

## ALL BLACKS AT CARDIFF

FROM OUR RUGBY FOOTBALL  
CORRESPONDENT

The New Zealanders will have their first experience of the Cardiff Arms Park this afternoon, and will be glad enough if they take another Welsh club hurdle on their course towards the international fixtures that shortly will confront them.

The recent victory at Llanelly must have come as a big relief to the All Blacks. It also must have sharpened the keenness of Cardiff, whose gate is likely to be all the larger because the honour of having inflicted defeat on the men from New Zealand remains unique and a boast belonging to Swansea and West Wales. Cardiff, moreover, cherish a sad memory of the glorious chance that was flung away in 1905, when the original All Blacks just got home by 10 points to 8. The margin in 1924 had grown to 16—8, which, if not so bad as the rout of Wales and Swansea in that same year of decadence, was bad enough to make a proud club like that of Cardiff dream ever afterwards of dirty slates and nicely moistened sponges.

### CARDIFF'S RESOURCES

This season Cardiff possess no Gwyn Nicholls nor a Percy Bush, nor probably a team easily comparable with the powerful combinations of 30 years ago, but by marshalling their resources in distinguished exiles—a modern custom that would have horrified the ancients—they would seem to have added considerably to their scoring power and personal prestige behind the scrummage. The forwards, for good or ill, have been given no outside blood transfusion, but can hardly be of small account. Already they have achieved something in helping to defeat Swansea at Cardiff by three points to nothing and in doing their part in a point-less draw on the Swansea ground.

The Cardiff pack may be relied upon for a big effort to attack New Zealand in the scrummage, where they are supposed to be weakest. And, should the attack be even moderately successful, the All Blacks will find the Cardiff back division a very different proposition to those of the Western Valley and of Llanelly, if lacking the triangle of forces in mid-field exploited so cleverly by Swansea. One question also whether Cardiff possess so effective a spoiler as E. Long, the Swansea back-row forward. Still, Cardiff will expect big things from a team that includes such well-known players as T. Stone, A. Bassett, the brothers Bowcott, A. H. Jones, and, last but not least, R. W. Boon, who comes all the way from Scotland. Some hopes, too, are pinned upon H. O. Edwards, a promising young centre from Llandovery College.

The New Zealanders, who still have six men on the list of injured—Wynyard was hurt at Llanelly, and there is little hope of a complete recovery by Page, their best five-eighth, who was incapacitated early in the tour—have made three changes in the side that turned defence so brilliantly into decisive victory at Llanelly. N. J. Ball takes the place of G. F. Hart on the right wing; H. F. McLean, the best winging forward of the party, will replace F. Vorrath, who, incidentally, played an excellent game against Llanelly, and S. T. Reid, the Maori, will be the substitute for Wynyard.



Right between the posts. One of the All Blacks' tries at Cardiff.

## NEW ZEALAND'S BEST DISPLAY YET

All Blacks Make Use of Every  
Chance to Score

By W. J. HOARE

Cardiff 5 pts., New Zealanders 20 pts.

The New Zealanders produced some of the finest phases of Rugby at Cardiff Arms Park in defeating Cardiff by two converted goals, one dropped goal and two tries to one converted goal. In some ways it was the brightest and best game they have engaged in on this tour.

Cardiff had at least an equality of possible scoring with the New Zealanders, but whereas the All Blacks greedily absorbed everything that held out any promise of points, Cardiff's backs bungled and fussed until the gaps created in New Zealand's defence had been closed.

### EARLY CHANCES MISSED

Opportunity repeatedly knocked at Cardiff's door in the opening half, yet at the end of that period Cardiff were a clear 15 pts. behind. Why? Because Harry Bowcott at outside-half and Ronnie Boon and H. O. Edwards at centre did not master the principle of sending out passes that were waist high.

Yet the real high spots of the game came from Cardiff in one glorious ten-minute period early in the second half. The Cardiff backs outplayed the All Blacks at their own game, contributing a series of attacking movements that clearly rattled the New Zealanders' defence and contained a threat that caused their 15 pts. lead to wobble.

After yielding Cardiff 5 pts., however, the New Zealanders regained their grip on the game, which continued to be fought out at tremendous pace, though it never again approached the scientific or spectacular heights of its earlier periods.

Tommy Stone, Cardiff's full-back, was at least Gilbert's equal; Jack Bowcott, at inside-half, was almost as good as the clever little Sadler; but the remainder of the Cardiff attacking backs were well below the New Zealand standards. Boon was shaky in defence, and Arthur Bassett's one good act of the afternoon was when he chased across the field and, with a great tackle, prevented Ball scoring a certain try after beating Arthur Jones and Stone.

Caughey scored New Zealand's first try three minutes from the start. Afterwards came great tries from Mitchell, Caughey and Reid. Gilbert converted two and dropped a goal from halfway.

The Cardiff try was by Osmond after great work by the backs, and Boon converted.



## ALL BLACKS WIN AT CARDIFF

### BRILLIANT OPPORTUNISM

FROM OUR RUGBY FOOTBALL  
CORRESPONDENT

The New Zealanders, almost for the first time in the tour, played as a complete unit when they met Cardiff on the Cardiff Arms Park on Saturday. The forwards at last obtained a big share of the ball and the backs showed the superb *élan* and combination of which one always believed them capable in favourable conditions. Mostly presented with their chances, they seized them so brilliantly that Cardiff were beaten by two goals, one dropped goal, and two tries (20 points) to one goal (5 points).

It would be a great mistake, as well as a gross piece of injustice to an over-weighted pack who recovered marvellously well in the second half, to blame the Cardiff forwards for a crushing defeat. Primarily, it was the bad handling of the backs, who included four international players, in addition to the unlucky Stone and a Cambridge Blue in J. E. Bowcott, who threw the match away in the first half an hour. The younger and smaller Bowcott, after a bad start, showed the way to recovery, but his brother, in the stand-off position, seemed stricken with a kind of paralysis. R. W. Boon, as a centre, was seldom much better. H. O. Edwards, a schoolboy international, showed flashes of form, but mostly stood still in the giving and taking of passes. On the wings, A. H. Jones showed what a fine player he would have been if he had been faster, but Bassett, apart from one glorious dash across-field to tackle N. J. Ball, was a slow and dangerously uncertain force.

### ALL-ROUND IMPROVEMENT

The form shown by individual New Zealanders is best revealed in a description of the play. A further comment upon the forwards, however, should come first, if only because they have earned most of the criticism so far. On Saturday, when all allowance was made for the comparative weakness of the opposition, and a certain loss of grip in a surprising second half excused, the all-round improvement in the New Zealand forward play, along with its immediate effect upon the backs, had to be regarded as a portent. Some of the heeling was first class and the work in the line-out most effective.

The conditions were all in favour of open Rugby, and the pace set by the All Blacks soon brought results. As at Llanelli, they were a try ahead in the first two minutes and again Caughey was the scorer. Two quick heels and two passing movements stopped none too soon preceded Caughey's sudden determination to vary

the attack by means of a lofty punt ahead. To little Stone fell the ordeal of waiting for the ball to descend from a great height and, though he was steady enough, he was rolled over while in the act of making his catch. An exciting scramble under the goal-posts followed and then a tall figure, afterwards found to be Caughey himself, made the decisive dive. Gilbert's failure to add the goal points was almost unaccountable.

The next New Zealand attack came from their own half of the field in prompt reply to a mis-kick by Stone. Ball, who never failed to run well, broke away, supported by Oliver and two front-row forwards, Hadley and Lambourne. A timely tackle saved the situation for Cardiff, but only for a minute or so. The next attack, cleverly started by the forwards and Sadler from a line-out, sent Caughey striding his way through a bemused centre to hand on a pass to Mitchell at the right moment. Mitchell ran round some way, but Gilbert again failed with the place-kick.

### WASTED CHANCES

When the struggling Cardiff pack did get the ball their back play went from bad to worse. Their fumbings and blind passing not only threw away several clear chances, but presented their opponents with openings. By this and inaccurate kicking, 9 points were given away before half-time. Once, when Ball was given a clear run from his own "25," it was only a dash across field by Bassett that cut him off. The next time that Ball and Caughey snapped up a chance there was no one to stop the latter, and Gilbert made the try into a goal. It was Gilbert also who punished a glaring miskick of H. M. Bowcott's by dropping a goal from nearly 50 yards out, after he himself had very nearly knocked the ball on.

The spectators were fortunate that the home team were not demoralized by the 15 points scored against them before the interval. The best and fiercest and swiftest period of the match, indeed, had yet to come. First of all, it called for superb marking and tackling to stop the grandest bit of combined play of the match, which was developed by New Zealand at top speed and kept going by the forwards. Next, Sadler, from a line-out, started another move that might have brought a try but for a knock-on by Caughey. And then one of A. H. Jones's runs set Cardiff alight. J. E. Bowcott turned a fierce rush to account by picking up and sending Bassett away, closely attended by one of the pack, V. R. Osmond. Bassett dived into Gilbert, but the ball went loose and Osmond got a tumultuous touch down. Boon placed a goal and for six more uproarious minutes Cardiff nearly ran or rushed their opponents off their feet.

Just, however, when one saw a possibility of the score becoming 15—10, the Cardiff effort flagged and it became 20—5 instead. Sadler's breakaway to send Reid over for the fourth New Zealand try settled the main issue, even if it did not take all the fight out of the match. Cardiff recovered to the extent of doing their share of the attacking, but their uncertain handling and lamentable lack of combination further wasted the efforts of a pack who refused to be beaten entirely.

The teams were:—

CARDIFF.—T. Stone (captain), back; A. H. Jones, H. O. Edwards, R. W. Boon, and A. Bassett, three-quarter backs; H. M. Bowcott and J. E. Bowcott, half-backs; V. R. Osmond, J. Regan, R. Bale, H. Rees, L. M. Spence, E. N. Rees, G. Williams, and E. Watkins, forwards.

NEW ZEALAND.—G. Gilbert, back; N. A. Mitchell, C. J. Oliver, and N. J. Ball, three-quarter backs; J. L. Griffiths and T. H. C. Caughey, five-eighths; B. S. Sadler, half-back; H. F. McLean, J. E. Manchester (captain), A. Mahoney, R. R. King, S. T. Reid, A. Lambourne, W. E. Hadley, and G. D. Adkins, forwards.

REFEREE.—G. Goldsworthy

NEW ZEALAND.  
CARDIFF.

20 POINTS.  
5 POINTS.