

No. 5 RINK.	
A. S. Russell	v. M. McDermott
J. C. Robinson, skip	.. 29 R. H. Matthews, skip .. 22
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J. D. Wright	v. Rev. Peters
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ROWING.

The Victorian Rowing Association has decided to send an eight to compete at the famous Henley Regatta to be held at 'ome in July next. The Australian scullers have proved themselves far superior to their English brethren, and I see no reason why an Australian eight should not also prove successful.

The New South Wales Rowing Association have written to the Victorian Rowing Association, intimating that unless the latter complied with the amateur definition adopted by the Sydney conference last year, the New South Wales crew would not compete at the coming intercolonial eight-oar contest. It was decided at a special meeting of the Victorian Association that it would require one month's notice to make any alteration in the rules to conform with the Conference definition. In consequence of the Victorian Association taking this stand New South Wales will not compete, and the crew picked have ceased training.

TENNIS.

The last tournament of the season, Waipawa v. Ruataniwha Plains, was played on the Waipawa courts, and resulted in a win for the former by 15 games. Although the wind was rather boisterous in the morning it subsided later on, and as the courts were in splendid order, a very enjoyable time was spent. Refreshing afternoon tea was dispensed to the players and spectators by Mrs Loughnan.

In Dunedin the weather during the Easter holidays was almost perfect. On Saturday week a tennis match was played on the Otago tennis courts between Otago and Canterbury, with the result that Otago won easily by 27 games.

The annual interprovincial tennis match, Canterbury v. Otago, which lasted three days, and comprised Men's and Ladies' Doubles, Combined Doubles, and Men's and Ladies' Singles, resulted in a victory for Otago by twenty-three games; the totals being: Otago 280, Canterbury 257.

FOOTBALL.

Between forty and fifty persons were present at a meeting held at Hastings recently for the purpose of forming a football club. Mr Cashion took the chair. It was decided that a Club, to be known as the City Club, should be formed, with a first and second fifteen, and that it should be affiliated to the Hawke's Bay Rugby Union. The following delegates were chosen:—Messrs Morfitt, Cullen, and C. Caulton. Mr McRae was elected secretary and Messrs Sutherland, Humphries, Cullen, and Stubs were placed on the Committee.

The members of the Albion Football Club, of Christ church, received quite a sudden and unpleasant shock when one of their players, Ernest Merritt, died suddenly while sitting and conversing with two of his comrades on board the s.s. 'Talune' on her passage from Lyttelton to Wellington, where the Albion Club were proceeding to play the Poneke junior team at Easter. Needless to say the match did not eventuate. Merritt was 25 years of age, and a well known and popular athlete in Christchurch. He was married about a year ago to a daughter of Mr H. Sutherland, of Wellington. At the inquest held on the deceased the jury found that death had been caused owing to weakness of heart caused through sea-sickness.

I hear on reliable authority that Alf Bayly, the crack Taranaki three quarter, will don the amber and black jersey again this season.

The Championship matches in Auckland will commence on Saturday, May 8th.

The Auckland Rugby Union has arranged a programme of matches for the various primary schools in Auckland, and the contests will be played under the auspices of the A.R.U., who will also provide trophies for the winning team.

It is expected that the New Zealand team will leave Wellington for Sydney at the end of June. The match North v. South Island, will most likely be played in Wellington prior to the departure of the New Zealand team.

Football promises to be more interesting in Napier this season. The Hawke's Bay Rugby Union intend to endeavour to send a team to play Wellington, Taranaki and Auckland during the coming season.

A. Mason, the little but good crack Dunedin halfback, has taken up his residence in Wellington.

A. E. White, the well-known Canterbury half, has unfortunately had his collar bone broken again, and has decided to give the game a rest.

NEW ZEALAND RUGBY UNION.

The fifth annual general meeting of the Council of New Zealand Rugby Union was held last Saturday evening. Mr Campbell (Wellington), vice-president, was elected chairman. The following delegates were present:—Messrs Bate and Fache (Wellington), F. W. Mitchell, MacKenzie, Bee and Wilkinson (Otago), Lawrenson (Poverty Bay), Wesley (Southland), Firth (Nelson), Ronaldson (Taranaki), McCardle (Canterbury), Whiffen (Manawatu), Gibbons (Auckland), Morrison (Hawke's Bay), Batchelor (West Coast), Hyams (Wanganui), Lewis (South Canterbury), and M. De Costa (hon. secretary). The chairman moved the adoption of the annual report and balance-sheet, stating that the Union was now in good heart, and fulfilling the duties which it undertook when it was inaugurated. It was doing good work, and he was certain that it would continue to do so. It was a matter for congratulation that it was discharging its functions without causing any friction, while at the same time it was able to undertake the management of teams and settle disputes of various kinds. It was decided that the delegates of the South Canterbury and Marlborough Unions should not exercise their votes as those Unions were in arrears. The treasurer explained that 33 per cent. of the gross takings of the Queensland matches in Wellington was given to the Athletic Park Company. The motion for the adoption of the report and balance-sheet was agreed to.

The Council resolved to ask the Earl of Ranfurly, the new Governor, to accept office as patron. Mr Gellawey (Otago) was elected president. The remaining officers were elected as follows:—Vice-presidents, Messrs Devore (Auckland), Rees (Poverty Bay), Logan (Hawke's Bay), Walker (bush districts), Hankins (Manawatu), Empson (Wanganui), Bayly (Taranaki), Whatman (Wairarapa), Littlejohn (Nelson), Mills, M.H.R. (Marlborough), Harden (Buller), Boyd (West Coast), Rhodes (Canterbury), Jonas (South Canterbury), George (Southland); Otago has yet to nominate a vice-president; hon. sec., A. M. DeCosta (re-elected); hon. Association sec., Mr E. Batchelor (re-elected); hon. treasurer, Mr J. Hyams (re-elected); management committee, Messrs Bate (Wellington), Bee (Otago), Wesley (Southland), Morrison (Hawke's Bay), Gibbons (Auckland), Lawrenson (Poverty Bay), McCardle (Canterbury), with officers *ex officio*; auditor, Mr Coupland (Wellington); appeal committee, Messrs Henderson (Auckland), Fache (Wellington), Cotterill (South Canterbury), Firth (Nelson), Logan (Hawke's Bay).

A number of football matches were played at Dunedin during the Easter holidays. The Britannia Club, of Invercargill, visited Dunedin and played the Dunedin Club. The latter team proved victorious by 11 points to 8. Britannia were the first to score, Hill gaining a try, which Purdie converted, and shortly afterwards the latter kicked a goal from a free kick. Towards the close of the game Turton, for Dunedin, kicked a goal from a penalty kick, and Eagle and MacKenzie scored tries one of which was converted into a goal by Turton.

The Linwood (Christchurch) Club played the Union on the Caledonian ground, Dunedin, on Easter Saturday. Although Linwood was the first to score, the Union Club, chiefly through the fine play of their forwards, gained an easy victory by nineteen points to five. For Linwood, J. O'Brien scored a try which F. O'Brien converted, while for the winners tries were gained by Armstrong (two), Thomson and Stewart, and Ritchie converted two into goals, and also kicked a goal from a free kick.

The match between Merivale (Christchurch) and Alhambra (Dunedin), played at Dunedin, attracted considerable interest, and after an interesting game resulted in a draw, neither side scoring.

The annual match between the second fifteens of the Linwood (Christchurch) and Union (Dunedin) Clubs was played at Dunedin, and resulted in a win for the Linwood team by four tries (12 points) to nil. Tries were scored by Ormsandy (two), O'Brien and Adams.

The East Christchurch Club, which has been in existence for fifteen years, recently disbanded. The Club was formed on April 17th, 1882, on the proposition of Mr F. D. Kesteven, and strange to say, it was this gentleman who proposed that the Club be disbanded.

The two Wellington teams, Melrose and Wellington, had a very rough passage in the s.s. 'Rotomahana' to Lyttelton, and this fast steamer occupied 74 hours of the journey. The Melrose team, despite their rough and long passage, defeated Sydenham (Christchurch) by 8 points to 3. For the winners, Hardcastle scored two tries, one of which Mason converted, while S. Halliday gained a try for Sydenham.

The Wellington Club's Reps were defeated by the Christchurch Club at the Christ's College Ground by 22 points to 5.

The match between the North and South of England was played at Dewsbury on Saturday, February 27th and contrary to general expectation was won by the North by thirteen points to five. The Southern men played against a strong breeze throughout the first spell, and held their own well all through, but after changing over, and with the wind behind them, they collapsed altogether, the forwards especially being beaten badly. The South backs were, as a whole, superior to the Northern brigade, and the result of the game goes to again prove how a fine, dashing, straight-ahead set of forwards can annihilate nearly all the work of good backs.

A QUESTIONABLE ADVANTAGE.

In reading (says the *London Daily Mail*) the eyes necessarily travel over a great deal of space. Backward and forward from the beginning of a line to its end, and then to the beginning of the next, it all amounts up to a surprisingly long distance in a life time, or even in the course of reading this morning's copy of the *Daily Mail*. It does not often occur to a reader, however, that the eye travels just twice the distance that it would have to go if the type could be so arranged as not to necessitate going from the end of one line the whole distance back in order to get at the beginning of the next one. It has been suggested, however, that books and papers be printed in such a way that this can be overcome. It could be done by having the alternate lines read backwards, the first line being straightforward, and the following being printed backwards. For example:—

Two ceremonies in Burma mark when childhood boys The begins womanhood or manhood and stops have their legs tattooed in brilliant blue and red patterns girls' the of boring The bored ears their girls the and ears is commenced with a needle, and the puncture is be can finger the of tip the until increased gradually introduced. This enlarging process is also carried on in a carry can native the where, Islands Polynesia the good-sized knife hanging in the lobe of his ear. The who, Esquimaux the of that is mutilation neglect punches a hole in his cheek, and puts a bone stud into .it

The chief argument claimed for the plan is that it might save the eyes and possibly facilitate rapid reading if customary. A million letters laid side by side will make hardly more than a mile, yet in a year the average reader covers with his eyes almost 100 miles, and in a lifetime a great reader covers over 2,000 miles of print. A 300-page novel has a mile of reading, and the four-volume edition of 'Macaulay's History of England' leads the eye a chase of four miles and a half to get through. In such calculations it can be seen where the possible utility of the proposed change can come in, for in the case of 'Macaulay's History' for example, the eyes travel not the mere four and a half miles but nine miles, since for every line read they have to travel backward just as far to begin the next one. It has also been calculated that it takes a rapid reader five hours' steady reading to read a mile of print.

After several tests we are forced to confess that the new method of reading, which we became acquainted with in the pages of a paper devoted to the interests of the printing trade, consumes considerably more time than the old.

The faces of the women one passes in the street form a curious and, too often, a saddening study. One woman purses up her lips, another screws her eyes into unnaturalness, while a third will wrinkle up her forehead and eyebrows until she looks absolutely ugly. The trick is an unconscious one, but it is none the less a trick, and a bad one. There is no reason why a woman should look forbidding and bad tempered just because she is annoyed about something. Deep-seated trouble has a way of writing itself upon the face whether we will or not. Sickness, too, has its own handwriting, and will not be concealed by art. But the frown caused by superficial troubles should not be entertained by the face for an instant. We should strive to look as pleasant as possible for the sake of others; a corresponding cheerfulness of temperament will inevitably result, and all-ways to the sweetening of our nature. We cannot afford to go about with gloomy faces.

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