towards Burge, but I do think that the only adequate punishment for the case is to stop him from taking active part in the game. It is a pity, for he is a well-built young fellow with all the qualifications necessary to make him a great forward except control over his temper.

It was pleasing to see the way in which the younger members of the Cardiff pack followed the lead of the seniors. Their dashing runs were nearly irresistible, and their play in tight scrummage and thorough tackling showed them to be a well-balanced and disciplined lot. Gaccon, Yewlett, and Daley each contributed smart work, while Pugsley was splendid on the line-out and really deserved the try which fell to Morgan, and Jack Casey has never been of more service to his side, his quick breaking away from the scrummage and sound tackling often stopping Woods and McKivatt from getting into stride.

In a phrase, Cardiff's was an excellent pack. The forwards played with a combination that one could have expected from the long association together of the Wallabies, but which was so conspicuously missing in the tourists' ranks.

At half-back Morgan and Bush fairly and squarely beat Woods and McKivatt. Morgan confounded the pessimists who had prophesied victory for the Wallabies on a mistaken estimate of Morgan's value. It is only once in a generation that two men can be got for one club to suit each other in the perfect fashion of a David and a Bush. Morgan, however, is improving in every match, and his play had justified the confidence reposed in his powers. His pluck is undeniable—isn't he a brother of Teddy Morgan, whose equal as a tackler for a light weight has never been beaten in the history of the game?—his passes to Bush were excellently conceived and delivered with a celerity which gave the outside half plenty of room to move in, and his try was gained in very skilful manner, for he had joined in a dribble, picked up a bouncing ball in stride, and showed resourcefulness in his dive to score.

Bush will be remembered in this game more for his clever captaincy than for his own play, though that often reached the highest standard. His dropped goal was a beauty, and he often sorely puzzled the defenders, who did not know where to look for this "will o' the wisp-like" dodger.



Of the recruit Williams I have already dealt, and will pass on to the three-quarters with saying that the deputy for Winfield is bound to make a great name for himself if he continues to play with the skill and courage he exhibited in what was his first big match. Clearly he has the "big game" temperament.

The Cardiff three-quarter line was superior to the Australians' individually and as a whole, although Hickey, who played on the left wing and not in the centre, as the official card stated, merits all praise for his display. Russell did not succeed in beating Williams, who so successfully opposed the heavy-weight sprinter in the Welsh match, and now was made to look a "common player." Mandible again failed, and Bede-Smith, his fellow centre, was no great shakes.

It was, however, the Cardiff centres who carried off the honours among the threes, and though little Dyke and long-limbed Spiller made an occasional mistake, they revealed sterling qualities in attack, and particularly in defence. Indeed Mandible and Bede-Smith were simply overshadowed so far as attack was concerned by Dyke and Spiller, and neither of the Australian men of much greater reputation was allowed to make anything like a good opening for Hickey and Russell on their wings. Hickey was brilliant in defence, and properly fed would have been a difficult man even for so fine a defender as Gibbs unquestionably is.

Gibbs was beaten twice in the match, once when trickiness by Hickey and Woods won a try that, though perfectly legal, certainly savoured of sharp practice. It was a dodge that would have been stopped if it had been thought that Hickey was really throwing out of touch instead of tossing the ball to Woods, the half-back, to throw in, as is customarily done. There is no doubt at all about the right to do what

was done, and the only question that the referee had to settle was whether the ball was thrown out at right angles to the touch line. People at the spot give me every assurance that this was done in accordance with rule, and as Mr Roberts, the Australian touch-judge, was "n.f.," and has always acted as a true sportsman on the line, it is the sheerest folly to contest the score.

It is not likely, however, that Cardiff will ever be scored against in this way again, and the lesson will probably go home to all Welsh players to be ever on the alert that their opponents are playing dead up to the rules. To take a simile from billiards this score was not an offence against the rules in, say, moving a ball from under a cushion to avoid giving a miss or to enable points to be made; it resembled the potting of the white in, say, a friendly hundred up.

The only other time when Gibbs was in difficulty brought out a grand bit of combination in defence, for J. L. Williams cut across from the far wing and made a grand tackle. The only man who has not been mentioned now is Carmichael, the back, who was in much better form than at Swansea on Saturday, and went down to the ball better, but in fielding and kicking he was a poor second to "Bobbie" Williams.

The Cardiff team deserve to share the honours. From forward to full-back, every man worked with an enthusiasm that compelled admiration, and did a lot to assist skill in earning an historic triumph that will go down in the annals of the club and be on a par with the memorable win over the South Africans, which it resembles in that the score was the heaviest recorded against the Wallabies, as the 17 points against the South Africans was the biggest total against them.

## Reflections.

BY HAMISH STUART.

In dealing with the match between Swansea and the Australians I expressed the view that the alleged decadence of Welsh football exists largely in the imagination of the pessimists. The Welsh side that played against the Australians at Cardiff on 12th December fell admittedly below the standard of many Welsh fifteens of the past decade, but for their comparative failure there was a special reason. In any case, after seeing Cardiff yesterday I must decline to give further ear unto the croakers. Cardiff, though not outplaying the Australians all through, did so in the second half, and secured a much more decisive, though not a more convincing, victory than did Swansea.

The Australians, it should be said, however, seem to me to have lost all their former confidence. They are playing like a side doomed to defeat, and their game—notably the attack of the backs—is very much the sort of game which most English sides were content to play against the New Zealanders. They play to escape defeat by the least possible margin. Then, when they did attack yesterday, their methods were not those of impotent players or even of players who were using their heads. For example, the variation in their attack by cross-kick never was opportunely put in practice. It was speculative, and the forwards were never up to make it effective. Indeed, but for the trick by which the first Australian try was scored, and the careless marking of the Cardiff forwards when Middleton broke away, the Colonials would have been beaten pointlessly.

Both sides, one may admit, were not free from blame in the matter of unfair defence, but Cardiff's lapses were few and far between, whereas the Australians were frequently guilty of obstruction in all its forms. One does not desire, however, to say too much on the disagreeable aspects of an otherwise fine game in spite of its one-sided character. As for the Burge incident, it is best ignored, though I have little doubt that it will produce some very plain speaking.

On the subject of the first Australian try, however, there is no necessity for being silent or polite on other grounds. I regard that try, though legal, as the most unfair try I ever saw, when regard is had to the spirit of the game. The Cardiff men were induced to believe that Wood would as usual take the throw out and they naturally thought when Hickey took the ball and threw out straight to Wood that the three-quarter was only giving the ball to the half for the latter to throw out. The defence was taken by surprise. I understand that the trick is a common device in club matches in New South Wales. The try was certainly not calculated to rouse the enthusiastic admiration of the purist.

Then the second Australian trick put in practice at the kick from the centre at the beginning of the second half is equally opposed to our traditions. It is legal but it is a device that does not give one a very high opinion of the moral tone of Australian football. Yesterday the engineer was very nearly hoist with his own petard, for Spiller almost got through after fielding the kick off of Rowe's partner in the device. I wonder whether the Australians have any more tricks of the same kind.

The most gratifying feature of yesterday's match from the Welsh point of view was the splendid display of R. Williams, Winfield's understudy. Winfield himself could have done no better and with experience this youngster should yet play for Wales.

In conclusion one need only repeat that the decadence said to exist in Welsh football might be regarded as an advance in England if the quality of the play there even approached the standard attained by Swansea on Saturday, and Cardiff yesterday to emphasise and illustrate my meaning. I have no doubt that Spiller and Dyke would get their English caps as centre three if both were English eligibles, and playing for an English club.

## From the Australian Point of View.

BY ERNEST E. BOOTH.

The Cardiff Arms ground has rarely if ever witnessed a greater scene of excitement than in this wonderful "haul over." The most sanguine could not have foretold the final result. On the Australian tour it will figure as the greatest drubbing and most exciting of the matches. After the first ten minutes the issue of the game could not be doubted. For the first time the Australians were cleanly beaten for possession, and the determination of the local men was of a "nil desperandum" order.

As at Swansea, the prevailing cold visibly affected the visitors, many of whom had never seen a snow fall before. The game was chockful of exciting moments, and many players on both sides became very excited. Both sides showed blemishes of football etiquette, Cardiffians on three occasions tripping, whilst the Australians resorted to hand-pushing Cardiff men, with or without the ball.

Unquestionably the best side won, as in hardly any particular branch did the Australians equal their opponents. Middleton's opening to Dr. Moran's try was a grand effort, but

a clean gift from the locals leaving him unmarked. Hickey's try was perfectly legitimate, although the crowd did not receive it well. The Cardiff players were fairly caught napping in this manoeuvre.

Burge's individual efforts and captaincy were of inestimable value to his side, and he was thoroughly and well supported by his confreres.

Australia failed to rise to the occasion, and after Swansea and Cardiff matches will have a sincere respect for Welsh club form. The Australians had few chances, the principal being offered to the Australian three-quarter line by two of Russell's cross-kicks and Woods's long re-pass. The Australians displayed more trickiness in their methods than usual, but generally found the local players too safe and wide awake.

Of the Burge incident, the least said the soonest mended. Mr Evans, the referee, had no other option than following the course he did. Coming in the next match after Giffin's case it reflects immeasurably on the Australian team and their name. On the tour the Australians have never been so absolutely played to a standstill, and were in the second half completely demoralised fore and aft.

The backs again displayed lack of the requisite defensive measures demanded for the occasion. Rush stopping is not their forte. The game was hardly of a brilliant nature throughout, the finest showing being made in passing by the Cardiff three-quarter line, who were easily best.

Burge's affair completely spoilt the pleasure of the grand stand spectators, many of whom signified their disgust in leaving the ground. The game will always be associated in my mind as "painful." The cold was painful, and for a Colonial to witness it was "painful."

Cardiff gave even a better showing than either Glamorgan, Wales, or Swansea, even allowing for the undoubted "off colour" and stale condition of the Wallabies. No excuses can be offered from a Colonial view or questions raised about goals or tries scored or not scored. It was a veritable Waterloo.

How the undoubted lighter Cardiff forwards held off their bigger and heavier opponents seems almost a riddle. Both sides showed tremendous dash in the open, Cardiff turning it to most account.

The semi-frozen nature of the ground accounted for some of the minor injuries, particularly in Brown's case. One good feature of all the forwards was the good observance of letting the ball in each scrum. It is maybe a lucky thing for Australia that from a playing and financial outlook that Cardiff and Swansea were not met earlier in the tour.

Everyone wishes the Colonials well, and it is to be hoped this will be the last of their defeats. If the Welsh tour has spoiled the Australians' record it has at least furnished the best financial aid.

## STAND GIVES WAY.

### Fortunate Escape of Spectators.

At the time that Johnny Williams scored a try after Brown got over the line and lost the ball, and when the excitement was at its highest the bar at the top of the stand immediately behind the goalposts at the Pavilion and gave way, and between 20 and 30 men were precipitated to the ground. Others in the immediate proximity made a dash for the bottom of the stand, and it looked as if serious injuries would be sustained by some of the spectators. Drs. W. G. Williams and Treasure immediately went to the spot, but it was found that those who had fallen to the ground had fortunately escaped with nothing worse than a severe shaking.

## The Gate.

The gate proceeds are about £1,100, as all members of the club were admitted free to the higher-priced seats, and each member had the right to a seat for a lady. The club will give 70 per cent., not 50 per cent., of the gate to the Wallabies.

## PREVIOUS DEFEATS.

The Wallabies' previous defeats have been—

	For.	Against.
	G. T. P.	G. T. P.
v. Llanelly .....	1 0 3	1 1 8
v. Midlands .....	1 0 5	2 2 16
v. Wales .....	0 2 6	1 2 9
v. Swansea .....	0 0 0	1 1 6

## WALLABIES' REMAINING FIXTURES.

The Wallabies' remaining fixtures are—  
December 31, v. Monmouthshire, at Newport.  
January 1, v. France in Paris.  
January 9, v. England, at Blackheath.

## WALLABIES' PREDECESSORS v. CARDIFF

	Cardiff v. New Zealanders.	G. T. P.
Cardiff .....	1 1 8	
New Zealand .....	2 0 10	
	Cardiff v. South Africa.	G. T. P.
Cardiff .....	2 3 17	
South Africa .....	0 0 0	

\* One dropped.  
Cardiff's score against the Wallabies on Monday is by far the heaviest defeat of the tour.



Tommy Griffin, who had the misfortune to be ordered off on Saturday, kept to his bedroom on Saturday evening, utterly dejected. He was next to impossible to rouse him, he felt his position so keenly. Griffin was really the most unassuming of the "Wallabies," and is not the sort of man to do a dirty action, and when the facts of Saturday's happenings are known he will not be solely responsible.

Perhaps it would be as well to point out what did really occur. Light from the mare was sent back in a lot of temporary warning, and on both sides about noon. The words of "Dad" were:



that in their general play the Wallabies compare most favourably with the All Blacks and the Springboks, and the three lapses can only be attributed to an access of keenness rather than an innate inclination to foulness.

It is significant of the fascination of Rugby football for people in this part of the Principality that within the last few days the playing of the game has been witnessed by an assemblage of 130,000 people. Nothing was wanting in the general arrangements for the comfortable accommodation of the spectators on this occasion, and every credit is due to the officials of the Cardiff Club for the success of their efforts in thwarting the weather conditions by protecting the playing area from the effects of the over-night frost. Another great feature in the historic game and a brilliant victory was the masterly manner in which Mr. Gil Evans conducted the game, his interpretation of the letter and the spirit of the rule enhancing his status as one of the best referees in the kingdom.

The Australians turned out their strongest available side, the only change in the back division which played against Swansea being the substitution of Bede-Smith for M'Gabe on the left wing, while Dr. Moran and A. Burge came into the pack. Fred Smith was unable to play on account of an attack of rheumatism, and Daley came into the team as first reserve. It was unfortunate for Cardiff that Winfield should have been injured last Saturday, and thus prevented from taking his place in the last line of defence; but it was distinctly fortunate, on the other hand, that such a reliable substitute as Bobbie Williams was available.

The following were the teams:—

CARDIFF.	AUSTRALIANS.
Back:	Back:
R. Williams.	P. Carmichael.
Three-quarter backs:	Three-quarter backs:
J. L. Williams.	C. Russell.
L. M. Dyke.	J. Hickey.
W. Spiller.	E. J. Mandible.
R. A. Gibbs.	F. Bede-Smith.
Half-backs:	Half-backs:
W. L. Morgan.	F. Woods.
Percy Bush (capt.).	C. M'Kivatt.
Forwards:	Forwards:
J. A. Brown.	C. A. Hammond.
J. Powell.	J. T. Barnett.
D. Westcott.	M. M'Arthur.
J. P. Casey.	P. M'Cue.
F. Gacoon.	S. Middleton.
G. Yewlett.	A. V. Burge.
J. Daley.	N. E. Row.
J. Fugsley.	Dr. H. M. Moran (captain).
Referee: Mr. Gil Evans (Birmingham).	

### THE GAME DESCRIBED.

#### SPLENDID WORK BY THE CARDIFF FORWARDS.

An amusing addition to the usual war-cry of the Wallabies was a rush by Percy Bush, the Cardiff captain, with a sword and shield, but he stopped short at doing any damage. There was scarcely any wind when Jack Brown kicked off for Cardiff from the river end, and Woods returned into touch at the centre. From the first scrum the ball was heeled by the visiting forwards, but Russell was tackled the moment he received and pushed into touch. From the line-out Jack Brown broke away in fine style, and went over the ten yards' line before he was robbed of possession. Willie Morgan secured from the next scrum and passed out to Bush, who put in a high punt, which gained no ground. Clever play by the Cardiff forwards, followed by a smart round of passing among the backs, took play to the Colonial 25 line, where Cardiff were awarded a free kick, and Bush found touch over the 25 flag. A useful kick by Hickey sent play over the centre line, where the Cardiff forwards again excelled in the loose, and, headed by Jack Brown, gained twenty yards with a smart dribble. From the next scrum Willie Morgan passed out neatly to Bush, who came round smartly on the blind side, and, after beating Bede-Smith, threw to Reggie Gibbs, who ran up to Carmichael before he was brought down with a splendid tackle. Another fine bout of passing by the Cardiff backs ended in Gibbs being brought low only ten yards from the line. Cardiff were given a fine chance of scoring by their forwards heeling out close to the line, but in the round of passing which followed Spiller held on just a moment too long, and the opportunity was lost. Capital play by Dyke and Gibbs in a fast dribble took the ball to the Australian line, where a score was only averted in the nick of time. Cardiff continued to play a fine aggressive game, and were having all the play up to this point. The Wallabies were penalised for off-side, and Bush found touch near his opponents' 25 line. From the line-out the Cardiff forwards broke away in a solid body, and, beating down the defence in great style, took the ball at their toes over the line, and Willie Morgan, who was backing them up, threw himself on the ball and scored amid a scene of wild enthusiasm. Percy Bush failed with the kick. From the kick-out Cardiff attacked again with tremendous energy, and brilliant passing between Bush, Dyke, Spiller, and J. L. Williams took the ball to within a few yards of the visitors' line. Fine kicking by Bush found touch near the Wallabies' goal-line, and Cardiff were dangerous all the time. Woods was caught off-side, and Cardiff were given a penalty in a good position, the ball being placed for Percy Bush, who kicked a fine goal. Cardiff thus early had run up the same number of points that Swansea won by, and the Wallabies seemed to be more completely outplayed than they were at St. Helen's. The Wallabies, having secured a footing in the home territory, tried passing, but it broke down, as it has done so many times before, through the centres failing to make the most of their opportunities.

#### CARDIFF FORWARDS' GREAT GAME.

The Wallabies were now showing improved form in their work generally, but were quickly rushed back to their own territory by the Cardiff forwards, who were playing a great game. A fine kick by M'Kivatt gained a lot of ground for

try. The Wallabies now worked their way gradually over the centre line but were quickly driven back through thine kicking Morgan was caught napping in allowing Woods to take the ball from his own side centre. Percy Bush took a touch at the long range, and the ball rolled out from Reggie Gibbs, rushing up to the assistance of his forwards after they had broken up Michael, who was injured in going down to the ball, but was able to resume in a couple of minutes. The Cardiff forwards were going their guns all the time, and were beating their opponents badly in the loose. They were also securing possession in the scrums, but they fell off in the last quarter of an hour, and allowed the Wallabies to reach their 25, where Middleton secured in a line-out, and, running strongly, passed to Dr. Moran, who ran cleverly and scored under the cross-bar, for Carmichael to convert with ease. From the kick-out Cardiff went away with a bang, and Percy Bush, securing from Willie Morgan in midfield broke through in brilliant style, and, after beating everyone but the full-back, passed to Spiller, who ran up to Carmichael and gave to Dyke, who just got over in the corner. Bush took the kick from a difficult angle, and sent the ball just a yard outside the posts.

#### A MAGNIFICENT KICK.

Within a minute of this fine score Bush was again given the ball between the Australian 25 line and the ten yards line, and, with a magnificent kick, he sent the ball flying between the uprights, and again there was a scene of delirious delight. Cardiff now led by twenty-one points to eight, and were in the happy position of having put on a bigger score against the Wallabies than any other team during the tour. This was not all the scoring, for a minute later Westcott broke away after taking the ball from a rebound, and passed to Johnnie Williams, who scored wide out, and Bush, again taking the kick, failed to add the extra points. Immediately afterwards the final whistle sounded, and Cardiff had won a great game to the intense satisfaction of their supporters.

#### "FORWARD'S" COMMENTS.

"Wonderful" is the only word for it. History has repeated itself, and the Cardiff men have once again risen to a great occasion in their own unmistakable way. Yesterday's brilliant victory is strikingly and vividly reminiscent of the memorable rout of the Springboks on the same ground two years ago, and one cannot contemplate these two brilliant achievements without feeling a natural desire to know why it is that Cardiff more than any other Welsh team can do these things in a manner so handsome and so convincing.

Had their supporters been certain of the players being inspired by the same spirit of grim resolution and deadly earnestness which animated them two years ago in their meeting with Paul Roos and his men there would not have been the slightest apprehension as to the result, but there seemed to be nothing in the atmosphere yesterday that was even suggestive of that spirit.

One had not to wait long, however, before it was as clear as noonday that the men in the blue and black jerseys meant business, and there is a striking coincidence in the two facts that the first try in the Springboks' match, like the first try scored yesterday, practically determined the issue. It was an unmistakable intimation that the citizens were out for blood, if such a colloquialism can be used without being intentionally offensive.

#### "ENGLISH WISEACRES."

Twenty-four points to eight require more explanation than it is possible to find within the compass of language, even if it be Welsh, and the decisiveness of the victory was such that one cannot help a feeling of sincere compassion for those English critics who seem to have made a special study of belittling the prowess of Wales on the Rugby field for a number of years. There is some hope after yesterday's signal triumph that these wiseacres will be convinced by-and-by that there is something in Welsh football which is not to be found in the playing ability of any other nation under the sun, and this can be said without any undue immodesty or anything resembling a spirit of bragadocio in the hour of victory. One would not have written in this strain except that the chance of getting one's own back at the psychological moment is too good to be lost after all the ingenious excuses that have been manufactured for the previous defeats of the Wallabies in Wales. Moreover, it is not given in an uncharitable spirit, and is not directed against the Wallabies, but simply as an expression of the sentiment, if a paraphrase may be allowed, but we are glad the Welshmen won, not that we love Australia less, but we love Wales more.

#### FOUNDATION OF VICTORY.

Anyhow, so much for generalisms. The game is the story, and the score of two dozen points to a third of that number is a fairly good clue to the plot of that story. It was not expected that the Cardiff forwards, after their in and out form this season, would have been able to give such convincing proof of their real ability, especially when opposed to such a well-trained and skilful pack as the Wallabies. It was a case, however, of rising to the occasion, and they did this with a vengeance, and, in awarding them the fullest possible mead of praise, one is bound to mention right away the name of John Brown, who played a game that was in proportion to his Herculean size and strength. No greater praise could be given any forward, for the simple reason that there is not a bigger forward playing the game. He was admirably supported by every one of his smaller, but not less determined, comrades in the pack, and, if one could be tempted to mention one more than another of the seven, it would be John Powell, and after him David Westcott. The heeling of the Cardiff forwards was quite a revelation, and it was really the foundation of the club's victory. Willie

Australians take 70 per cent., i.e. £777 19s. 6d. A cheque for this amount was presented to Captain M'Mahon, manager of the match by Mr. C. S. Arthur, secretary of the Cardiff Club, and Captain M'Mahon was much pleased at the prompt settlement. It will be remembered that on the occasion of the South Africans' match the Cardiff Club settled just as promptly, and that Mr. Carden, manager of the Springboks, was astonished and delighted.

### ORDERING OFF INCIDENT AT SWANSEA. AN EXPLANATION BY AUSTRALIAN PLAYER.

Tommy Griffin, who had the misfortune to be ordered off on Saturday, kept to his bedroom on Saturday evening, utterly dispirited. It was next to impossible to rouse him, he felt his position so keenly. Griffin is easily the most unassuming of the Wallabies, and is not the sort of man to do a dirty action, and when the full facts of Saturday's happenings are known he will not be solely blamed.

Perhaps it would be as well to point out what did really occur. Right from the start there had been a lot of unnecessary wrangling on both sides about positions.

The "lock" and the "loose head" were of extreme importance, as may be imagined, but it was not Griffin so much as other of the Wallaby forwards who made the trouble. D. J. Thomas and Griffin were nearly always opposed to each other, and they would invariably struggle for the "lock."

Thomas, it appears, was more often successful by pulling Griffin's head out of the way; but, as the Australian states, when he was ordered off he did not infringe as the referee believed. Thomas's head had gone down first, and he (Griffin) swung his hand out to move the Swansea man's head. The palm of his open hand came into contact with Thomas's face, and this the referee construed as a blow. Griffin's version is a feasible one, and, as he states, had he wanted to strike a blow he would have done so with his clenched fist and not his open hand.

#### RECORD TAKINGS AT SWANSEA MATCH.

The takings at the match Swansea against the Wallabies on Boxing Day easily beat the record for any club match, being slightly over £2,000. Of this, after certain extraordinary expenses for stand accommodation have been deducted, the Australians will probably receive as their share about £375, which is above the amount they received from the international match at Cardiff.

#### AUSTRALIANS' LETTER OF THANKS.

Mr. Rees has received the following letter from Mr. James M'Mahon, manager of the Australian team:—

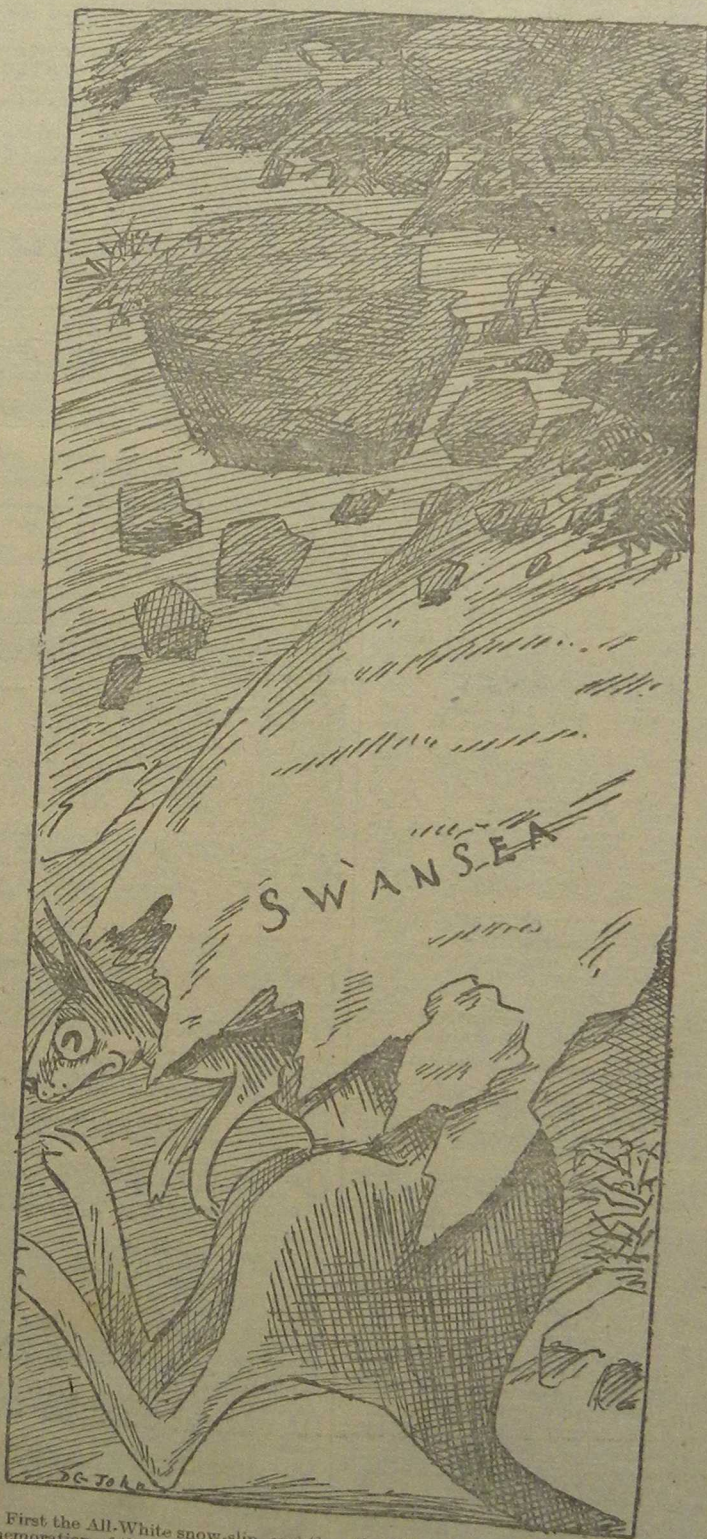
Queen's Hotel, Cardiff,  
December 28.

Dear Sir,—Enclosed please find receipt for £900, our share of gate Welsh match v. Australians, for which please accept my thanks. I would like to express my appreciation to your council on the very excellent arrangements which characterised the match, the unbounded hospitality of all of your councillors, the intense efforts on the part of Mr. Rees to make our stay the great pleasure it has been, and to express my gratitude through you to the people of Wales who have been so kind, generous, and friendly. We shall remember our visit to Wales as long as we live, and wish you all a happy and prosperous New Year. With success to Welsh football,—I am,

Your obedient servant,  
JAMES M'MAHON, Manager.  
W. E. Rees, Esq.,  
Welsh Rugby Union.



## THE AVALANCHE.

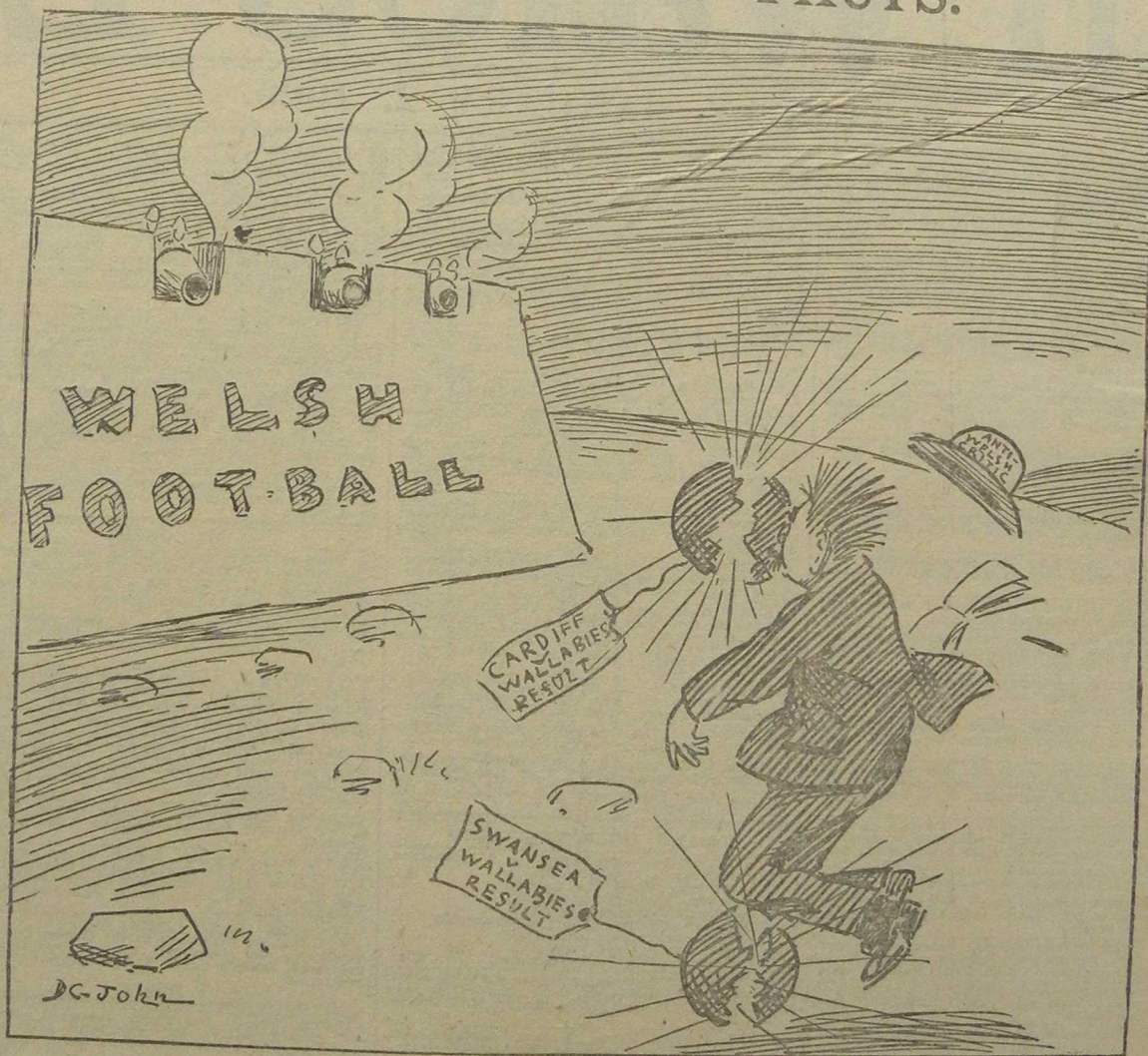


First the All-White snow-slip, and then the big blue and black landslide.  
(In commemoration of the crushing of the Wallaby by Swansea and Cardiff last week-end).



SOUTH WALES ECHO. SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 1909.

## FACING THE FACTS.



The fate of the Anti-Welsh critic who dodged the Llanelly and Welsh victories. He gets his legs knocked from under him and receives a terrible facer.



Jan 9<sup>th</sup> 08

# ENGLAND FAILS.

## Beaten in Opportunism.

## Quick-Witted Wallabies.

VARIED ATTACK WINS.

ENGLISHMEN LACK GENERALSHIP.

Although threatening to become very foggy as the afternoon advanced, the weather at Blackheath was fine and fairly mild, and the sun occasionally bursting through the gloom. The ground, carefully protected during the frost, had remained in excellent condition, and there was no wind, so the conditions could be described as entirely favourable for the great Rugby match between England and Australia. Except that Garvin came into the Colonial pack for Dr. Moran, the Australians had their full available strength for the occasion, while to change had to be made in the English fifteen, which included four of the Midlands and East Midlands team that defeated the Australians at Leicester. Some little delay occurred owing to the late arrival of the Australians, who entered the contest with a record of 27 matches played, 21 won, 1 drawn, and 5 lost. It transpired that the late appearance of the Australians was due to the fact of their motor 'bus having broken down on the six-mile journey from London. Somewhat difficult to estimate in the strange light, the company probably amounted to fully 20,000.

**Australia.**

- \* P. Carmichael, back;
- W. Dix,
- \* J. Hickey,
- \* Ward Prentice, and
- \* C. Russell, three-quarters;
- A. J. McCabe, and
- \* C. H. McKivatt, half-backs;
- \* J. T. Barnett,
- \* C. A. Hammond,
- M. McArthur,
- \* P. McCue,
- S. A. Middleton,
- N. Row,
- K. Gavin, and
- \* T. Richards, forwards.
- \* Played against Wales at Cardiff on Dec. 12th.

England.

G. H. D. O'Lyon (Surrey), back ;  
B. Bennets (Cornwall);  
E. W. Assinder (Midland Counties),  
F. N. Tarr (Oxford University) and  
E. R. Mobbs (East Midlands), three-quarters, and  
\*R. H. Williams (Oxford University) and  
A. H. Ashcroft (Cambridge University), half-backs ;  
A. Kewney (Northumberland),  
S. Penny (Midland Counties),  
\*W. L. Oldham (Midland Counties),  
G. Cooper (Midland Counties),  
\*R. Dibble (Somerset),  
P. J. Down (Somerset)  
P. Knight (Devon), and  
A. D. Warrington-Morris (United Services), forwards.

\*An International.

Referee—Mr J Games, Welsh R.U.

Referee—Mr J. Games, Welsh R.U.  
Consequent upon the mishap to the Australians the match, which it had been arranged should start at half-past 2, did not begin until nearly a quarter to 3. Such a little breeze as sprang up blew across the ground, so England in winning the toss gained no advantage. Immediately following the toss gained no advantage. Immediately following the toss gained no advantage was collared before he could clear, and twice the Australians attacked, but each time lost their chance by passing forward.

Within three minutes, from a flying kick, Mobba went away down the wing, shook off Russell, passed to Tart, who promptly returned, Mobba gaining a try in a fairly favourable position. Cooper took the place kick, but failed to convert. Still, England, in scoring so soon after the commencement, had made a most encouraging opening.

Following the drop-out the Australians carried play into the English half. Ashcroft got up and collared Carmichael, and Bennetts just afterwards making his mark the Colonials found themselves hard pressed; but although Ashcroft got the ball well out, the English three-quarters blundered, and the home side must have been in serious danger had not Hickey knocked on. A mark by Cooper, however, placed the Colonials again on the defensive.

The English forwards secured possession in the scrumage much more often than their opponents, but the home three-quarters did not really get going again. The Australians being penalised for feet up, Cooper made a fine shot, only missing from midfield by a yard. At length there came a fine bout between the English three-quarters, Bennetts being only shoved in touch in the visitors' 25.

Just after dark Laon, lying too far back, could not field and was tackled. The ball, in the loose, was sent over England's line, where Tarr looked like touching down, but he took matters too easily and the ball breaking away from him, Rowe dashed up and gained an easy try for Australia. Carmichael had the easiest of place-kicks but missed, so England escaped from a bad blunder with only one try all half-way through the first portion of the game.

During the next few minutes the Englishmen lost their superiority in the scrummage and the Colonials made several attacks, getting right in front of the post. Another time, following fine passing, Dix was almost in, Lyon shoving him in touch within a yard of the line. England, however, succeeded in touching him.

Following the drop-out England made little head-  
way, the Australians, time after time, following up  
and taking surely. At length, Williams broke  
fall to take his two opponents, but under  
was beaten by a great chance was  
was beaten by a great chance was  
was beaten by a great chance was

being badly beaten in heeling, and their backs bunched too much together, and their centres seemed timid about going down to the ball.

## Ashcroft's Failures.

England in the next quarter of an hour should have had no difficulty in scoring. Several times their forwards continually served Williamson, who was playing in superb style, but time after time Ashcroft failed to take his passes or lost ground by making untimely transfers. The three were on their toes, every man of them, but the defence was materially aided by Ashcroft's breakdown, and men tried to barge their way through, and concerted attack, through passing and running, was not seen when it was the profitable method to adopt.

Skilful captaincy was lacking, though Lyons was playing well himself.

## Magnificent Tackles

Dix and Hickey stopped the best general passing bout of the match by tackling Tarr and Bennetta in turn, and then, after Cooper had all but gained a penalty goal, Williamson made a magnificent break away and cross-punted, but was knocked over and so prevented from following up his kick.

England then played in the manner of the earlier Barbarian teams, but the forwards could not use their feet as well as they had done their heels. The pack was not together, there seemed indecision when to heel and when to wheel and rush.

Fifteen minutes had gone by, and England's lost chances gave the Australians every encouragement. Their forwards, with Richards, McCue, Middleton and Barnett ever leading, took up the attack. They got much the better of the lines out, and rushed with greater unison. They picked up cleverly, on the run too, and, strange as it seems, were outplaying the Saxons at pure footwork.

Lyon was now given a warm time. His pluck was pronounced. He fielded well and tackled fearlessly. He was at last beaten, and somewhat cheaply too. He missed the ball, then recovered it, and threw back to Tarr, who showed resourcefulness in falling back, but was not quick enough to prevent Row and McCue from diving for the ball, the try falling to the former, whose winging tactics had created such an outcry in the earlier matches of the tour in Wales.

### Row's Try.

This try, unlike England's corner one, was made in a splendid position, but to the keen disappointment of his side the full back missed, as he did in the Wales match at Cardiff.

From this stage to the interval the Australians had the better of the argument. Once Dix and Hickey had the ball at their mercy, when Mobbs crossed over from the far wing and brought off the tackle of the game.

Though the scores were equal at half-time, England had not proved themselves a clever side. They were powerful enough forward and they had the speed of the Australian back division, but they failed to adapt their game to circumstances. They were—in a phrase—not nippy enough, but every man Jack on the side showed determination, courage, and worked his hardest with restraint and ability to alter tactics to the conditions of the moment.

SECOND HALF.

The issue of the match would have been decided in the first 10 minutes or so, but on crossing over Australia continued to display the greater combination, and the attack was kept up as persistently as England had done it at the opening. Dix nearly got in with a try. Then McCabe tried to dribble through. Next McKivatt was a scorer all over after a quick throw out of touch and a repass to him.

The ruse, which was done as neatly as did that of Woods and Hickey against Wales, would have given them a lead but for another grand tackle by Mobbs, who again cut in from the left wing to right.

Williamson and he were far away the best backs on the field. Williamson we know and esteem in Wales. Mobbs's dash and stolid defence would have delighted the Welsh crowd: but Tarr and Lyon, too, had played capital football.

The attack became wild, but the Wallabies kept the Englishmen in or around their 25. Williamson made some brilliant runs, and Lyon twice elicited loud cheers for gathering the rolling ball and finding touch. Then the English backs tried to break through the

Only a few of these were well directed. Most of them seemed aimless. This took a lot of steam out of the none too fast English forwards, and only twice in the 25 minutes since half-time was play carried into the Australian half of the field.

### Russell's Score

scramble was frequent between the respective runners, and there was a lot of offside work. He made a great tackle of McCabe when he was a few yards off the rubicon. At a moment later the English full-back failed, and he was not alone. Russell short punted his backs; and he, Lyon should have taken the ball at full pitch. It each waited for the drop, and Russell and Rowan rushed over the line and, "Boxer" scored on the line. Carmichael took a better shot for goal from the difficult position than he had done from the easiest possible one.

A desperate court was made by England in the final minutes, and they got lodgment in the Colonials' net. It was only a momentary stay. The Australians after some smart passing were only stayed off a score by Russell being forced into touch. From the line-out about half a dozen yards from the Australian camp a try resulted. MacLennan



Colonials again. The English forwards secured possession of the ball, but the home three-quarters did not really get going again. The Australians being missing from the field by a made a fine shot, only missing from the field by a yard. At length there came a fine bout between the English three-quarters, Bennetts being only shoved in touch in the visitors' 25.

Just afterwards Lyon, lying too far back, could not get into the line. The ball, in the loose, was sent down, but he took it, and dashed up and gained breaking away from him. Carmichael had the easiest of a try for Australia. Carmichael escaped from a place-kick but missed, so England escaped from a bad blunder, with only one try all half-way through the first portion of the game.

During the next few minutes the Englishmen lost their superiority in the scrum, and the Colonials made several attacks, getting right in front of the post. Another time, following line passing, Dix was almost in, Lyon shoving him in touch within a yard of the line. England, however, succeeded in touching down.

Following the drop-out England made little headway, the Australians time after time following up and tackling surely. At length Williamson broke away and shook off two opponents, but Assinder failed to take his pass, and a great chance was lost. Carmichael found touch, and the next minute Hickey was nearly in, Mobbs going across and saving grandly.

England were penalised, but Carmichael's kick was smartly charged down. Still the Australians maintained the attack. At length Ashcroft relieved with a long kick, and Bennetts following up England reached the Australian 25 for the first time for nearly 20 minutes. The Colonials' tackling, however, proved very sure.

Half-time Score—		P.
ENGLAND	.....	3
AUSTRALIA	.....	3

Nothing in the opening half was so remarkable as the remarkable manner in which, after being out-maneuvred during the first fifteen minutes, the Australian forwards afterwards always secured possession of the ball. McKivatt and McCabe consequently being enabled to set their three-quarters in motion time after time. Australians try was certainly lucky, but on half a dozen occasions subsequently the Colonials were nearly in.

On resuming at half-past three in the gathering gloom Prentice got in a fine kick, and though Lyon returned well, England, being pulled up for offside, lost ground. Quite early the Australians maintained their cleverness in getting the ball, and England being hard pressed Cooper was brought out of the pack temporarily to strengthen the defence.

Play went on dangerously close to the home line, scrumming succeeding scrumming, England being desperately hard put to it. At length Bennetts made a mark, but gained little ground, and McKivatt was nearly in.

Injury to Dix caused a brief delay. Tarr at length relieved to midfield where, following an exchange of kicks Williamson broke away, but his kick went right across the field into touch.

In some loose play the ball was dribbled over the home line, Lyon touching down. Williamson next gained ground, but McKivatt ran down, Lyon finely saving, and finding touch.

The English backs had some chances, but Assinder, Tarr, and Bennetts in turn sicked when they might with advantage have gone on. Still, the home side were holding their own much better than the opening of the second half had suggested as probable.

Following another brief delay owing to Prentice being hurt and compelled to retire for a few minutes, Dix made a mark, but gained no ground.

Prentice soon resumed. The English forwards came away in the loose, but Carmichael succeeded in clearing, and McCabe ran down, Lyon saving. Directly afterwards Russell followed up a lofty kick over the line, and Tarr and Assinder baulking one another, Russell scored, and so gave Australia the lead. Carmichael did not convert, but a quarter of an hour before the close of the game the score stood—Australia 2 tries, England 1 try.

The game was continued in the English half, and Lyon failed to field a long kick by Carmichael knocking in on, but England managed to reach the centre. McCabe had a chance, but failed to take his pass. England had a free kick, but gained nothing. Mobbs saved on England's line. Williamson was hurt, and retired, Mobbs going half and Cooper at the wing. Russell scored for Australia.

Final Score—		G.	T.	P.
AUSTRALIANS	.....	0	3	9
ENGLAND	.....	0	1	3

## Play and Players.

By "Old Stager."

During their tour the Australians have experienced examples of all sorts of our wintry weather and been engaged on grounds varying from wet to sloppiness and from soft to frozen surfaces. They prefer a hard ground, and had it to-day. The famous heath had never looked or been in better order for a fast game. It is situated on the summit of the historic hill, and is the quickest drying pitch in the kingdom. The weather, too, was as perfect as could be desired, with a spice of nipiness in the air that suited a strenuous contest and very little wind to interfere with the comfort of the largest crowd I have seen assembled here, and my memory goes back a very long time now, though I did not see the first of the Welsh games here in 1880, when England at the first time of meeting beat the Principality by the mammoth score of eight goals and five tries.

Blackheath has not been a happy ground for Wales and her clubs. In seven games played here Wales only secured one victory, and then by the skin of their teeth in 1902 when the win was by a penalty goal and two tries to a converted goal and one try—a match in which the Rev. Strand Jones made a great name.

For many years, too, our clubs failed here. Newport won most of their matches, but Cardiff were continually defective for a series of seasons, though they have won every game for a long time now.

Special interest attached to the match, as it will be the last international, for Wales will next season play in the opening inter-country contest at the English Union's new ground at Twickenham.

The Australians did not arrive to time, a breakdown having occurred to the motor by which they travelled from London. They made a last minute change in their team, Ward-Prentice coming into the three-quarter line and McCabe going up to five-eights. These two things were regarded as bad omens for the tourists, who, by the way, dispensed with their customary fearsome warcry.

### Sensational Start.

It was a sensational start. Within five minutes England had scored. It was a capital try, one reminiscent of the good old days of Saxon supremacy. Mobbs, a burly six-footer, took the ball on the left wing, practically at half-way.

From a badly-directed punt the Northampton player made off at top speed and beat Russell with a swerve after aiming to head off. He had run to the fifteen, and was cleverly backed up by Tarr, and an excellent give-and-take pass enabled the Oxfordian to run dead up to Carmichael, who brought down his man as he was re-passing, so that Mobbs ran in unopposed. Mobbs did not show great speed, but an even-timer could not have over-taken the tall and strong Northampton youth after he had left Russell.

Cooper, the old Mossley three-quarter, who has won his cap as forward, failed to goal, though his shot was a good one.

Australia could not find their game. They were

of the none too fast in the 25 minutes since half-time was play carried into the Australian half of the field.

### Russell's Score.

Scrummages were frequent between the respective scrummagers, and there was a lot of offside work. Lyon made a great tackle of McCabe when he was a few yards off the rubicon, but a moment later the English full-back failed, and he was not alone. Russell short punted his backs, besides, Lyon should have taken the ball at full pitch, but each waited for the drop, and Russell and Row dashed over the line and "Boxer" scored on the corner. Carmichael made a better shot for goal from the difficult position than he had done from the easiest possible one.

A desperate effort was made by England in the final minutes, and they got lodgment in the Colonials' half. It was only a momentary stay. The Australians after some smart passing were only staved off a score by Russell being forced into touch.

From the line-out, about half a dozen yards from goal, Australia gained a try against Mobbs' wing, but Carmichael's kick from the most acute angle failed.

Australia's win was deserved on the play.

They were taken by surprise at the commencement, though the try scored by Mobbs was the best of the match.

The Colonials were more on the alert and quicker-witted than the Englishmen. They varied their attack cleverly, and, if only for this, deserved success.

England has a powerful team. Everything was in their favour for securing a decisive win in the initial stages of the game. The moral effect of Mobbs' try so soon after the kick-off ought to have been taken every advantage of, instead of which the side was never set working with happy union. More fumbling of passes and more aimless kicking has never been seen in a national contest.

Nothing can be gained by smoothing over the fact that I have never seen a more indifferent English team.

### Won't Beat Wales.

One cannot conceive it possible that his English fifteen can come to Cardiff with the hope of escaping a severe defeat, and at least half a dozen changes will be necessary to make one in any way less optimistic for a Welsh victory.

It is sufficient commentary on the ineffectiveness of the team to state that two of the tries scored by Australia were the result of downright bad play. In each case Lyons and others of the backs waited for the ball to drop instead of meeting it in its flight. The movements leading to the last try could not be accurately followed from my position, but I am accurately assured that it was very cleverly gained by Russell.

In the closing stages Williamson was hurt with a kick in the head, but it was from Lyons, who ran into him. Williamson was off the field for five minutes before the end. If he will not be able to play against Wales, his absence will be a calamity for England. He was the only really finished player in their ranks.

Much better sides, both in ability as well as stamina, have been seen representing England during recent years, and the inability of the team to secure goals and tries when opportunities offered was never more pronounced even in the years when the predominant partner and pioneer in Rugby was at the lowest point in its career.

Forward, the side was fitful. With ordinary skill, fullness, not to speak of slimmness in captaincy, the scrummages might have come through with some credit, but the tactics shown in the control of the side were very poor. After drawing first blood the forwards were allowed to go on heeling long after it was obvious to the novice that Ashcroft was not worthy of partnering such an artist as Williamson, and that the three-quarters as a lot were continually losing ground passing. Wales need not fear a reverse on Saturday next, but Welsh players must not neglect training. Their opponents are sturdy and heavy, but slow to act. Their defence is individually sound and courageous, but there was to day no appearance of the capacity for concerted movement in defence or in attacks. The backs are strong runners, but there is no one among them exceptionally fast or who possesses any special feature for opening-making excepting Williamson.







...for half-past two, but it was seven minutes later when the Wallabies entered the field, followed by the Englishmen.

Rowe kicked off for the Colonials at 2.40, and, after a return by Assinder, Ward-Prentice found touch. After a scrum in the English half Mobbs broke away, and, though hugging the touch-line, gave Tarr a fine pass. The latter transferred back to Mobbs, and a couple of minutes from the start, gaining a try for England. Cooper took the place kick, which was rather difficult, and the shot went wide. Thus the Mother Country stood three points up as the result of a fine piece of work, Norton's defence being cleverly beaten, despite the efforts of Russell and Carmichael.

The visitors then attacked, and Lyon, who skipped the home lot, got in a good kick under difficulties. Carmichael missed the kick, and a second score seemed likely, but the ball was kicked instead of dribbled, and a chance lost.

Bennetts made a mark and got in a fine shot, which placed the home side again on the offensive. From a pass by Ashcroft, Tarr, unfortunately, made a wild pass to Cooper, and a good chance was lost. Cooper had a good kick from a mark, and a little later Ashcroft found touch in the visitors' 25.

Russell tried to break away, but Bennetts returned. Play was confined to the Colonial quarters, a chance of relief being spoilt by Hickey dropping his pass. Cooper made a fine shot for goal, which went just wide. Williamson passed to Mobbs, who was pushed into touch. An effort on the opposite wing by Assinder and Bennetts failed. Lyon was then deceived in trying to clear by the ball bouncing, and, Tarr failing to check, there was a rush over the line, and M'Cue gained the ball first, scoring a try, which Carmichael failed to convert. The score thus stood at three points all, after twenty minutes' play.

The ball was soon back again.

#### IN THE COLONIALS' QUARTERS.

The Englishmen were playing up well, though they did not use their feet to the best advantage. The visitors worked back to the centre through the agency of Ward-Prentice, and then had a good chance through bungling by Ashcroft, which brought the ball into the English 25. Here Hickey and Dix made an effort, Mobbs running across from the right three-quarter and just bringing the latter down in fine style in the nick of time. Cooper was previously brought out of the home pack, who, with the score against them, had been doing all the pressing. From a scrum M'Cabe made a pass to Ward-Prentice, who gave to Hickey, and he, after a good run, to Dix, who was checked close to the goal-line by Lyon. Carmichael had a free kick, but it was charged down by Warrington Morris.

A spell of play in mid-field followed, which was rather devoid of incident. Ashcroft made a good kick into touch near Australia's 25 flag. Relief was forthcoming, and at the interval the score stood a try each.

	Half-time score:	G.	T.	Pts.
ENGLAND	.....	0	1	3
AUSTRALIA	.....	0	1	3

Rowe scored the Wallabies try. By the time the game was restarted—at half-past three—the sky had become misty. Thus far England had had rather the best of the exchanges as a whole, but on resuming the visitors were early seen to advantage, and after a kick by Lyons Middleton and M'Cue made a determined effort to get through from a clever cross-kick by Russell. The battle raged fiercely in the English 25, M'Cabe trying to get through with the ball at his feet.

There was a smart spell of passing by the Colonial three-quarters, which was just checked on the line, but an English mark from a cross-kick by Russell saved the situation. A stoppage then occurred through Dix being hurt in checking the home forwards' rush. Tarr brought off a clever save, and a rush by England was spoilt by off-side tactics of the Colonials, which passed unnoticed, though the referee (Mr. Games) a little later penalised the visitors for a like offence. Play, however, was confined to the home territory.

Williamson got the ball from the scrum and passed to Ashcroft, who missed, but Tarr nipped in and got in a kick. The Australians, however, again pressed, and Lyon had to save by touching down. A couple of minutes later he made a daring rush across the field with the ball, but managed to get in his kick, and thus justify the risky run. There was a good deal of rather wild cross-kicking, and the Colonials spoilt a dangerous rush by Rowe kicking too hard into the hands of Lyons, who found touch.

Ward-Prentice was hurt, and had to leave the field after 25 minutes' play, apparently suffering from a blow on the head, and the Colonials were reduced to fourteen men, but only for a minute or two.

#### OTHER TRY FOR THE COLONIALS.

Carmichael made a good save, checking a scrambling forward rush by England, and an aimless kick by Dix gave Mobbs a chance, which, though slow in starting, was nullified. After thirty-five minutes Russell punted high, and Tarr jumped for the ball, but missed, and Russell got to the leather and scored. Carmichael's shot for goal failed, and the Colonials stood three points up. With the score in their favour by two tries to one, the light was fast fading, and the game was not easy to follow.

From English kick-away, Carmichael returned, Lyons, by knocking on, losing a grand chance with Mobbs unmarked on the left. England had a free for feet up, but gained no advantage, and Australia attacked with vigour, Mobbs just checking. Williamson was hurt, but at first refused to leave the field. Ashcroft worked the scrum, and Mobbs was stand-off half-back for the last few minutes during which England had a "free" for off-side play. Just on time Russell got over wide out, Carmichael failing.

	FINAL SCORE:	G.	T.	Pts.
AUSTRALIA	.....	0	3	9
ENGLAND	.....	0	1	3

#### "Forward's" Comments

Of all the great matches played on the famous Rectory Ground, not one had ever been favoured with more ideal conditions, the weather being gloriously fine and the turf in perfect condition.

It was a great social as well as an ideal big game of Rugbydom met in the happiest humour.

Several changes were made from the Australian team which played against Wales, Middleton and Carroll being displaced in the three-quarter line by M'Cabe and Dix, while there were four changes in the pack, which allowed Middleton, M'Arthur, Gavin, and Rowe to gain the coveted honour of playing in an international match in the Mother Country.

Burgo and Griffen could not turn out for reasons that are only too well known, and the other most prominent absentee was Dr. Moran, who had met with an accident. All

One's conclusions can be summed up very briefly. The Englishmen were badly beaten, and after all the bright anticipations of a revival of England's old-time prowess, it was a sore disappointment to see her chosen champions of to-day giving such a poor exhibition.

All that can be said favourably of the English forwards is that they were big, strong men, but their size and weight handicapped them in the sense that they made them clumsy and slow.

Assuming that they play no better game next Saturday than they did to-day, and taking it for granted, of course, that no changes are made, then Wales will have a day out. Not only were the forwards slow and cumbersome, but the backs were at sixes and sevens.

Ashcroft being such an absolute failure, one cannot imagine him being seriously considered again. It must have been heart-breaking to Williamson, the brilliant English inside half, to see his passes being fumbled with such unfailing regularity, and almost every movement he initiated thus nipped in the bud through the ineptitude of his partner.

The English three-quarters, judged even individually, rather than collectively, were only moderate. Assinder and Bennetts being the best of the four. Tarr and Mobbs opened so sensationally well with the clever inter-passing which gained England's only try that the belief was created that two men of real international class had been found, but it was an effort which only flattered to deceive.

Mobbs, it is true, put in a tremendous lot of tackling, but he did nothing else. Tarr's play, taking it on the whole, fell to the level of mediocrity. That the English centres failed to render a better account of themselves was largely due to the breakdown—the collapse—at outside half, and I should imagine that the English selectors will make it their duty this evening to find a more efficient partner for Williamson before they can hope for success next Saturday.

They will also have to pick speedier and more active forwards, even at the expense of sacrificing weight, which they can well afford to do.

It is impossible to think after one's experience of English club football this season that an infinitely better team cannot be selected for England. That there has been a clear and distinct improvement in the play of English clubs is unmistakable, but for some extraordinary reason, which cannot be explained, that improvement is not reflected in the play of the national team, and the only logical deduction is that there is something wrong in the method, or want of method, in making the selection.

To point to the fault is easy, but to suggest the remedy is extremely difficult. While England to-day possesses a preponderance of brawn, they were sadly lacking in football brains, and one can only wish that mental ability was in proportion to physical power.

There was so much of a muchness in the English pack that it is impossible to pick out one forward more than another for special praise, and the only individual reference that can be made is to the tactical blunder of a big, heavy man like Cooper attempting to play the wing forward game instead of directing his strength to hard, straight pushing, according to English traditions for honest scrummaging.

Great things were expected of Lyons, the English custodian. He is a big man, built on very similar lines to Gamlin. He can use his great strength with advantage in getting out of tight corners, but he has also the unhappy knack of finding his way into those tight corners through his fatal weakness in waiting for the ball to bounce instead of running to meet it and taking it in flight. It was entirely this weakness which gave the Australians their first try, and while Lyon continues to take this risk he can never be considered a safe custodian.

The Australians played clean, clever football, especially in the opening portion of the second half, when, on the run of the game, they ought to have scored three tries. Considering the number of times they succeeded in developing powerful attacking movements, the surprise is that they only scored one of their three tries of such methods, and that was the last one of all.

It is unnecessary to individualise, and the end of this message can be put into a repetition of the firm belief that Wales will have no difficulty in adding to her long list of victories at Cardiff next Saturday.



## Wallabies' Captain.

### PLAYED HIS LAST GAME

#### NO DISSENTIONS IN TEAM.

Dr. Moran, the captain of the "Wallabies," has played his last game of Rugby football. Owing to injury he will not be able to lead Australia in the final test of the tour this afternoon at Blackheath (says the London "Express"). He leaves for Edinburgh on Monday, and will not therefore accompany the team to Bristol and Plymouth—where they have arranged to play extra fixtures before they sail for home via America on January 22nd.

He will spend six months in the Scottish capital studying surgery, and is firmly resolved not to be again tempted to don his "boots" and "rug." fig.

As he said to the "Express" representative, "I am so firm that I have already given away most of my necessary Rugby accessories. My time in Europe is too short to risk being crooked while I am studying. I have never been a man who sacrificed everything for Rugby, although I've been as keen as anybody while I was actually playing."

"I did not take up the game until I was older than most men, and have not been what you might call a regular player since those days. When I was so busy in my staff work at Newcastle (New South Wales) Hospital, I went in for Rugby chiefly to keep myself thoroughly fit. For the same reason I shall now take up some other form of exercise, but I've said my final adieu to 'Rugger.'"

"Of course, I would have given a deal to have skipped our lot for the last time against England, but since I slipped and strained the tendon achilles of my ankle on New Year's Eve I've been a bit doubtful. At practice on Thursday at Blackheath I realised it would be unwise to risk it. I had an object lesson about experimenting in the Cambridge match, and I've not forgotten it. Dr. Moran had one other thing to say yesterday on behalf of the team, and that was—to quote his own words—"There never has been a band of thirty-four men who got on better on tour than we have. All these tales of dissensions are absolutely false. The team are naturally sore about the statements which have been made, and coming on top of other incidents they are the reverse of encouraging. I say all this because I think it is only right that people should not labour under any misapprehension."

## GRAVE RUGBY CRISIS.

### DRASTIC STEP BY SCOTLAND.

#### ENGLISH MATCH CANCELLED.

#### A PROTEST AGAINST "PROFESSIONALISM."

#### NO QUARREL WITH WALES.

[By "FORWARD."]

Scotland has once again startled the whole world of Rugby football by cancelling her annual fixture with England in March next. The first intimation of the rupture between the two Unions was given exclusively to the South Wales public in the early editions of the "Evening Express" on Wednesday morning, and throughout the day it was almost the sole topic of discussion everywhere.

It was feared for some time that Wales was involved in the quarrel, and that next Saturday's match between England and Wales would not be played, but a mere glance at the first paragraph published sufficed to dissipate any feeling of apprehension on that score. From the appended extracts from the correspondence which has passed between the Scottish and the English Unions it will be seen that the former has based its drastic action on the fact that the English authorities knowingly and deliberately countenanced the payment of one guinea per week to every member of the New Zealand team which visited this country in 1906, and also to every member of the Australian team which has been touring England and Wales since September last. This one guinea per player was paid in addition to ordinary expenses at the rate of three shillings per day, and this payment, in the view of the Scottish Union, constituted a breach of the amateur laws tantamount to professionalism.

No suggestion has been made which impeaches the pure amateurism of the South Africans who made their tour of the Homeland two years ago, there being nothing to show that they received any money in the way of "allowances" above their bare out-of-pocket expenses on the nominal scale of a few shillings a day.

#### POSITION OF WALES.

Nor is it suggested by the Scottish authorities that any member or official of the Welsh Union was cognisant of these extra payments being made either to the All Blacks, in the first instance, or to the Wallabies. This ignorance of the true position of affairs properly exempts Wales from being in any way concerned in the unfortunate impasse, and the position of the Welsh Union is further strengthened by the fact that all the arrangements for the tours of the Colonial teams were made by the English Union without consultation with the Scottish, Welsh, or Irish Unions. It is only to the English Union that the New Zealand, South Africa, and New South Wales Unions are affiliated, and this explains in a measure why the other three Unions took no part in the making of the touring arrangements. Wales is placed in a somewhat delicate position by virtue of having asked the Scottish Union to appoint the referee for next Saturday's international match at Cardiff, but with the exercise of a little tact that is a difficulty which can and will be easily overcome, and it may be taken for granted that the official in charge of the game will be the nominee of the Scottish Union, notwithstanding the present rupture.

#### INEXPLICABLE.

That the English Union, as at present constituted, should have sanctioned such a liberal scale of expenses to the Colonials is quite inexplicable, but they acknowledge having done so, and there is no equivocation in their admission. Captain M. Mahon, the manager of the Australian team, is reported to have stated that the guinea a week was exactly the same as the amount granted the British team which toured Australia and New Zealand under the captaincy of D. E. Bedell-Smith, the famous Scottish forward, but that it was slightly above the amount allowed the Anglo-Welsh team which recently returned from New Zealand.



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**A DARK OUTLOOK.**  
Happily, Wales is not implicated, as shown in the telegram received by us from Mr. J. A. Smith, the hon. secretary of the Scottish Union, viz.:—

Have no difference whatever with Wales or Ireland, and will, of course, fulfil our fixtures with them.

Whether a reconciliation will be brought about between England and Scotland remains to be seen, but for the moment the outlook is as dark as it can be, and there is no knowing what developments may take place in the near or the distant future. For the present, at any rate, the quarrel is between England and Scotland, and they are both big and strong enough to settle their own differences in their own way. The wisest and safest policy for both Wales and Ireland is to "sit tight and say nothing."

## THE CAUSE OF ACTION.

### "ALLOWANCES" WHICH AMOUNT TO PROFESSIONALISM.

The Scottish Union have issued the correspondence with the South African Rugby Football Board and the English Union on the subject of the allowances to the New Zealanders, and this is prefaced with the following explanatory note by the Scottish secretary (Mr. J. A. Smith):—

I am instructed by my committee to inform you that they much regret that they have found it necessary to intimate to the English Union that Scotland cannot fulfil its fixture with England on March 30 next. The immediate cause of this serious decision is that my committee have only now learned, in response to their request of October 12, 1907, for the accounts of the New Zealand team which visited this country in 1903, that each member of that team, in addition to being allowed every possible expense, received an "allowance" of £1 is. per week for himself. At the same time they have learned that the players of the Australian team presently in this country receive a like "allowance." These "allowances" being cash payments, which the players can either spend or save, my committee are unhesitatingly and unanimously of opinion that they are contrary to the principles of amateur Rugby football, and, in short, amount to professionalism. The English Union have written to the Scottish Union, under date December 21, 1908, stating that these "allowances" have been made with the approval of the English committee.

I may here say that your committee had considerable misgivings in having arranged fixtures with New Zealand, as they had received certain confidential information calculated to throw grave doubt upon the financial conduct of the game in New Zealand, with the result that, after the arrival in this country of the New Zealand team, certain information was asked for from the English Union, when the fact was elicited that when the tour was originally proposed the English Union had actually been asked to relax their rules in order that payment might be made to the players for "broken time"—a request which the English Union unhesitatingly refused. The English Union, however, made no inquiry as to the status of the players, as they said they did not consider it either right or necessary for them to do so. Your committee were disappointed with this reply, but, nevertheless, felt that under the circumstances their duty was to fulfil their fixtures with New Zealand, which was accordingly done, and the sum of £1,710 2s. 5d. was handed over to the visitors.

Later the Scotch met the South Africans and handed over £1,101.

**PRINCIPLE OBJECTED TO.**  
The explanatory note further emphasises the fact that, although the Scottish Union in October, 1907, asked the English Union for a copy of the New Zealand accounts of the 1905-6 tour, nothing more was heard of those accounts until October, 1908, during which delay the Anglo-Welsh team had visited New Zealand and returned, and even then the accounts did not contain "details of the game." When the accounts were received, Mr. Smith states:—

It was a matter of great surprise to your committee to find that they actually have



## Wallabies' Captain.

### PLAYED HIS LAST GAME.

#### NO DISSENSIONS IN TEAM.

Dr. Moran, the captain of the "Wallabies," has played his last game of Rugby football. Owing to injury he will not be able to lead Australia in the final "test" of the tour this afternoon at Blackheath (says the London "Express"). He leaves for Edinburgh on Monday, and will not therefore accompany the team to Bristol and Plymouth—where they have arranged to play extra fixtures before they sail for home via America on January 22nd.

He will spend six months in the Scottish capital studying surgery, and is firmly resolved not to be again tempted to don his "football" rig.

As he said to the "Express" representative, "I am so firm that I have already given away most of my necessary Rugby accessories. My time in Europe is too short to risk being crooked while I am studying. I have never been a man who sacrificed everything for Rugby, although I've been as keen as anybody while I was actually playing."

"I did not take up the game until I was older than most men, and have not been what you might call a regular player since those days. When I was so busy in my staff work at Newcastle (New South Wales) Hospital, I went in for Rugby chiefly to keep myself thoroughly fit. For the same reason I shall now take up some other form of exercise, but I've said my final adieu to 'Reger'."

"Of course, I would have given a deal to have skipped our lot for the last time against England, but since I slipped and strained the tendon achilles of my ankle on New Year's Eve I've been a bit doubtful. At practice on Thursday at Blackheath I realised it would be unwise to risk it; I had an object lesson about experimenting in the Cambridge match, and I've not forgotten it. Dr. Moran had one other thing to say yesterday on behalf of the team, and that was—to quote his own words—"There never has been a band of thirty-four men who got on better on tour than we have. All these tales of dissensions are absolutely false. The team are naturally sore about the statements which have been made, and coming on top of other incidents they are the reverse of encouraging. I say all this because I think it is only right that people should not labour under any misapprehension."

on their face that a payment of over £1,000 had been made to players as "daily allowances," but it was a still greater surprise to them to learn that, so far from the English Union disclaiming any knowledge of or responsibility for these payments, that Union states that these payments were made with their approval. In view of the fact that the whole expenses of the team were paid, your committee find it impossible to characterise this payment, amounting per man to 3s. per day, or one guinea per week, other than as wages, which a player might either spend or put in his pocket as he chose. It is immaterial to discuss the length of the tour during which such payments were made, or the number of players receiving same. It is not the amount of the allowance that matters, but the principle of allowing, making, or approving such payments.

#### ACTED IN IGNORANCE.

My committee venture to think that when, at the request of the English Union, they agreed to receive the New Zealand team, they were entitled to believe that their players were subject to the same conditions as it is understood English players were at home; and, had your committee thought otherwise, or had they known that the English Union were in reality approving the payment of "daily allowances," when they were assuring your committee that their by-laws would be respected, you may rest satisfied that your committee would never have consented to make a fixture with the New Zealand team.

The present members of your committee feel that they have to thank their predecessors for the before-mentioned financial arrangement with the New Zealand team, under which no money whatever was received by this Union, and for thus securing the Scottish Football Union's complete independence; and they also congratulate them on their foresight in having declined to permit any of their players to join in the New Zealand tour in the absence of the statement of accounts previously asked for.

From first to last this Union has never been officially consulted on the matter of the arrangements for the tours from this country except in so far as they were informally made aware of the arrangements under which the players in the last British team to South Africa travelled; and it is only fair to those of our players who accompanied that team to say that they deny having received any sum by way of "daily allowance" or otherwise.

#### "MOST SERIOUS ISSUE."

From the above you will see that the point now at issue between Scotland and England is the most serious that could be raised in connection with our game. If Rugby football is to continue on the lines of pure amateurism, any attempt whatever to introduce conditions inconsistent with these lines must not only be strenuously resisted, but boldly denounced. In our opinion, players are entitled to receive generous treatment in the way of travelling and hotels, more especially in the case of an extended tour, but your committee never can act in sympathy with any body which approves of actual cash payments to players by way of "daily allowance" or otherwise.

Only after the gravest consideration did your committee take the serious step of declining to fulfil our fixture with England. They felt that the future welfare of the game demanded that a decisive stand be taken at once, otherwise it might be too late to prevent the entire disappearance of the conditions more or less simple under which our game has been reared in Scotland, as well as elsewhere, and which have been handed down to us by our predecessors, and your committee in coming to this decision have acted in the knowledge that they hold the confidence of their clubs and the sympathy of all well-wishers of the game.

There can be no "half-way house" in Rugby football.

#### REFUSAL OF WALLABY FIXTURE "FULLY JUSTIFIED."

The correspondence includes letters which passed in 1906 regarding the New Zealanders and in 1907 regarding the South Africans, with both of which teams Scotland had matches, and sets out the reasons why Scotland refused to meet the Wallabies.

In the final letter to Mr. Marriott, dated January 11, Mr. Smith says:—

You also state that the Australian team at present playing in England are receiving the same "allowance," and, that being so, my committee feel that Scotland's refusal to arrange a fixture with them has been fully justified.

The position which your committee has taken up on this question of "allowances" is so directly at variance with our views that it is evident that a grave crisis has been reached in regard to the future of Rugby football in the United Kingdom; and it is my unpleasant duty to inform you that my committee have with much regret decided to decline to play England on the terms proposed.

It is true that your Union's expressed wish to support the proposed fixture at Blackheath on the 22nd of October last, to which I have already referred, was a strong inducement to your committee to consider the matter. But the fact of the last paragraph of your circular letter, dated 10th October, in which you state that the International Board, which will settle the conditions under which the fixture is to be played, is the only committee on this subject must come from the clubs.

#### THE COURT OF APPEAL.

incomprehensible still that these should have been possible.

When the South Africans toured this country there was a general impression abroad that they were a "cut above" the All Blacks in their general demeanour and conduct, and that they played a cleaner football in a truer sporting sense. The same remark applies to the Wallabies, and in the light of this correspondence that impression will be strengthened and will become a conviction. Scotland, having gained full knowledge of the facts, had no alternative to the position she has so boldly taken up, and everyone who can appreciate honesty in amateur sport will admire the Scottish Union for their courage in this matter.

Now we know the reason why Scotland and Ireland did not meet the Wallabies, but even if she only suspected this corruption, did not give a friendly hint to Wales.

#### THE INTERNATIONAL AT CARDIFF.

#### ENGLAND TO MEET WALES ON SATURDAY.

Again the question occurs, What is the position of Wales? Did the Welsh Union members know, either individually or as a body, that these tourists were being paid this money? I am in a position to state definitely that they did not know, and I have sufficient confidence in them to believe that had they known they would not have arranged matches with the Wallabies.

In the eyes of Wales England's guilt has not yet been proved, and Scotland, however intense her anxiety to preserve the purity of amateur Rugby, cannot expect Wales to take sides with her until she is in full possession of the facts. Just as I am writing these lines the message comes from Scotland that Mr. J. A. Smith, the secretary of the Scottish Union, has given a clear statement that Wales will not be in any way affected.

This is good news for many reasons. In the first place nothing would give such a powerful impetus to professionalism in Rugby football as a general rupture between the four unions.

Had that taken place at the present juncture professionalism would have been inevitable, especially in Wales, England is not in the same position as Wales, for the obvious reason that so long as the universities and the public schools are in existence so long will amateurism be maintained and kept up to the point of normal strength.

Mr. Walter Rees declined to give any further information than that contained in the assurance that next Saturday's match will be played, and he would not be drawn into a discussion of the situation. Anyhow, the facts are clear enough to convey their own meaning, and the next item of interest will be the reply of England to Scotia's ultimatum.

#### ON WHOSE SIDE?

It is safe to assume that Ireland will stand by Scotland, and an evidence of this fact is that Erin joined hands with Scotia in refusing to arrange matches with the Wallabies. With Wales it is largely a question of choosing between Codlin and Short, and from the purely financial aspect of the question she would be studying her interests best by avowing her affection for England.

The reason why is simply told. Nearly half, or many, of the most important and interesting matches played by the leading Welsh clubs are those with English teams, and without those matches the season's football would lose much of its charm, and would become dull and monotonous. For reasons of distance, it is impossible for clubs to arrange matches with Scottish clubs, and the only club matches played are those arranged with the Watsonians on their Christmas tour in Wales. But this is not the time to introduce this particular view of the position, seeing that we have the happy assurance of the chief official of the Scottish Union that Wales is not implicated in the least degree.

#### NOT IMPLICATED.

#### OFFICIAL ASSURANCE FROM SCOTTISH SECRETARY.

It is officially announced by Mr. J. A. Smith, secretary of the Scottish Rugby Union, that the attitude they have taken up against England will not affect Wales in any way, and from this it is expected that Ireland will not be implicated.

Wales played the Wallabies recently, but even though it is understood the Wallabies are getting the special allowances referred to, no action is taken against Wales by Scotland.

The above statement was confirmed by a telegram received by us from Mr. J. A. Smith, in reply to a query earlier addressed to him concerning Scotland's attitude towards Wales, and the further question whether Scotland would appoint a referee for the English match with Wales at Cardiff next Saturday. Mr. Smith wires:—

Have no difference whatever with Wales or Ireland, and will, of course, fulfil our fixtures with them. Please refer to Mr. Rees for reference.

#### RECEPTION OF THE NEWS

#### "A GREAT SURPRISE" TO MR. ROWLAND HILL.

Mr. Rowland Hill, the Rugby Union authority, used by a press correspondent on Wednesday, said the Scottish Union's decision was a "great surprise."



passed in 1906 regarding the New Zealanders and in 1907 regarding the South Africans, with both of which teams Scotland had matches, and sets out the reasons why Scotland refused to meet the Wallabies.

In the final letter to Mr. Marriott, dated January 11, Mr. Smith says:—

You also state that the Australian team at present playing in England are receiving the same "allowance," and, that being so, my committee feel that Scotland's refusal to arrange a fixture with them has been fully justified.

The position which your committee has taken up on this question of "allowances" is so directly at variance with our views that it is evident that a grave crisis has been reached in regard to the future of Rugby football in the United Kingdom; and it is my unpleasant duty to inform you that my committee have with much regret unanimously resolved that in the circumstances Scotland cannot play England on March 20, as arranged.

In view of your Union's expressed approval of the above payment of players, my committee cannot at present see their way to support the proposal referred to in your letter of the 22nd of October last, that we should join in sending a team to visit South Africa in 1910.

In regard to the last paragraph of your letter of the 21st of December last, I may say that my committee see no use of any discussion before the International Board, as they will shelter themselves under no resolution of that body. The only competent mandate on this subject must come from the clubs.

## THE COURT OF APPEAL.

### JURISDICTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL BOARD.

Inasmuch as an effort will be made to refer the dispute to the International Board, it is not inopportune to give the constitution of what, to all intents and purposes, is the Rugby court of appeal. By virtue of being the senior Union England has six representatives on the board, and the other three Unions two representatives each.

By-law 5 of the International Board states: In case of disputes about international matches, or otherwise, between two countries a committee of the board, consisting of two representatives appointed by each Union, shall have absolute and exclusive jurisdiction.

As Ireland is acting with Scotland, and as Wales is likely to take up a neutral attitude, it is improbable that a requisition can be made by "at least two of the Unions" to convene a special meeting of the board.

## THE POSITION OF WALES.

### "NOT GUILTY": "FORWARD'S" COMMENTARY.

What is the position of Wales?

That is the question of paramount importance to Welsh football, and until all the facts are known it will be impossible to give a full and complete answer, but sufficient is known of the attitude assumed by Scotland to justify a very grave view being taken of the position.

Scotland, true to her traditions as the "unco guid" in Rugby football, has thrown the biggest bomb into the English camp that has yet been manufactured in the amateur arsenal of North Britain, and what complications are likely to ensue and what developments may accrue no man can tell at the present moment.

England has been plainly and openly accused of being parties to a violation—and a flagrant violation—of the laws of amateurism by consenting to every member of the famous All Black team and the Australian team now touring this country receiving a guinea per week as a personal allowance above his ordinary expenses.

There could not possibly be a clearer transgression of the professional laws as adopted in April of 1900, the very first clause of which contains the words:—

That any individual asking, receiving, or relying on a promise, direct or implied, to receive any money consideration whatever constitutes an act of professionalism.

It is a startling eye-opener to most people, and even to those who are closely connected with Rugby football in Wales, that the members of these two touring teams should be in receipt of a guinea per week, and this in striking contrast to the terms upon which British teams have toured Australia and New Zealand. All the allowance that was made in those cases were the bare out-of-pocket expenses of a miserable 2s. a day.

It was this strict interpretation of the laws of amateurism by the promoters of the Australasian tours which prevented many of our best players making the long journey on account of their inability to meet the expenses of the tour, to say nothing of the loss of wages they would incur by giving up their work for so long a period.

#### WORKING MEN DEBARRED.

Not only were the working-class players thus debarred, but the Mother Country was prevented from sending out a really representative team on that account, it being recognised in Wales especially that her strength as a football nation lies chiefly in the working man element. Without that element Wales would be a mere cypher among the nations.

It is almost incredible that the English Union executive, which is supposed to be composed of ultra-purists in sport, should lend their sanction or even give a moment's countenance to such an enterprise as that revealed in the correspondence between the Scottish Union and the South African Union. One has only to mention the name of Mr. Rowland Hill as one of the stalwarts of pure amateurism in England for the past 30 years or more to make it more

## NOT IMPLICATED.

### OFFICIAL ASSURANCE FROM SCOTTISH SECRETARY.

It is officially announced by Mr. J. A. Smith, secretary of the Scottish Rugby Union, that the attitude they have taken up against England will not affect Wales in any way, and from this it is expected that Ireland will not be implicated.

Wales played the Wallabies recently, but, even though it is understood the Wallabies are getting the special allowances referred to, no action is taken against Wales by Scotland.

The above statement was confirmed by a telegram received by us from Mr. J. A. Smith, in reply to a query earlier addressed to him concerning Scotland's attitude towards Wales, and the further question whether Scotland would appoint a referee for the English match with Wales at Cardiff next Saturday. Mr. Smith wires:—

Have no difference whatever with Wales or Ireland, and will, of course, fulfil our fixtures with them. Please refer to Mr. Rees re referee.

## RECEPTION OF THE NEWS

### "A GREAT SURPRISE" TO MR. ROWLAND HILL.

Mr. Rowland Hill, the Rugby Union authority, seen by a press representative on Wednesday, said the Scottish Union's intimation came as a great surprise. He could express no opinion on the matter, and could only say it would come up for consideration before the emergency committee of the English Union at Cardiff on Saturday, prior to the match between England and Wales.

In other Rugby Union quarters it is stated that Scotland will have to refuse to play against Wales, so that after next Saturday's fixture at Cardiff the only other international match likely to take place this year is that between Scotland and Ireland.

### WALLABIES' INDIGNANT DENIALS.

The first intimation the Wallabies received of the Scottish Union's singular decision was whilst they were sight-seeing at Avonmouth. That it came as a bombshell was apparent. Some of the men concerned were very emphatic on the subject. Manager M'Mahon, too, was emphatic. To a "Western Mail" representative he said:—

I deny most emphatically that there is at present, or ever has been, any professionalism, veiled or unveiled, in connection with the present Australian tour. I have never heard or dreamed that any such charges had been formulated until to-day, and no one is more surprised than I am. All that the Australians have been paid during the tour has been three shillings per day, and the three shillings limit has never been exceeded. At the special request of the English Rugby Union when the tour started, books have been kept throughout. Those books are at the disposal of the English Rugby Union, and will bear out my statements. It is preposterous, to say the least, to allege that the Australians are in any sense professionals.

### GWYN NICHOLLS MAKES A COMPARISON.

When the Rev. Mr. Mollineux's team visited the Antipodes some eight or nine years ago Mr. Gwyn Nicholls was one of the party, and at Bristol on Wednesday, where he was refereeing the Wallabies v. Bristol and Clifton game, Mr. Nicholls drew an interesting parallel. "When I went to Australia," he said, "we were allowed two shillings a day for refreshments, but we never touched or handled any money. We were able to obtain refreshments up to that amount. If we exceeded it, we had to pay the balance. If we did not utilise it all, we were the losers."



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Jan. 16. '09

## PLYMOUTH v. AUSTRALIANS.

## COLONIALS WIN THEIR LAST MATCH

The Australian team played the last match of their English tour by meeting Plymouth. The attendance of 10,000 included the Mayor of Plymouth and other borough officials, besides the Naval Commander-in-Chief (Admiral Sir Wilmot Fawkes). The Australians had a very good side doing duty, whilst Plymouth were fully represented, and had the assistance of Dean, of Cornwall County. The turf was on the heavy side, consequent upon the recent rains. Plymouth opened up the incline, and at once assumed the aggressive. Hickey and Woods by fine kicking brought relief, and then McKivatt set his three-quarters in motion. Their passing broke down, however, and Moore punted well back. In ensuing play Dix executed a lovely corkscrew run, but he was finally brought down, and Conybeare sent back to touch only a few feet from the visitors' line. Then the Wallabies started passing again, for Dean to suddenly intercept and dribble towards the line. Conybeare toed the ball across, and Peters nipping in scored a try for Plymouth, Butcher failing to convert from an easy position. Plymouth continued to press, but they were eventually repulsed, and the Wallabies transferred play to the other end, where they set up a prolonged attack. Finally, after splendid passing, Parkinson scored a try behind the posts, but the kick at goal was charged down by Robinson. From this stage until the interval the Australians had much the better of the play, and McCabe being fed raced over with another unconverted try. At half-time the Wallabies led by 6 points to 3.

Row restarted for the visitors, but Plymouth were the first to become dangerous through the agency of Dean. The visiting forwards gradually relieved, and Row burst away only to be brought down by a magnificent tackle by Hoskings. Eventually, after great passing by the Wallabies' three-quarters, Parkinson crossed with another unconverted try, whilst a couple of minutes later Wise obtained and attempted to get in a kick, but McCabe practically took the ball off his toes, and ran over unopposed. Again there was no goal. On resuming Plymouth became dangerous, and were awarded a free kick, but McCabe ran out in fine style. Plymouth came along again, and McKivatt was penalised for impeding Nesbit. The charge was disallowed, and Butcher landed a fine penalty goal. The Wallabies went right away from the restarting kick, and pressed all along the home line, and despite the efforts of the Plymouth defence McCabe crossed with the fifth unconverted try. The Australians won in the end by 15 points to 6.

Plymouth.—Hoskings; Butcher, Moore, Dean, and Conybeare; Richards and Peters; Knight, Wise, Edwards, Robinson, Willecks, Willis, Jones, and Nesbit. Australians.—Dix; Parkinson, Daly, Hickey, and McCabe; Woods and McKivatt; Hammond, Barnett, McMurtrie, Richards, Row, Gaven, McArthur, and Middleton.

	Yb.	Tris	Pts
Australians	0	5	15
	16	1	6

2 tries half line to 1.

Plymouth 1 P.G.



# THE AUSTRALIANS.

## THE TOUR REVIEWED.

### INTERESTING FACTS AND FIGURES

BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

The match with Plymouth on Saturday brought the Australians' tour to an end so far as this country is concerned. At the end of the present week they will leave for America, where, as already announced in the "Sporting Life," an interesting list of matches has been fixed up.

The Australians won 24 of the 30 games they played, and were successful in the Olympic tournament and also in the match with England at Blackheath. From a playing point of view, therefore, the tour may be considered as highly successful. At the same time, they cannot be considered to have reached the standard of the New Zealanders or South Africans. This is not surprising, in view of the fact that before they had been in this country three weeks two of their best forwards broke their legs, while a third, C. E. Munnin, returned home, owing to illness, before the tour started. Two new forwards, K. Gavin and A. B. Burge, were sent for in order to fill, to some extent, the vacancies thus caused, but the loss of Flanagan and P. Burge had, naturally, a bad effect on the pack and on the combination of the team as a whole.

#### AN INCONSISTENT TEAM.

The results of the tour provide a curious batch of inconsistencies. When they beat Devon in the opening match of the tour the Colonials were largely indebted for their victory to their forwards, who, while showing no particular brilliance, played a good game, in which the strong point was their excellence in following up. The backs kicked well, but combined badly, and the general impression left by the match was that the main strength of the team would lie in the pack. In the match with Cornwall, in the Olympic final, however, three changes were made behind the scrum, with the result that the work of the backs showed considerable improvement, and, in some of the later matches, was so effective as to save the side from defeat when well beaten forward. The changes referred to were the introduction of McCabe at five-eighths in place of McKivatt, who was transferred to the scrum-half position, displacing Woods, while Carroll was brought in as a wing three-quarter. This arrangement worked so well that the Colonials in the Stadium match gave their best exhibition, up to that point, of the tour. McKivatt was a great success at the base of the scrum, and Carroll showed plenty of pace, and kept his place as a regular member of the team during the remainder of the tour. McCabe worked well with McKivatt.

In the Cambridge match the Australian forwards were well beaten, and for the narrow victory the Colonials gained they were partly indebted to their own backs, and partly to the many blunders made by Cambridge behind the scrum. Had the Light Blues' backs been able to take advantage of the opportunities presented to them by the forwards, there can be little doubt that the Australians would have been defeated.

#### VICTORIES THAT FOLLOWED DEFEATS.

As a rule, the Australians gave their best display following closely upon some of their most disappointing games. Thus, after they had been well beaten by the Combined Midlands on Dec. 2, they played what was perhaps their best game of the tour on Dec. 5, when they beat the Anglo-Welsh side at Richmond. The defeat in the Midlands was due to the mastery which the home forwards gained over the Australian eight. The victory at Richmond was gained by superior all-round play against a team that was much weakened by defections at the last moment. Still, whatever reason may have been advanced to explain the failure of the scratch team, the emphatic victory of the Australians, coming as it did just before the Welsh match, was a very hopeful sign from an Australian point of view.

But the hoped-for triumph at Cardiff Arms Park was not achieved. The Australians were the better side, their backs played well under unfavourable conditions, and they were more often dangerous than the Welshmen. Yet Wales won by a margin of three points, a result due partly to errors in tactics on the part of the Australians and partly to bad luck. After the good showing made against Wales, the rout at Cardiff on Dec. 28 was something of a surprise. The gruelling game with Swansea on the previous Saturday probably had something to do with the result, but whatever the cause, this defeat was the most complete the Australians experienced.

#### ENGLAND'S DEFEAT AT BLACKHEATH

The last important match of the tour was that with England at Blackheath. The Australians' victory here was due to the fact that they were the better team all-round, and were immeasurably superior forward. England promised great things in the first twenty minutes, but after that time

TENTH MATCH.—v. United Kingdom (Cornwall) (Olympic Final), at the Stadium, Shepherd's Bush, Oct. 26. Australians won by 4 goals, 1 penalty goal, and 3 tries to a try. McCabe (2), Carroll (2), Richards, Hickey, and McKivatt got the Australians' tries, and the goals were kicked by Carmichael, who also scored the penalty. Bert Solomon scored Cornwall's try.

ELEVENTH MATCH.—v. Navy and Army, at Portsmouth, Oct. 28. Australians won by 1 goal and 1 penalty goal to 1 penalty goal and 1 try. McCabe scored the try, Carmichael converting and also getting the penalty. Moir (try) and Lapage (penalty goal) scored for the Navy and Army.

TWELFTH MATCH.—v. Durham, at Hartlepool, Oct. 31. Australians won by 4 goals and 3 tries to 1 dropped goal and 1 try. Try was scored by Russell (3), Dix (2), McKivatt, and Craig, and Carmichael converted goal for Durham, and Chapman added a try.

THIRTEENTH MATCH.—v. Northumberland and Cumberland, at Newcastle, Nov. 4. Australians won by 3 goals and 1 try to 2 tries. McCabe, Middleton, Russell, and Dix crossed the allied team's line, and in all but one instance Carmichael was successful with the kick. Ewbank and Mather scored the tries for the home team.

FOURTEENTH MATCH.—v. Cheshire, at Birkenhead, Nov. 7. Australians won by 5 goals, 1 mark goal, and 3 tries to a try. Carroll and Dix each scored two tries for the Australians, the others being gained by McKivatt, McCue, Prentice, and Russell. Carmichael added full points to five of these scores, and also converted Russell's mark. Bowman got Cheshire's try.

FIFTEENTH MATCH.—v. London, at Blackheath, Nov. 11. Australians won by 3 goals, 1 penalty goal, and 2 tries to a try. Australian tries were scored by McCabe, Barnett, Russell, Craig, and Griffen. The extra points were three times added by Carmichael, who landed the penalty near the close. Lloyd got over for London.

SIXTEENTH MATCH.—v. Cambridge University, at Cambridge, Nov. 14. Australians won by 1 goal and 2 tries to 1 goal and 1 dropped goal. Moran, Carroll, and Dix got the Colonials' tries, and Carmichael converted once. Wright scored the Light Blues' try, Atkinson placing the goal. Just before the end Wright dropped a magnificent goal.

SEVENTEENTH MATCH.—v. Oxford University, at Oxford, Nov. 18. Australians won by 2 goals, 1 penalty goal, and 2 tries to a try. Hickey, Prentice, McKivatt, and Russell scored tries, Carmichael kicked two goals, and also placed a penalty. Oxford's solitary score was gained by Vassall in the last minute.

EIGHTEENTH MATCH.—v. Yorkshire, at Wakefield, Nov. 21. Australians won by 3 goals and 3 tries to nil. Russell (2), A. Burge, Bede Smith, McKivatt, and Carroll crossed the home line, and Carmichael was thrice successful with the goal-kick. Though completely beaten at back, Yorkshire played a fine game forward.

NINETEENTH MATCH.—v. Lancashire, at Manchester, Nov. 25. Australians won by 4 tries to 2. Russell, Daly, McCabe, and McKivatt scored the winners' tries, and Bryning and Gallagher got over for Lancashire.

TWENTIETH MATCH.—v. Somerset, at Taunton, Nov. 28. Australians won by a goal and a try to nil. McKivatt and Carroll put on tries, and Carmichael converted the latter's score.

TWENTY-FIRST MATCH.—v. Combined Midlands, at Leicester, Dec. 2. Midlands won by 2 goals, 1 penalty goal, and 1 try to 1 goal. The Australians' goal was kicked by Carmichael from a try by Burge. Wood, Heard, and Assinder obtained tries for the Midlands, and Cooper converted two of these and also kicked a penalty goal.

TWENTY-SECOND MATCH.—v. an Anglo-Welsh XV, at Richmond, Dec. 5. Australians won by 3 goals and 3 tries to 0. Russell (4), Dix, and Prentice got the Australians' tries, and Carmichael kicked the goals. This game was noteworthy for a fine display by the Australians' backs, to whom the victory was to a large extent due.

TWENTY-THIRD MATCH.—v. Wales, at Cardiff, Dec. 12. Wales won by 1 penalty goal and 2 tries to 2 tries. Wales were lucky to win. The Australians gave one of their best exhibitions of the tour, and that they failed to win was due almost entirely to errors in tactics. Richards and Russell scored the Colonials' tries, and Carmichael on each occasion failed with the place kick. Travers and Hopkins scored the Welsh tries, and Winfield placed a fine goal from a penalty given against McKivatt for offside.

Wales.—H. B. Winfield; \*W. Trew, \*J. P. Jones; Hopkins, and \*J. L. Williams; \*R. M. Owen and \*T. Jones; \*G. Hayward, D. Thomas, I. Morgan, \*T. Evans, \*J. Watts, \*G. Travers, P. Waller, and \*J. Webb. (Internationals). \*Australia.—P. Carmichael; C. Russell, J. Hickey, E. Mandible, and W. B. Carroll; Ward, Prentice, and C. H. McKivatt; Dr. H. M. Moran, T. Richards, R. Craig, P. McCue, A. B. Burge, C. A. Hammond, T. Griffin, and J. T. Barnett.

TWENTY-FOURTH MATCH.—v. Glamorgan League, at Pontypridd, Dec. 17. Australians won by 1 goal and 2 tries to a try. Dix, Mandible, and Row scored the Australians' tries, and Carmichael converted Dix's point. The League's try came from Caple.

TWENTY-FIFTH MATCH.—v. Newport, at Newport, Dec. 19. Australians won by 1 goal (kicked) by Carmichael from Dix's try to 1 try (Birt). In spite of the narrow margin the Australians were the better side, and fully deserved to win.

TWENTY-SIXTH MATCH.—v. Abertillery, at Abertillery, Dec. 21. A draw—Australians, 1 penalty goal (Carmichael); Abertillery, 1 try (Bowen).

TWENTY-SEVENTH MATCH.—v. North Glamorgan, at Merthyr, on Dec. 24. This match was not in the official programme, and as three Cardiff men played in the Australian side, it cannot be included in the record of the tour. Carroll (2) and Parkinson scored tries, and Carmichael goal-kicked two of them. North Glamorgan's try was scored by Vaughan and converted by J. Thomas.

TWENTY-EIGHTH MATCH.—v. Swansea, at Swansea, Dec. 26. Swansea won by 1 penalty goal and 1 try to 0. Edgar Morgan and Jack Bancroft scored the try and the penalty goal respectively.

TWENTY-NINTH MATCH.—v. Cardiff, at Cardiff, Dec. 29. Cardiff won by 1 goal and 1 dropped goal to 1 goal and 1 try. Bush, who was converted by Bush, who was also responsible for the penalty and the dropped goal, and Carmichael converted the latter's score.

THIRTIETH MATCH.—v. England, at Blackheath, Jan. 1. Australians won by 3 tries to 1. Russell (2), J. P. Jones, and A. B. Burge scored the Colonials' tries, and Row scored the Australians' try. Carmichael on each occasion failed to place a goal. Mobbs scored for England just after the start, and

## COLONIAL SIDES COMPARED.

### HOW THEY HAVE FARED IN WALES.

The following table, showing the records of the Australians, South Africans, and New Zealanders, will be interesting for purposes of comparison. The record of the Maori team of 1888-9 is also included. The records of the respective sides in the matches played in Wales will also be of interest:—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	For.	Agst.
Australians	30	24	5	1	425	144
South Africans	29	26	2	1	606	85
New Zealanders	33	32	1	0	868	47
Maori	74	49	20	5	865	394

On these figures, Welshmen may well look with pride. True, the South Africans and New Zealanders won respectively five out of six and four out of five of their games in Wales. But in only one of their Welsh matches—that with Glamorgan—did the New Zealanders win by anything like a convincing margin. The South Africans did very well indeed in Wales until their last match—and in that Cardiff piled on 17 points against them without response. As to the Australians, they have had good reason to look upon Welsh sides with respect. Not only did they meet their first defeat in Wales, but the games at Swansea and Abertillery were the only ones during the tour in which the Colonials failed to cross their opponents' line. Collating the results in all three tours, the following is the complete record of Welsh sides v. Colonial sides:—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	For.	Agst.
21	14	6	1	102	166	

In the next table the complete results of the three tours are compared:—

	Austra- lians.	South Africans.	New Zea- landers.
England	9-3	15-3	15-0
Wales	6-9	11-0	0-3
Scotland	0-6	12-7	12-7
Ireland	0-6	15-12	15-0
Devon	24-3	22-6	55-4
Gloucestershire	16-0	23-0	44-0
Cornwall	18-5	9-3	41-0
Glamorgan	16-3	6-3	9-0
Durham	29-7	22-4	16-3
Cambridge University	11-9	29-0	14-0
Oxford University	19-3	24-3	47-0
Yorkshire	24-0	34-0	40-0
Somerset	8-0	14-0	23-0
Newport	8-0	8-0	6-3
Cardiff	6-24	0-17	10-8
Llanelli	3-8	16-3	—
Lancashire	12-6	11-8	—
Pennygraig	11-3	—	—
Bristol	11-3	—	41-0
Neath and Aberavon	15-0	—	—
London (1st match)	3-0	—	—
London (2nd match)	24-3	—	—
United Kingdom (Cornwall)	32-3	—	—
Navy and Army	8-6	—	—
Northumberland and Cumberland	18-6	—	34-0
Cheshire	37-3	—	—
Combined Midlands	5-16	—	—
Anglo-Welsh XV	24-0	—	—
Glamorgan League	11-3	—	—
Abertillery	3-3	—	4-3
Swansea	0-6	—	—
Plymouth	15-6	—	—
East Midlands	—	37-0	—
Midland Counties	—	29-0	21-5
Kent	—	21-0	—
Northumberland	—	44-0	31-0
Middlesex	—	9-0	34-0
South of Scotland	—	32-3	—
North of Scotland	—	35-3	—
Dublin University	—	21-0	—
Cumberland	—	33-0	11-0
Surrey	—	17-0	—
Monmouthshire	—	—	32-0
Northampton	—	—	28-0
Leicester	—	—	63-0
Hartlepool	—	—	21-3
Devon Albion	—	—	32-0
Blackheath	—	—	17-0
Richmond	—	—	41-0
Bedford	—	—	22-0
West of Scotland	—	—	33-0
Munster	—	—	18-0
Cheltenham	—	55-6	38-8
France	—	—	—

It will be noticed that thirteen sides met all three Colonial teams. The tourists' records against these sides were as follow:—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	For.	Agst.
Australians	13	11	2	0	163	69
South Africans	13	11	1	0	265	39
New Zealanders	13	12	1	0	320	18



As a rule, the Australians gave their best displays following closely upon some of their most disappointing games. Thus, after they had been well beaten by the Combined Midlands on Dec. 2, they played what was perhaps their best game of the tour on Dec. 5, when they beat the Anglo-Welsh side at Richmond. The defeat in the Midlands was due to the mastery which the home forwards gained over the Australian eight. The victory at Richmond was gained by superior all-round play against a team that was much weakened by defections at the last moment. Still, whatever reason may have been advanced to explain the failure of the scratch team, the emphatic victory of the Australians, coming as it did just before the Welsh match, was a very hopeful sign from an Australian point of view.

But the hoped-for triumph at Cardiff Arms Park was not achieved. The Australians were the better side, their backs played well under unfavourable conditions, and they were more often dangerous than the Welshmen. Yet Wales won by a margin of three points, a result due partly to a superior tactics on the part of the Australians and partly to bad luck. After the good showing made against Wales, the rout at Cardiff on Dec. 28 was something of a surprise. The gruelling game with Swansea on the previous Saturday probably had something to do with the result, but whatever the cause, this defeat was the most complete the Australians experienced.

**ENGLAND'S DEFEAT AT BLACKHEATH.**  
The most important match of the tour was that with England at Blackheath. The Australians' victory here was due to the fact that they were the better team all round, and that they were the superior forward. England promised to do things in the first twenty minutes, but after that they completely fell away, and in the second half were overplayed and thoroughly beaten.

The tour has not shown us a Marsberg or a Wallace. Woods and Russell came with big reputations, but did not maintain them, and the best back in the team was probably C. H. McKivatt. P. Carmichael was a splendid kicker, and a full back of the highest class, while Richards and Row were the best of the forwards. Of the others, the best were Moran, Prentice, Carroll, McCabe, and Barnett.

Of the three "incidents" which occurred during the tour, nothing need be added here to what has been already said. Such happenings are matters for the keenest regret, but they do not justify some of the things which have been said and written about the Australians and their methods.

Public interest in the tour has not been so great as in the case of the South Africans and the New Zealanders. Perhaps this is because Colonial sides are beginning to lose some of their novelty. It can hardly be due to any falling off in general interest in the game, for it is safe to say that this is greater at the present time than it has been for some years past.

The complete results of the tour are as follow:—

SEPTEMBER.		Points.
		For. Agst.
26-v. Devon	.....	24 3
OCTOBER.		
1-v. Gloucestershire	.....	16 0
3-v. Cornwall	.....	18 5
7-v. Glamorgan	.....	16 3
10-v. Penryn	.....	11 3
15-v. Neath and Aberavon	.....	15 0
17-v. Llanelly	.....	3 0
24-v. London	.....	3 0
26-v. United Kingdom	.....	32 3
28-v. Navy and Army	.....	8 6
31-v. Durham	.....	29 7
NOVEMBER.		
4-v. Northumberland and Cumberland	.....	18 6
7-v. Cheshire	.....	37 3
11-v. London	.....	24 3
14-v. Cambridge University	.....	11 9
18-v. Oxford University	.....	19 3
21-v. Yorkshire	.....	24 0
25-v. Lancashire	.....	12 6
28-v. Somerset	.....	8 0
DECEMBER.		
2-v. Combined Midlands	.....	5 16
5-v. Anglo-Welsh XV.	.....	24 0
12-v. Wales	.....	6 9
19-v. Glamorgan League	.....	11 3
19-v. Newport	.....	5 3
21-v. Aberllynery	.....	3 3
26-v. Swansea	.....	0 6
28-v. Cardiff	.....	8 24
JANUARY.		
9-v. England	.....	9 3
13-v. Bristol and Clifton	.....	11 3
16-v. Plymouth	.....	15 3
Total	.....	425 14

The scratch match with North Glamorgan on Dec. 24 is not included in the above record.

### SUMMARY OF THE TOUR.

Played 30, won 24, lost 5, drawn 1; points for 425, against 144.

**FIRST MATCH.**—v. Devon, at Devonport, Sept. 26. The Australians, showing pronounced superiority forward, started their tour with an emphatic victory by 3 goals and 3 tries (24 points) to 1 try (3 points). The game was marred by an unfortunate accident, P. Burge breaking his leg. Bede Smith (2), Mandible (2), Hickey, and Griffen scored tries, and Carmichael converted three of these. Harvey scored for Devon.

**SECOND MATCH.**—v. Gloucestershire, at Gloucester, Oct. 1. The Australians won by 2 goals and 2 tries to nil. Russell (2), Barnett, and Woods scored tries, and Carmichael kicked the goals.

**THIRD MATCH.**—v. Cornwall, at Camborne, Oct. 3. Australians won by 3 goals and 1 try to a goal. Tries were scored by McKivatt (2), Russell, and Griffen, and Carmichael added extra points to three of these. Lowry scored for Cornwall, Solomon converting. During the match Flanagan, who was acting as touch judge, collided with Russell and sustained a broken leg.

**FOURTH MATCH.**—v. Glamorgan, at Cardiff, Oct. 7. Australians won by 2 goals and 2 tries to 1 penalty goal. Russell (3) and Richards obtained the Australians' tries, Carmichael kicking both goals. Glamorgan's penalty was placed by Winfield.

**FIFTH MATCH.**—v. Penryn, at Penryn, Oct. 10. Australians won by 1 goal, 1 penalty goal, and 1 try to a try. Tries were scored for the Australians by Moran and Rowe, and Daly on one occasion converted. Penryn scored the penalty goal. Ponsford scored for Penryn.

**SIXTH MATCH.**—v. Neath and Aberavon, at Neath, Oct. 15. Australians won by 3 goals to nil. Carroll (2) and Moran scored tries, and Carmichael was successful each time with the goal kick.

**SEVENTH MATCH.**—v. Llanelly, at Llanelly, Oct. 17. The Australians were beaten by a goal and a try to a try. McKivatt obtained the Australians' score, and Moran converting.

**EIGHTH MATCH.**—v. Monmouth, at Pontypool, Oct. 19. Abandoned owing to ground being under water.

**NINTH MATCH.**—v. London, at Richmond, Oct. 24. Australians won by 1 try (scored by Russell) to nil. The game was not a good one, owing to disappointing play by the backs on each side. The forwards—particularly those of the London team—gave a creditable display.

Wales, and J. L. Williams; \*R. M. Owen and \*R. Jones; \*G. Travers, P. Waller, I. Morgan, T. Evans, and \*R. Jones; Australia.—P. Carmichael, \*J. Webb, (\*Internationals), \*McKivatt, Dr. H. M. Moran, T. Richards, R. Craig, P. Barnett, A. B. Burge, C. A. Hammond, T. Griffin, and J. T. Barnett.

**TWENTY-FOURTH MATCH.**—v. Glamorgan League, at Pontypool, Dec. 17. Australians won by 1 goal and 2 tries to a try. Dix, Mandible, and Row scored the point. The League's try came from Caple.

**TWENTY-FIFTH MATCH.**—v. Newport, at Newport, Dec. 19. Australians won by 1 goal (kicked by Carmichael from Dix's try) to 1 try (Dix). In spite of the narrow margin the Australians were the better side, and fully deserved to win.

**TWENTY-SIXTH MATCH.**—v. Aberllynery, at Aberllynery, Dec. 21. A draw—Australians, 1 penalty goal (Carmichael); Aberllynery, 1 try (Bowen).

**TWENTY-SEVENTH MATCH.**—v. North Glamorgan, at Merthyr, on Dec. 24. This match was not in the official programme, and as three Cardiff men played for North Glamorgan, it was not included in the record of the tour. Carmichael (2) and Parkinson scored for the Australians, and two of them, North converted by J. Thomas.

**TWENTY-EIGHTH MATCH.**—v. Swansea, at Swansea, Dec. 26. Swansea won by 1 penalty goal and 1 try to 0. Edgar Morgan and Jack Bancroft scored the try and the penalty goal respectively.

**TWENTY-NINTH MATCH.**—v. Cardiff, at Cardiff, Dec. 28. Cardiff won by 1 goal to 1 dropped goal (penalty goal and 4 tries to 1 goal and 1 try. Williams and one of these was converted by Buell, who was also responsible for the penalty and the dropped goal. The Australians' tries were obtained by Hickey and Moran, and Carmichael converted the latter's score.

**THIRTIETH MATCH.**—v. England, at Blackheath, Jan. 9. England won by 3 tries to 1. Russell (2) and Cooper scored the tries, Carmichael on a brilliant try being dropped. Cooper failed to convert. The game was most disappointing to the English point of view, the ascendancy of the Australians, particularly in the scrum, being complete.

England.—\*G. H. D'O'Lyon; B. Bennette, E. W. Assinder, F. N. Tarr, and E. R. Mobbs; \*R. H. Williamson and A. H. Akerloft; \*A. L. Kewney, S. Penny, \*W. L. Oldham, J. G. Cooper, \*R. Dibble, P. J. Down, F. Knight, and A. D. Warrington Morris. (\*Internationals).

Australians.—\*P. Carmichael; \*W. Dix, \*J. Hickey, \*W. P. Prentice, and \*C. Russell; A. J. McCabe and \*C. H. McKivatt; \*J. T. Barnett, \*C. A. Hammond, M. McArthur, \*P. McCue, S. A. Middleton, N. Row, \*Dr. H. M. Moran, and \*T. Richards. (\*Played against Wales.)

**THIRTY-FIRST MATCH.**—v. Bristol and Clifton, at Bristol, Jan. 13. Australians won by 1 goal and 2 tries to 1 try. Gavin, McKivatt, and McCabe scored tries and Dix converted McCabe's score. J. Spoor got over for Bristol and Clifton.

**THIRTY-SECOND MATCH.**—v. Plymouth, at Plymouth, January 16. The Australians won by 5 tries to 1 penalty goal and 1 try. McCabe (3) and Parkinson (2) scored for the Australians, and Peters and Butcher got Plymouth's try and penalty goal respectively.

### PLAYERS' MATCH RECORD.

The party, 32 in number, was made up as follows:

W. Dix (N.S.W.) and P. Carmichael (Queensland), backs; C. Russell (N.S.W.), F. Bede Smith (N.S.W.), H. Daly (N.S.W.), E. Parkinson (Queensland), D. B. Carroll (N.S.W.), E. Mandible (N.S.W.), J. Hickey (N.S.W.), and A. J. McCabe (N.S.W.), three-quarter backs; C. H. McKivatt (N.S.W.), W. S. Ward Prentice (N.S.W.), F. Woods (N.S.W.), and J. Stevenson (N.S.W.), half-backs; J. T. Barnett (N.S.W.), T. Griffin (N.S.W.), S. A. Middleton (N.S.W.), E. McIntyre (N.S.W.), P. McCue (N.S.W.), P. Burge (N.S.W.), N. Row (N.S.W.), T. Richards (N.S.W.), P. Flanagan (Queensland), Dr. H. M. Moran (N.S.W.) (captain), C. A. Hammond (N.S.W.), J. McMurtrie (N.S.W.), M. McArthur (N.S.W.), R. R. Craig (N.S.W.), A. B. Burge (N.S.W.), and K. Gavin (N.S.W.).

McKivatt	.....	28
Hickey	.....	28
Carmichael	.....	27
Barnet	.....	27
Russell	.....	26
Middleton	.....	25
McCue	.....	25
Richards	.....	23
Griffin	.....	22
Hammond	.....	22
Row	.....	19
Carroll	.....	18
Dix	.....	17
McArthur	.....	16
Moran	.....	15
Woods	.....	28
Smith	.....	28
Mandible	.....	27
Craig	.....	27
Burge (A.)	.....	26
McCabe	.....	25
McMurtrie	.....	25
Gavin	.....	23
Prentice	.....	22
McIntyre	.....	22
Parkinson	.....	19
Daly	.....	18
Stephenson	.....	17
Burge (P.)	.....	16

### THE SCORING SUMMARISED.

The following table shows how the Australians' points were scored and who obtained them:—

GOALS.	
Carmichael	..... 46
Hickey	..... 1
PENALTY GOALS.	
Carmichael	..... 5
MARK GOAL.	
Carmichael	..... 1
TRIES.	
Russell	..... 24
McKivatt	..... 11
McCabe	..... 10
Carroll	..... 9
Dix	..... 9
Hickey	..... 4
Moran	..... 4
Smith	..... 3
Mandible	..... 3
Griffin	..... 3
Richards	..... 3
Daly	..... 3
Gavin	..... 3

In the next table the points scored against the Australians are detailed:—

GOALS.	
Bert Solomon (Cornwall)	..... 1
Atkinson (Cambridge)	..... 1
Cooper (Midlands)	..... 2
DROPPED GOALS.	
Ellwood (Durham)	..... 1
Bush (Cardiff)	..... 1
PENALTY GOALS.	
Winfield (Wales and Glamorgan)	..... 2
Lapage (Army & Navy)	..... 1
Bush (Cardiff)	..... 1
TRIES.	
Williams (Cardiff)	..... 2
Harvey (Devon)	..... 1
Lowry (Cornwall)	..... 1
Ponsford (Penryn)	..... 1
Richards (Llanelly)	..... 1
Evans (Llanelly)	..... 1
Bert Solomon (Cornwall)	..... 1
Moir (Army and Navy)	..... 1
Chapman (Durham)	..... 1
Ewbank (Northumberland & Cumberland)	..... 1
Mather (Northumberland & Cumberland)	..... 1
Bowman (Cheshire)	..... 1
Lloyd (London)	..... 1
Wright (Cambridge)	..... 1
Vacall (Oxford)	..... 1
Bush (Cardiff)	..... 1
Morgan (Llanelly)	..... 1
Wright (Cambridge)	..... 1
Peters (Plymouth)	..... 1
Brynning (Lancashire)	..... 1
Gallagher (Lancashire)	..... 1
Wood (Midlands)	..... 1
Heard (Midlands)	..... 1
Assinder (Midlands)	..... 1
Travers (Wales)	..... 1
Hopkins (Wales)	..... 1
Caple (Glamorgan Lgae)	..... 1
Baker (Newport)	..... 1
Bowen (Aberllynery)	..... 1
Morgan (Swansea)	..... 1
Morgan (Cardiff)	..... 1
Gibbs (Cardiff)	..... 1
Dyke (Cardiff)	..... 1
Mobbs (England)	..... 1
Spoor (Bristol)	..... 1
Peters (Plymouth)	..... 1

Northumberland	.....	29-0	21-5
Middlesex	.....	21-0	21-0
South of Scotland	.....	0-0	31-0
North of Scotland	.....	32-3	34-0
Dublin University	.....	28-3	.....
Cumberland	.....	28-3	.....
Surrey	.....	28-3	.....
Monmouthshire	.....	21-0	.....
Northampton	.....	33-0	11-0
Leicester	.....	17-0	.....
Hartlepool	.....	.....	32-0
Devon Albion	.....	.....	28-0
Blackheath	.....	.....	21-0
Richmond	.....	.....	21-3
Bedford	.....	.....	32-0
West of Scotland	.....	.....	17-0
Monster	.....	.....	41-0
Cheltenham	.....	.....	22-0
France	.....	.....	33-0
.....	.....	55-6	18-0
.....	.....	.....	38-8

It will be noticed that thirteen sides met all three Colonial teams. The tourists' records against these sides were as follow:—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	For.	Agst.
Australians	..... 13	..... 11	..... 2	..... 0	..... 493	..... 69
South Africans	..... 13	..... 11	..... 1	..... 1	..... 205	..... 39
New Zealanders	..... 13	..... 12	..... 1	..... 0	..... 320	..... 18



### The Wallabies.

#### Departure for Paris.

The Wallabies, after an extended stay in Wales, left Cardiff this afternoon en route for Paris, where they play France on Saturday next. On the following Saturday they play England at Blackheath.

A large gathering of enthusiasts gave them a hearty send off, among the party being Mr Walter E. Rees, secretary to the Welsh Union, and Mr W. T. Morgan, president of the Cardiff Football Club.

Captain McMahon, the manager, and Dr. Moran, the captain, expressed their thanks for the kindnesses extended to the team in Wales. They were surprised at the high standard of play of the Welsh clubs, and frankly acknowledged they had been fairly and squarely beaten by Llanelli, Wales, Swansea, and Cardiff. With them there is no questioning of scores made against them.

Dr. Moran is going to spend a year in Edinburgh with a view of getting a fellowship in surgery. He will be a spectator of the Wales v. Scotland match in February.

Captain McMahon and several members of the team will return to Cardiff to see the Wales v. England game.

Messrs Roberts and Marks are going to make an extended visit to the Continent.

So far no player has listened to the blandishments of the professionals, but many have been approached. During their stay in Wales most of the time has been spent at the Queen's Hotel, and speaking on behalf of the whole party, Captain McMahon paid high compliment to Mr Dartnall, the manager, whose courtesy had made their headquarters the most comfortable on the tour. The players, too, appreciated the kindness of the Cardiff Club, who had given them every facility for training.

### CARDIFF V. WALLABIES.

The gate proceeds at yesterday's match are about £1,100, as all members of the club were admitted free to the higher-priced seats, and each member had the right to a seat for a lady. The club will give 70 per cent., not 50 per cent., of the gate to the Wallabies.



