

Dec. 28th '08

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 skillful 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 follow:—

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. 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. Westacott, 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, Westacott 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 skillfully 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 use of short kicking and passing has been so successfully employed by the greatest player Australia has yet produced, and who is now 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 scrumage 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' Skillful 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 skillfully 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 129

AUSTRALIA 013

*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 threes, 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 died 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.

Continued

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 pointless.

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 politic 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 threes 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 wideawake.

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 end 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 3
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 Blackbeath.

WALLABIES' PREDECESSORS v. CARDIFF

Cardiff v. New Zealanders.

	G. T. P.
Cardiff	1 1 3
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.

AUSTRALIAN AND CARDIFF COMBINATION.

MR. PERCY BUSH'S TEAM PLAY FOR CHARITY.

[By "PENDRAGON."]

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

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

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

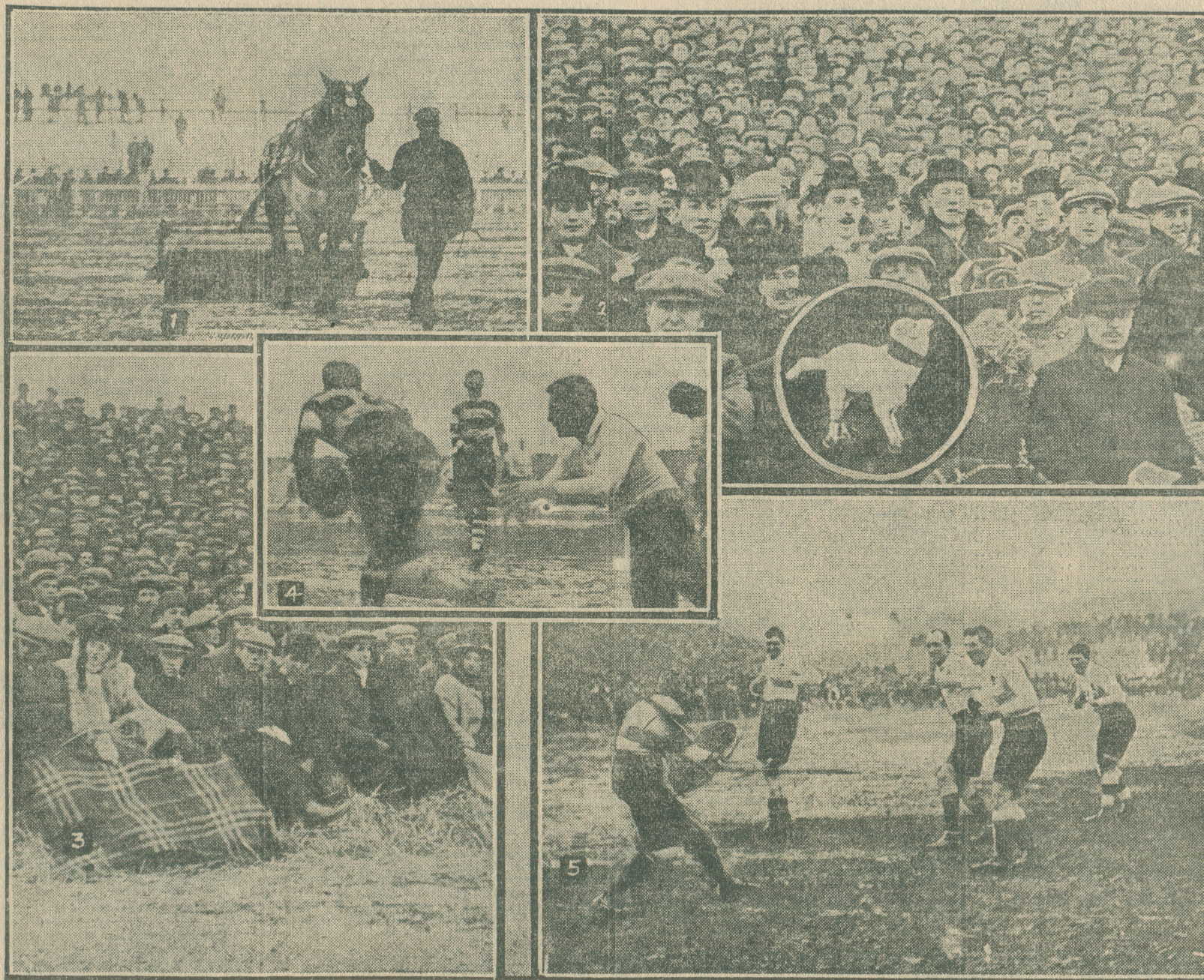
Cardiff Roxburghs: Back, S. R. Jackson; three-quarter backs, T. Evans, C. Tombs, Ewan Davies, J. V. Thomas, and Rhys Williams; half-backs, T. Good and J. Tait; forwards, J. Fletcher, R. H. Gunn, E. C. M. Willmott, E. Martin, H. Barter, J. Partington, W. Partington, D. K. Roberts, and Norman Coppock.

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

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

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

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.)

THE OLD FIRM.



A little business Cardiffians hope to see transacted next Monday.