

his side. He was very quick in getting the ball out and making the play open.

CRUICKSHANK, Drummond, and Flynn worked hard and made some good rushes.

WHYTE, as three-quarter, shaped very well for the first time in that place. His picking up was very clean, and he made a very good pot at goal.

ANDERSON and Mellis showed conspicuously in the forward rushes.

STITCHBURY played a good defensive game, collaring his opponents and kicking well. His pot at goal was a splendid feature, and it was the only score for Ponsonby—it deserves special mention.

NEWTON V. GRAFTON.

THE former had a win for the first time this season, nor did they have much difficulty in running up a good score. As far as the winning team was concerned the game was confined chiefly to the forwards, who gave one of the best displays of this season. Newton were, by the way, without the services of Donald and Beamish. Although it was a forward game it was very fast and open, and scrums were conspicuous by their absence. The Grafton backs were rather careless in their passing, and on two occasions the ball was intercepted by Newton men, with the result that the latter scored each time.

WALTON, at three-quarter, played a good game, especially while on the defensive. He was very nimble with his feet, and by judicious punting he saved his side several times. He found a valuable help in G. Murray. The latter is rapidly developing into a first-class player. He scored his tries very cleverly, and his place kicking could not be improved upon, as on no less than three occasions he added to Newton's score.

GAUDIN made his first appearance this season, and, entered upon the work very auspiciously by potting a goal, this being the only score for Grafton.

FREEMAN as full-back was the best man Newton have had in that position this season. His kicking and tackling were especially good.

PARSONS and Moore both accomplished useful work. The former received quite an ovation when he traversed the whole distance of the field and secured a try.

WHITESIDE did not play with anything like his old brilliancy, but he put in some useful defensive work.

BINNEY was most conspicuous among the Grafton vanguard, and it was surprising how uttringly and quickly he followed the ball all over the field. Teddy must have great wind.

It would be hard to mention any special individual play on the forward division of the winning team—all played consistently and well. Brown, Murray, Williamson, and Mills, were very prominent.

THERE is a general opinion expressed amongst footballers that Ponsonby and Grafton will fight it out for last place in this season's contest. I hope both teams will *Graft on* to the finish.

JUNIOR FIFTEENS.

PARNELL II V. GRAFTON II.

THE former won this match in the first spell by 17 points to nil.

CITY II V. PONSONBY II.

THIS match fell through as no referee could be secured.

HAMILTON V. HUNTLY.

HAMILTON won the toss and defended the eastern goal with the sun in their eyes. B. Marshall kicked off for Huntly, and the ball went out shortly after at the half way flag. From the line out Wright got the ball and ran, passing to Hill who punted it, and the Hamilton forwards swept on to the Huntly line, Seddon singling himself out, and scored. Cassidy failed to convert. From the drop out play centred in mid-field where from a good rush the Huntly men got over the Hamilton line for the only time during the game, and Cassidy cleverly saved. The play after this was in mid-field and was uninteresting. From a throw in Gillett got a good dribble on, and Seddon again distinguished himself with a try. Peacock was entrusted with the kick but failed. Kicks between the backs were exchanged, and Connolly made a splendid run for Huntly and was thrown out by Hill.

THE play for some time after this was uninteresting. Several good passing runs were made, play centring on Huntly's side of half way. T. Clarkin made a good run, fending in A1 style, and passed to B. Hume, who ran in behind the posts. Peacock converted. A series of scrums now resulted, and B. Marshall made a good run. Huntly were shortly after again toroed; half-time was called soon after in Hamilton ground. The scores were Hamilton, 9; Huntly, 0.

HAMILTON kicked off, and the game was interesting, some good passing being indulged in. One in particular when Hume passed to T. Clarkin, who re-passed to J. Clarkin, who ran in behind the posts. Peacock's attempt was a failure. During this run C. Smith, a Huntly man, collided with B. Hume, and the former's head striking the latter's hip he was laid out, and play stopped for quarter of an hour. Huntly finished with only fourteen men; they were now making a game fight for it. Gillett and Harrison got a good dribble on, and the former scored. The try was not converted. From half-way W. Hume passed to B. Hume, who made a splendid run and scored. Cassidy converted. From a throw in immediately after J. Clarkin secured the ball and ran straight in, scoring the seventh try. Cassidy did not convert. Gillett scored again almost at once. Cassidy did not convert. Play was now wholly in Huntly's 25, and soon after Hill ran in, securing the ninth try, but the kick at goal was not successful. Huntly now made frantic efforts to score, but it was not to be, for, by some good passing between the three Clarkin brothers, Jack ran in and scored the tenth and last try for Hamilton, which was not converted. Play ceased soon after, the ball being in Maroons' 25.

CHRISTCHURCH.

MATCH RESULTS—Merivale beat Linwood by 20 to 5; East Christchurch beat Sydenham 13 to nil; Kaiapoi beat Canterbury College 9 to nil.

THE East Christchurch-Sydenham game was a terribly slow affair to watch, and especially so during the first part of the first spell. There was no pleasure to be had in watching the game at any time in fact. The play on all sides was poor; no one showed up brilliantly; all were sleepy, slow, and most unprofitable. There were frequent displays of bad play, but Page distinguished himself in this line, his passing being villainous to the last degree. The only man who did really good senior work was Barr, of the Sydenham, who promises to be a first-class forward.

ALTHOUGH Kaiapoi beat the Collegians so easily they have no special reason to be proud of their Saturday's play, which, though good, was a distinct falling off from that displayed in the match against Sydenham. The forwards did good work, gaining all the tries, but the backs were not at all up to form.

WHAT is the loss of Christchurch is the gain of Wellington. Morris, the crack forward of the Canterbury College team, will be a distinct gain to whatever Wellington club he joins.

THERE was a rare boil over in Christchurch last week when the black and green banner of Linwood went down before the Merivale blue and white. 'Twas all a case of splendid combination on the part of the Merivale forwards, who not only completely baffled their opponent forwards, but crippled the best efforts of the younger club's backs.

LINWOOD made one or two desperate rallies, but were beaten fairly and squarely by not only a stronger but a cleverer team. No faster game has been seen in Canterbury, though we will say there was no 'temper' shown, but there was considerable feeling, and once or twice temper was not far off.

O'BRIEN, of Christchurch, is spoken of as being about the most promising 'three quarter' in the Canterbury district. He is about as fast as they make them, and plays with his eyes open. He is as full of tricks as a French poodle, and as one Merivale backer remarked, 'slippier than greased lightning.'

IN F. Hobbs, who is shortly leaving the City of the Plains, East Christchurch will lose one of the most famous full-backs not only in the province but in the colony. He particularly distinguished himself in the last Otago-Canterbury contest.

NELSON.

CONSIDERING the defeat they met with on the eve of their departure, the Albion Club of Nelson must be congratulating themselves heartily on the success of their tour down the coast. They were only defeated once, by Hokitika, and scored several decisive victories.

MISCELLANEOUS.

POOR Hargreave, who was seriously injured in the Hokitika-Albion match, is still on his back, though by latest advices his condition is not so critical as before; still, concussion of the spine is a very nasty thing, and we shall rejoice to hear that the unfortunate fellow is out of danger.

THIS and other accidents surely point to the absolute foolishness, nay viciousness, of not insuring against football accidents. A card from the Standard Accident Company, forwarded by Mr Gould, of Auckland, is before me. The terms are certainly reasonable, and show that for a trifle pecuniary loss from accident can be avoided. Insurance is always a virtue, in the footballer it is assuredly a duty.

THE Waitarapa boys are notoriously rough, but the Masterton v. Greytown match last Saturday was a record in this respect. On several occasions play resembled a free fight rather than football. There was no attempt at combination; each member seemed to play his own game, and against some individual opponent. Not by any means an edifying exhibition.

THE following from the *Sportsman* gives the English Rugby Union's new system of scoring:—

SCORING BY POINTS.

'Mr A. L. Bill (Coventry) proposed, and Mr G. Hogg (Rugby) seconded, that in section 4, which relates to the system of scoring, the paragraph should read "A try equals 3 points."

'In supporting this, the Chairman (Mr W. Cail, the President) stated that he thought that it was the feelings of footballers in general to have the present value of a try increased. The proposal before the meeting was one which had been tried in Wales with great success. He hoped the meeting would accept it, as it would then enable England and Wales to bring the matter before the International Board in order, if possible, to get both Scotland and Ireland to adopt it, so that they would once more have a universal system of scoring.

'Mr J. Pearson (Halifax) proposed and Mr R. J. Hodgson (Middlesex) seconded, as an amendment, that a "penalty goal equals two points and a try three points." Mr Pearson thought that a penalty goal should not equal a try in point of merit, as it was very often obtained by strategy. A penalty goal had undoubtedly done a great deal toward improving the style of play, but he thought that it ought to be reduced in value. On being put to the meeting the amendment was lost.

'On the suggestion of the Chairman, a proposal by Mr H. E. Steed (Lennox) with regard to the duties of the referee and touch judges was left over until the next September meeting, as the matter is being now considered by the International Board.

'A proposition by Mr Robert Bell (Barrow) to the effect—"That when a scrummage is formed the ball shall be placed in the scrummage from the side on which the referee is standing," was not put to the meeting, as the Chairman explained that this was invariably done at the present time. He, however, thought that the motion had better stand over until the September meeting, as Scotland had a proposal before the International Board to the effect that the referee should have the opinion of ordering the ball to be placed in the scrummage on whichever side he chose.

'It was carried unanimously—"That any resolution passed at that meeting should not take effect until next season."

C H O R A L H A L L

MONDAY, JUNE 5th.

FAREWELL COMPLIMENTARY MUSICAL EVENING

TENDERED TO—

MR W. H. WEBBE.

Mrs Kilgour, Misses A. Rimmer, Lorrigan (2), L. Warren, Prada Marsden, M. Maxwell, Thompson, McLaurin, Spooner, Messrs A. Towsey, R. Leslie Hunt, A. J. Tapper, A. L. Edwards, F. Charter, A. Barley, Thompson, W. Davico, H. Stebbing, Herr L. Tutschka, Herr R. C. Zimmerman; Mr A. Eady's Orchestra, Mr Webbe's Piano Quartet Class.

TICKETS, 2s. and 1s. Programme in Saturday's STAR.

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