

Forwards: Harding, Morgan, Oldham, Green, Kyrke, Ritson, Dibble, and Dyke. Mr. Ohlson, of Auckland, refereed. The visitors outlasted the local team in the passing rushes and scrum work, but the open play was about even. After the kick-off play was even for about five minutes, when Taimar made a run towards the British territory, but Britain retaliated, and a passing run put the Maoris on the defensive. Setting up a dangerous attack Griffiths missed a pass, throwing away a certain score, and the Maoris got out of trouble. Shortly after, Harding passed to Jackett, who took the ball right to the local line, but the attack was staved off by a kick into touch, and a free kick to the Maoris took play past the half-way. Britain got on a lot of passing runs, but had tackling by the Natives kept them out for some time, till at last a passing run—McEvedy to Jones to Chapman to Dyks, the latter scored, no goal resulting.

Britain	3
Rotorua	nil

Britain kept up the attack, but eventually Mitere and Tuoro took play down to the British line, when Harding kicked into touch. Rotorua now took a hand, and a passing rush started by Mirai was spoilt by a knock on, and Britain carried the play to Rotorua's territory, but a free kick shifted play back again, and Mirai dribbled the ball over the British line, but McEvedy picked up quickly and ran round and dropped into touch. Britain returned to the attack, and Morgan kicked across to Laxon, who scored, and the spell ended:

Britain	6
Rotorua	nil

In the second spell Britain got on a splendid passing run, and Jackett securing, gained fully forty yards. A good run by Mirai took play back, and the Maoris set up an attack which was saved by Chapman. Another British run—McEvedy to Chapman to Dyke to T. Jones, ended in the latter scoring, no goal resulting:

Britain	9
Rotorua	nil

The next score came from a run, Williams to Jones to Griffiths, who got over. The kick was successful:

Britain	14
Rotorua	nil

The Maoris now livened up a bit. Jackett saved just in time, and McEvedy and Jones took play to the Maori line, when Arikau saved. The visitors came back again, McEvedy scoring from a pass from Jones. Dyke placed a goal:

Britain	19
Rotorua	nil

Morgan and Dyke were responsible for the next try, the latter scoring, McEvedy converting:

Britain	24
Rotorua	nil

The Maoris, by fast following-up work, took play to the British side of the half-way, and from a forward dash Kira scored. No goal resulted, and the bell rang with the scores:

Britain	24
Rotorua	3

The game was a fine exhibition of passing by the British backs, and it was very fast. The Maoris tried badly towards the end.

A Win for the Maori Team.

The Maoris on July 22 played a metropolitan team, chiefly composed of men who have not figured in representative play. The locals scored 13 points to the visitors' nil in the first half, and maintained their advantage to half-way through the second spell. Then the Maoris completely ran over them, scoring as they pleased, and winning by 34 points to 13.

Qualifications of Amateurs.

The Rugby Union has decided that members who signed the Northern Rugby League form, but have not played or received any remuneration, have not thereby sacrificed their amateur status.

Taranaki v. Manawatu.

The Taranaki Rugby representatives defeated Manawatu in a match played at New Plymouth on July 24th, by 20 points to nil. Neither side was fully representative, Hanger, Cameron, and Coleman being notable absences from Taranaki on account of the

New Zealand test match on Saturday. The local team confined play principally to the forwards, rarely calling the backs into service. The Manawatu forwards were in some respects quite equal to their opponents, but their backs were lamentably weak in rush-stopping and line-kicking, and consequently ran their forwards off their feet. The local vanguard, on the contrary, was capably aided by the backs, whose line-kicking was a feature of the game. During the first spell tries were scored by O'Sullivan and Crowley, the kicks at goal failing. In the second half Hothery and Myott scored. O'Sullivan and Hargrave respectively converting, and Hargrave potted a sensational goal from the centre line. The visitors had a couple of good openings during the spell, but the backs were too slow and erratic to take advantage.

South Canterbury v. Wairarapa.

The representative match Wairarapa v. South Canterbury was played July 24, at Temuka, and resulted in a win for South Canterbury by 11 points to 6. Early in the first spell O'Leary (Wairarapa) scored a goal from a mark, being almost immediately followed by Carlton for South Canterbury doing ditto. From a loose rush McKenzie failed to stop Carlton, who scored under the posts. Soltane easily converted. The visitors then pressed hard, Adams, Russell, and O'Leary passing well, and the latter got across. He took the kick himself and just failed to convert. The second spell was stubbornly contested, and there was no further score till just on time, when Robertson, charging down a kick by McKenzie, crossed the line near the corner. Carlton made a poor attempt at goal. The game was a particularly pleasant one.

Australian Team for England.

The final selection of the Rugby Union team to visit England was made on July 20, as follows:

- Backs: Dix, Carmichael.
- Threequarters: Russell, Smith, Daly, Parkinson, Carroll, Mandible, Hickey.
- Halves: Woods, McKivatt, McCabe, Matthews.
- Forwards: Burnett, Griffen, Middleton, McIntyre, McCue, Burge, Murnin, Row, Richards, Flanagan, Caniffe, Moran, Hughes (2), Bullock.
- The University quartet—Matthews, Hughes (2), and Bullock—are unlikely to go.

CRICKET.

The Triangular Tests.

A meeting of the Counties' Advisory Committee is to be held at Lords on 29th inst to consider the situation created by Australia's refusal to participate in the triangular tests.

Middlesex v. Philadelphia.

Middlesex beat the Philadelphia team now touring England by seven wickets. The ex-Victorians, F. A. Tarrant and Albert Trott, bowled unchanged throughout both innings, Tarrant taking ten wickets for 48 and Trott nine for 50.

County Cricket.

In the county cricket championships, Kent beat Surrey by 208 runs. Middlesex beat Lancashire. L. G. S. Poidevin, vice-captain of the County Palatine, and formerly of Sydney, made 60 and 46, not out. F. A. Tarrant, the ex-Victorian, scored 113, not out, bringing his tallies for the season up to 1000 runs and 100 wickets. Tarrant is the first cricketer to perform this feat this year.

The Value of the Unorthodox.

(By L. O. S. POIDEVIN
(Of the Lancashire County XI).)

Cricket as a game looks back through a fairly long period of authentic history which, though characterised by a stream of tendency more or less continuous in certain directions, is studded with many changes of more or less magnitude. The change from under-arm to round-arm bowling, for instance, and the subsequent evolution of the over-arm methods, may be regarded as sufficiently illustrative of this general truth. There was a time when round-arm bowling violated the practice of the game, and so it is in our time, that many things not in accordance with the earlier teachings of the game, and which we, perhaps, regard as unorthodox, will sooner or later become integral and settled features of the game. It is with some of these features that I propose to deal.

There are, of course, some kinds of unorthodox cricket which are based upon no principles, and which are perfectly valueless; I leave such out of account.

Now, cricket is a game of many-sided activities, general and particular, batting, fielding, bowling, wicket-keeping, and so on; let us first turn our attention to batting.

"KEEP YOUR LEFT SHOULDER WELL FORWARD."

used to be until recently and undisturbed precept for the right hand batsman preparing to receive, and playing forward to the ball. It kept his bat pretty straight, but it, from the nature of the attitude assumed, was a one-eyed method—the left doing nearly all the "sighting" for the right-hand batsman, and the right eye for the left-hand. The most modern attitude is one free from constraint with the feet, body, shoulders, and head in such a position as to ensure a two-eyed view of the ball all the time. Usually the bat is not quite straight, and the face of it turns rather to the batsman than to the bowler. It is difficult to say whether His Highness the Jam of Navagaur or anyone else started it, but there can be no doubt about the tendency. Its value, too, is equally certain and obvious. It combines perfect freedom of movement with a good and continuous sight of the ball—two things lacking in the old method. It does away with what used to be called the "Blind Spot." To the old school this was a troublesome reality, as it is to-day to a certain class of players. The expression was meant to refer to some spot on the pitch on striking which (or thereabouts), the ball was lost to sight; in reality it should have referred to the "blind spot" in the batsman's eye. There is a "blind spot" in the retina of every eye; it is the point of entrance of the optic nerve into the retina, and is deficient in the parts capable of reacting to the stimulus of light. It is insensitive to light and therefore called the "blind spot." Thus light impressions from the ball on its left eye (the nose shutting off the right) suddenly fall upon the blind spot, and therefore the ball is actually lost sight of till it moves into a position from which these light impressions strike.

WHY IT WAS ABANDONED.

Bowlers tried to find this spot on the pitch; experience showed it to be some few feet outside the batting crease about on a line with the batsman's legs, or between the leg stumps at opposite ends. Similarly experience taught the best old-school batsman that in playing they must face round to the ball when they judged it was likely to find the "spot"; they got both eyes to the approaching ball. The modern method keeps both eyes on the ball from the beginning (one or other can be the "master," it does not matter), and renders possible a greater variety in outside play with increased certainty and finish. The practical point is—don't be a one-eyed batsman.

NEW—OR UNORTHODOX STROKES.

The strokes which above all others are still almost universally regarded as unorthodox are the "hook" and "pull." One immediately thinks of George Hirst in this country and Victor Trumper in Australia; both players in making them set at defiance the old precept about "keeping your bat straight." One has seen some old enthusiasts quite shocked at the Yorkshireman's methods and others profoundly amazed by the elegant daring of Trumper. These two players are not by any means alone in the use of such strokes; I merely take them as convenient examples. To George Hirst they form his chief means of scoring runs; how effective they are may be judged from the fact that despite many reinforcements to the fielding strength of the on-side, Hirst probably gets 80 out of every 100 of his runs there.

TRUMPERS UNORTHODOXY.

In the hands of Victor Trumper they are something more. By their use he gets runs in plenty; but when "on the go," the field has to be strengthened on the leg-side, and Trumper then takes advantage of the weakened off-side field. It can readily be seen then that the judicious employment of these unorthodox strokes, apart from their run-getting value must be very disconcerting to the bowlers and very disorganising to the fielding side. The effect of an innings by Trumper is often reflected in the scores of his comrades. The only fly in the ointment as regards their universal employment is the fact that they are risky, dangerous, and difficult to do.

UNORTHODOX BOWLING.

The South Africans gave us a sample of unorthodox bowling; the so-called "googley" element was a big factor in the sum of their bowling success. Where the term "Googley" originated one cannot say; ever since I can remember it has been used in Australia to signify the ordinary leg break bowling, but somehow or other its meaning has been transferred so that it now specially means bowling of the leg-break off-break type. Last any reader should be unfamiliar with the meaning of the expression, let me explain that it means an off-breaking ball with a leg-breaking action—and a heart-breaking effect. Bosanquet was the first to make use of it, and Schwartz, Faulkner, and Vogler were the chief exponents in the South African team. It all amounts briefly to this.

THE "GOOGLEY."

The ordinary leg break (the ball breaking from the leg-side of the wicket to the off-side) and the ordinary off break ("turning" in the opposite direction) in the hands of the ordinary bowler are obtained by such an obviously different hand, arm and wrist action that the observant batsman can tell the moment the ball leaves the bowler's hand which break to expect. That is most useful, and indeed almost essential information for the batsman. Now, the "Googley" ball is bowled with a leg-break action; the batsman expects a leg-break; he prepares to deal with a leg break, but he is quite deceived, for the ball breaks sharply from the off. Let us suppose nothing disastrous happens. The next ball is bowled with a leg-break action. "Once bitten, twice shy" seems appropriate; so the wary batsman thinks, but wait! He acts himself to deal with the approaching off-break; the length is not very good so he "wants" a certain footer, but—this time it breaks from leg. And that's the puzzle. It is practically impossible to tell from the action of the "googley" bowler which break to expect. You have an idea sometimes from several indications, but you can never be quite certain. Uncertainty is fatal. This is not the place for me to explain how the "googley" is produced, how it can be detected, and how its difficulties should be obviated. I have said enough to indicate its value in capable hands. Anything new or unorthodox in the hands of a good bowler always has a special value. This "googley" stuff has the supreme value that even when the point of novelty has worn off there still remains a solid, a permanent nucleus of perplexity for batsmen. It is the latest development in bowling. The requisite spin is not difficult to understand, it is much more difficult to impart the spin and keep the length. There is a great field for its development by English professional bowlers.

NEW POSITIONS IN THE FIELD.

Unorthodoxy is not confined solely to the batting and bowling departments of the game. The developments in batting and bowling already mentioned necessitate new and unorthodox placing of the fieldsmen. Cause and effect obviously; I will say nothing of the alterations of the old-fashioned positions in the field, but content myself in this connection with a reference to the use and value of the unorthodox short third-man position to fast bowling particularly as exploited by A. O. Jones, Quick, clever with his hands, and daring he is an ideal man for the position.

Under ordinary circumstances, there is a fairly wide gap between point and third slip through which most batsmen are content to steer the fast ball getting up a bit, without any very special care as to keeping it close to the ground. Now with a clever third-man standing close in the batsman is obliged to be careful. He has to get the ball short or avoid him altogether by placing "squares" or "finer," all three enormously increasing his risk of making a mistake. He may even be tempted to try to do something quite foreign to the demands of the occasion. That's the value of this position.

UNORTHODOXY IN TEAM SELECTION.

The whole subject of the unorthodox in cricket is an extremely interesting one and opens up a wide field of speculation. I have dealt with but a few of the salient features; there is just one more point, however, I would like to mention. It concerns the orthodox selection of left-hand bowlers and their manage-