

## 1904=1905.



MEMBERS created a record this season, in electing Cecil F. Biggs to the post of captain, he being the third member of the Biggs family to fill this coveted post, and he appointed that sterling forward W. Neill his vice.

Cardiff had to take the field in the early matches without R. T. Gabe and Percy Bush, who were two of the members of the British team which toured Australia and New Zealand in our summer months of 1904, not having returned, and Gwyn Nicholls had retired from active football for the time being. Dr. Timms also refrained from playing, and the three-quarter line was made up of C. F. Biggs, Arthur Williams, J. L. Williams and W. H. Gunstone, while F. Davies of Dinas Powis partnered David at half. H. B. Winfield was also an absentee.

Gabe and Bush returned home towards the end of October, and the former played regularly throughout the season, but Bush was seldom seen out, R. A. Gibbs generally occupying the outside half position. The forwards were a good sound lot, and probably as good a pack as any pack we have had for the last 12 to 15 years at least.

The perusal of the record discloses the word "abandoned" opposite November 26th, Swansea. This match, as probably everybody knows, was abandoned on account of the frost-bound condition of the ground, frost having set in on the Tuesday evening, and a slight fall of snow next morning kept the ground hard during the remainder of the week. On the Friday the snow was cleared away, and several loads of straw were ordered, but none was delivered until after the darkness set in, and it was then impracticable to lay it on the ground. On the Saturday morning, a slight thaw set in, and as the field of play, except that portion in front of the grand stand was playable, and there was every hope of it all becoming playable by the time of the "kick off," the Swansea players and excursionists were not stopped from leaving Swansea, but when the Swansea team inspected the ground before the gates were open, they declined to play, and the game was therefore abandoned.

At the time the Cardiff Committee only thought it was postponed and made every endeavour to get Swansea to give us another match, but, as they had an unbeaten record, they declined to meet us. Several of the matches played this season are worthy of comment, one of which was against Blackheath at Blackheath, and in which



Dr. Timms made one of his very few appearances during this season, and played by far the best game he ever played for Cardiff. Gabe also showed surprisingly good form. A. F. Harding helped in the match, and he and the seven forwards, more than held their own against an exceptionally good pack, amongst whom were W. L. Rogers, B. C. Hartley, and B. A. Hill, three English Internationals. The score at half-time was 2 tries to 1 goal in favour of Cardiff, Gibbs and Northmore being the scorers. After change of ends Gabe scored a fine try, which was not converted. Then Blackheath scored a try, which, if converted, would have placed Blackheath in front. It was not converted, and Dr. Timms scoring a try just before call of time, which Biggs converted, left Cardiff winners by 1 goal and 3 tries to 1 goal 1 try.

The match against London Welsh was a most interesting one, the great Teddy Morgan and H. T. Maddocks were in their three-quarter line, and A. F. Harding and J. F. Williams were amongst their forwards. Cardiff scored a try very soon after the kick off, and then Teddy Morgan followed with one for the London Welsh ; he received the ball close on his own 25 line, and he ran so fast along the touch line that no one was able to cut him off, he dodged Winfield easily, and scored behind the posts. Teddy Morgan had no further opportunities of scoring, but his defence was superb.

In the Moseley match, at Cardiff, Bush made one of his few appearances, and in the first half treated the spectators and the Moseley team to one of his most skilful expositions.

Another match of note was the one against Newport, on the 18th February, at Cardiff, when Newport were defeated by 3 goals and 2 tries to nil. Gwyn Nicholls played in the three-quarter line with Gabe, Cecil Biggs playing outside half to David. The result was in great part due to the judgment and great dash and speed of Gwyn Nicholls. The match that created the greatest interest was the one against Swansea, at Cardiff, and which ended in a draw. Swansea, of course, were the season's champions, and Cardiff had a ground record to preserve. It was an excellently contested match, more especially in front, where both sets of forwards played vigorous and scientific football on a very heavy ground.

Our greatest victory as far as scoring was concerned was against the Stade Français, the Frenchmen making their first appearance in Cardiff. We had a strong team in the field, and our players afforded their opponents every opportunity of witnessing the passing game as played by Welsh clubs. Our visitors were entertained to dinner after the match, and a most pleasant evening was spent. The French Consul graced the meeting with his presence.

The only match that remains to be mentioned is the last on the list, which was the only one we lost on our own ground, thus depriving us of a ground record. We had a somewhat weakened team, but the Barbarians were very strongly represented,



and had scored a try to nothing at half time, which they soon increased in the second half to 1 goal and 1 try, Brettargh running three parts the length of the field and scoring a fine try. Soon after this, Northmore retired badly injured, and a little later still Westacott had to leave the field. Notwithstanding this hopeless position, our thirteen men played up with desperate energy, and J. L. Williams scored a clever try which Winfield goaled ; but there was no further scoring.

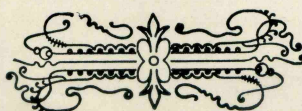
The new Pavilion proved of considerable value in the matter of the training of the players, and their comfort generally, and the wonder is how the Club did without one for so long. Another use to which it was put during the season was the holding of a smoking concert on the evening of October 19th, to welcome the return of the Welsh members of the British Football team, recently touring in Australia and New Zealand. The training room was decorated with flags and draperies, and about 1,000 enthusiasts assembled to honour the Welshmen.

The Reserves played 28 matches, winning 20, drawing 4, and losing 4, scoring 35 goals, 42 tries, to 12 goals and 6 tries.

There was a considerable decrease in the total amount of gate receipts, which was partly accounted for by the abandonment of the Swansea fixture on November 26th.

Members now numbered 1,200, and £469 was received for Workmen's tickets. On the expenditure side no money was taken from current account to pay for the Pavilion, and yet for the first time for very many years, the ordinary expenditure of the season exceeded the receipts, the chief items being rail fares £217 13s. 2d., expenses at out matches £472 17s. 6d., entertaining home and visiting teams £270 6s. 3d. To charity £55 was given, to the Cardiff Schools Rugby Football Union £50, and to local clubs £68 16s. 0d.

This season's International match against England was played on the Cardiff Arms Park, on January 14th, R. T. Gabe and W. Neill representing our club. Gabe and Neill were also in the team against Scotland, and these two and E. G. Nicholls played against Ireland at Swansea, when Wales won the triple crown.





## List of Officers.

Season 1904-1905.

*President* : W. D. PHILLIPS.

*Vice-Presidents* :

A. DUNCAN, H. J. SIMPSON,

*Captain* : C. F. BIGGS.

*Vice-Captain* : W. NEILL.

*Committee* :

A. F. BLAND, J. GIBSON,  
J. DAVIES, E. G. NICHOLLS,  
W. M. DOUGLAS, W. PHILLIPS,  
W. STANFORTH.

*Captain Reserves* : D. L. EVANS.

*Vice-Captain* : GEO. MCCRAITH.

*Committee* :

J. E. MERRETT, W. M. TUNLEY.

*Hon. Treasurer* : A. F. HILL.

*Secretary* : CHAS. S. ARTHUR.



C. F. BIGGS.

## Names and Positions of those who played during the Season.



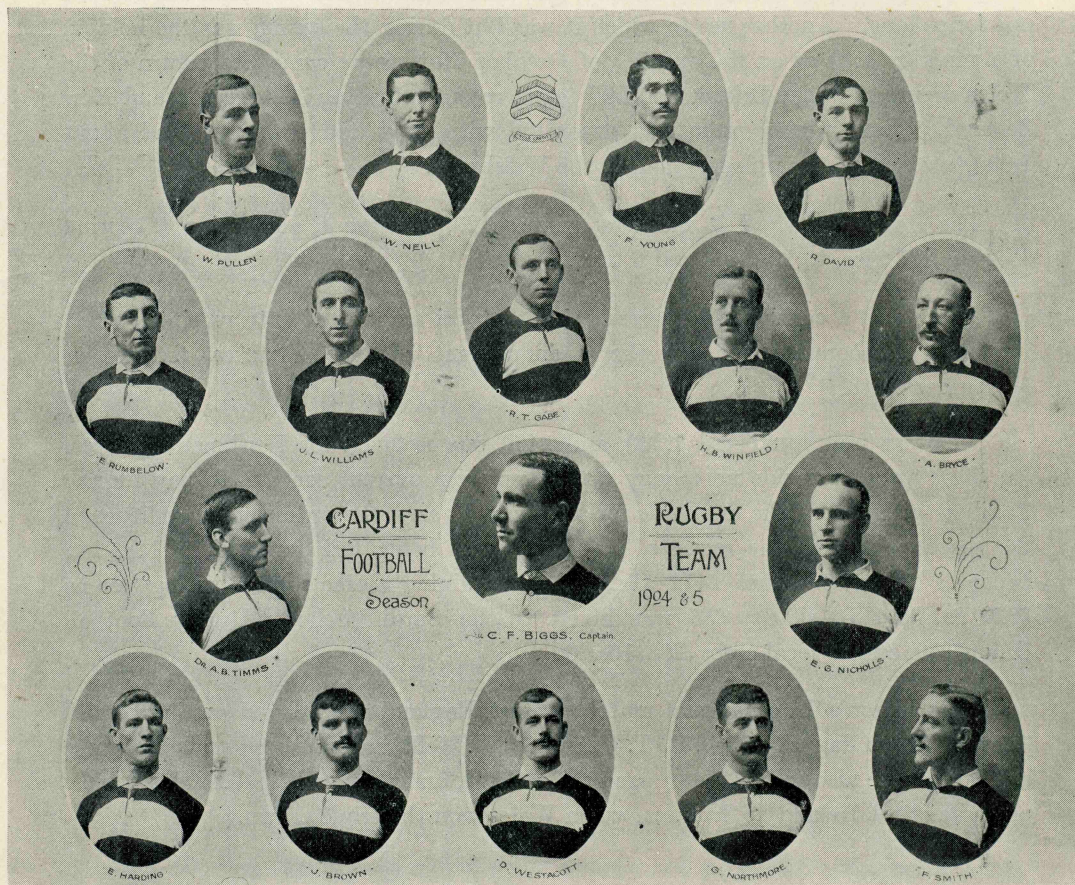
*Full-backs* : F. Young, H. B. Winfield, E. R. Evans.

*Three-quarter-backs* : W. H. Gunstone, A. Williams, T. McLean, J. L. Williams,  
C. F. Biggs, R. T. Gabe, Dr. A. B. Timms, E. Jones, G. McCraith, W. Pullen,  
E. G. Nicholls, W. H. King, G. C. Campbell, W. A. Jones, W. Llewellyn.

*Half-backs* : R. David, F. Davies, P. F. Bush, — Franks, R. A. Gibbs, J. Thomas,  
J. Auckland, R. T. Gabe, W. Pullen.

*Forwards* : G. Northmore, F. Smith, — Hookway, W. Ham, E. Harding, D. Westacott, J. McIntyre, E. Rumbelow, J. Harding, T. Franks, A. F. Harding, W. Neill, J. Brown, A. Brice, J. Davies, R. Thomas, D. L. Evans, W. Jenkins, — Hamilton, F. Kirby, A. Jones — Lewis, — O'Brien, J. Bowen.







# Record, Season 1904-1905.

DATE	OPPONENTS	RESULT	WHERE PLAYED	FOR			AGAINST		
				Goals	Tries	Points	Goals	Tries	Points
1904.									
Sept. 24	District .. .. .	won	H	2	3	19	-	-	-
Oct. 1	Bristol .. .. .	won	H	†2	-	9	-	1	3
" 8	Moseley .. .. .	won	A	†*2	2	13	*1	-	3
" 15	Newport .. .. .	won	H	*2	1	11	-	1	3
" 22	Swansea .. .. .	lost	A	-	-	-	*2	-	8
" 29	Devonport .. .. .	lost	A	†*2	-	7	†2	1	12
Nov. 5	Gloucester .. .. .	won	H	-	4	12	-	1	3
" 12	Neath .. .. .	won	H	2	3	19	-	-	-
" 19	Newport .. .. .	lost	A	1	-	5	†1	1	7
" 26	Swansea .. .. .	Abandoned	(frost)						
Dec. 10	Blackheath .. .. .	won	A	1	3	14	1	1	8
" 17	Llanelly .. .. .	won	H	2	2	16	-	-	-
" 24	London Welsh .. .. .	won	H	-	4	12	-	1	3
" 26	Barbarians .. .. .	won	H	*4	3	27	1	-	5
" 31	Moseley .. .. .	won	H	2	4	22	-	-	-
1905.									
Jan. 7	Leicester .. .. .	won	A	2	2	16	1	1	8
" 21	Bristol .. .. .	Postponed							
" 28	Blackheath .. .. .	won	H	2	-	10	-	1	3
Feb. 4	Neath .. .. .	won	A	1	-	5	-	-	-
" 11	Swansea .. .. .	lost	A	-	1	3	2	2	16
" 18	Newport .. .. .	won	H	3	2	21	-	-	-
" 25	Penarth .. .. .	drawn	H	-	3	9	†2	-	9
Mar. 4	Gloucester .. .. .	drawn	A	-	1	3	-	1	3
" 15	Bristol .. .. .	won	A	*1	1	6	-	1	3
" 18	Newport .. .. .	lost	A	-	1	3	-	2	6
" 25	Swansea .. .. .	drawn	H	-	-	-	-	-	-
April 1	Devonport .. .. .	won	H	§1	1	7	†1	-	4
" 3	Stade Francais .. .. .	won	H	†9	-	44	1	1	8
" 8	Leicester .. .. .	won	H	-	2	6	-	-	-
" 15	Llanelly .. .. .	won	A	-	1	3	-	-	-
" 22	Belfast Collegians .. .. .	won	H	-	4	12	-	1	3
" 24	Barbarians .. .. .	lost	H	1	-	5	1	1	8
				42	48	339	16	18	126

† One Dropped. \* One Penalty. § One Mark. †\* One Dropped and one Penalty.

Matches played, 30; Won, 21; Lost, 6; Drawn, 3.

*Try-getters* : J. L. Williams, 16; Cecil Biggs, 14; R. T. Gabe, 13; W. H. Gunstone, 6; R. A. Gibbs, 4; Arthur Williams, 4; G. Northmore, 3; P. F. Bush, 3; E. Rumbelow, 2; T. Franks, 2; R. David, 2; W. Neil, 2; D. Westacott, 2; F. Davies, 1; Dr. Timms, 1; E. Harding, 1; Geo. McCraith, 1; Gwyn Nicholls, 1; W. Pullen, 1; W. A. Jones, 1.

*Dropped Goals* : C. F. Biggs, 1; Gwyn Nicholls, 1; Fred Davis, 1; W. H. Gunstone, 1.

*Penalty Goals* : C. F. Biggs, 4; H. B. Winfield, 1.

*Mark Goal* : H. B. Winfield.