

A CAPTAIN FROM "TIGER BAY"

THE SECOND ALL BLACKS TOUR OF BRITAIN

1924-5. P42, W30, L9, D3. Points 507—253.

Thomas Albert Johnson with the nick-name of "Codger" was appointed captain and he nominated me as his vice-captain. Johnson was a schoolboy international from Cardiff's South Church Street Docks School, and after a season with the Penarth club he joined Cardiff in 1920-21 with a good reputation as a wing threequarter. He was not powerfully built but stocky and strong of muscle, a most determined and aggressive runner, a little selfless perhaps, a very strong tackler, assiduous in his training, and he earned for himself the mantle of 'Johnson the lion hearted'. This man who earned his living as a marine store dealer at Cardiff Docks, had learned to work and play the hard way, he was one of the best wings in his time, and another "character" of the Rugby game. He played 187 games for the club and twelve times for his country—at wing threequarter and at full-back.

With a run of ten victories in the first ten games, the season augured well, but ill-luck be-

