

Ponsoby v. Carlton, Epson v. Devonport, Mount Eden v. Rocky Nook, Grey Lynn a bye. Sixth round: Auckland v. Mount Eden, Ponsoby v. Devonport, Epson v. Carlton, Grey Lynn v. Rocky Nook, Devonport v. a bye. Seventh round: Auckland v. Grey Lynn, Ponsoby v. Mount Eden, Epson v. Devonport, Epson v. Rocky Nook, Rocky Nook v. Epson, Epson v. Mount Eden, Devonport v. Quesinga, Carlton a bye. Ninth round: Ponsoby v. Rocky Nook, Epson v. Grey Lynn, Devonport v. Mount Eden, Carlton v. Quesinga, Auckland a bye.

OPEN FOURS. AUCKLAND GREEN. A Section. First round: Bradley (Onehunga) v. Eyre (Devonport), McIntosh (Matahuru) v. Ashton (Mount Albert), Buchanan (Ponsoby) v. Baddeley (Ponsoby). Second round: Bradley v. Buchanan, McIntosh v. Eyre, Baddeley v. Ashton. Third round: Bradley v. McIntosh, McIntosh v. Buchanan, Ashton v. Eyre. Fourth round: Bradley v. Ashton, McIntosh v. Baddeley, Buchanan v. Eyre. Fifth round: Bradley v. McIntosh, Buchanan v. Ashton, Baddeley v. Eyre.

Section B. As originally drawn. Champion Singles. Sections C and D will be played on Mount Eden green instead of at Epson green, and section E be altered from Ponsoby green to Epson green. Pennant Competition and Prix—Play to start at 8.30 a.m., each day. Four games to be played each day.

Champion Singles.—Commence on Friday at 1.30. Open Fours.—Commence on the Auckland Green at 4.30 a.m. Afternoon tea will be provided on all grounds at a charge of 6d. All players on other greens than Auckland and Mount Eden are requested to provide their own lunch. On the two latter, viz., Auckland and Mount Eden, lunch will be provided at a charge of 1/6.

RIFLE SHOOTING.

Auckland Mounted Rifles. A shooting match was held on Saturday between the Avondale and town troops of the A. Squadron 1st A.M.R., and resulted in a win for the town troop by 53 points. The following were the scores:—

Table with columns for names, scores, and totals for various rifle shooting events like Avondale Troop, Town Troop, and Native Rifles.

NO. 3 NATIVE RIFLES. No. 3 Company Native Rifles held a number of shooting competitions at Ponsoby on Saturday, there being a fair turnout of the members. The following were the principal scores:—

Table showing scores for Captain Richardson's Cup (Second Stage) and Sergeant Phillips's Trophy (Second Stage).

Table showing scores for the Weekly Rooster and Native Rifles competitions.

NO. 3 NATIVE RIFLES. The No. 3 Native Rifles fired a match at Ponsoby on Saturday for a cash prize, presented by Col. Searle. Stevenson. The match was won by Col. Searle, A. J. King, whose score was 67. The following were the principal scores:—

Table showing scores for the Akarana Rifle Club competition.

Akarana Rifle Club. The members of the Akarana Rifle Club fired for the usual weekly trophy competitions at Ponsoby on Saturday afternoon, there being a large attendance of members. Notwithstanding the westerly wind and variable air, some good scores were compiled. In the A. class, Mr. A. Paterson, with the high total of 97, won the splendid silver trophy, which was presented to the club by Mr. E. Combes, a vice-president, for purposes of competition. The trophy now belongs to Mr. Paterson's club. In the B. class by M. Myers medal was won in the B. class by Mr. G. Grant, who compiled 94, and as this is his second success, the medal becomes his property. The following were the principal scores:—

Table showing scores for MR. F. H. COMBES'S TROPHY and MAJOR MYERS'S MEDAL competitions.

ATHLETICS.

Mr. Louis S. Robertson, the Scottish light-weight champion wrestler, was among the passengers who arrived by the Federal-Holder-Shire liner Cornwall last week in Wellington.

A Revival in Auckland.

The executive of the Auckland Amateur Athletic Club are holding regular meetings, when the call of the secretary is responded to by the best committee meetings that have been held by the club for the last twelve years. The greatest enthusiasm and energy have been displayed by the executive, which augurs well for the Marathon Meeting to be held on March 20 next.

The date of the Marathon Meeting has been altered from the 13th to 20th March owing to the former date being already taken by the Championship Rowing Regatta fixture, to be held at Mercer on that date. The executive of the Amateur Athletic Club very courteously, and with a true spirit of sportsmanship, shifted their meeting a week forward.

A number of men are training earnestly for the great Marathon Race from Howick to Auckland, while the president and secretary are receiving many letters from athletic enthusiasts in the country, asking for particulars of the race. It is anticipated that Wellington, Dunedin, Christchurch and Ashburton will be represented in the Marathon race on 20th March, which will lend a Dominion flavour to the event.

The Controlling Centre.

QUESTION OF HEADQUARTERS.

Christchurch and Wellington amateur athletic bodies each claim the distinction of being the council of the New Zealand Amateur Athletic Association. Further discussion on the subject took place at a meeting of the Christchurch body last week upon a letter received from the Auckland centre making the following suggestions for a compromise:—(1) That the headquarters remain at Christchurch for the present season, the present council to be the governing body during that period, and be recognised as such by all the affiliated centres. (2) That during the season the council effect alterations in the constitution of the association, so that direct representation of the council should be afforded the various centres, instead of having the council nominated generally as at present. (3) That before the expiration of the present season a vote of the centres be taken as to the desirableness or otherwise of removing the headquarters from Christchurch; if it be considered desirable, then as to what centre.

The attitude of the Auckland Association was discussed, and doubt was expressed as to whether the centre would continue its support to the Christchurch council after the present season. Some importance was attached to the question, as it appeared that Auckland would hold the balance of power.

It was resolved to point out to the Auckland centre that the council could not deal with the suggestions, but presumed that the centre would deal with them in due course. It was also understood that the president would communicate with the Otago centre in regard to the suggestion that a deputation should visit the South.

At a meeting of the Wellington centre of the N.Z. Amateur Athletic Association, the chairman made the following explanation of the attitude of the Wellington centre in the matter of the dispute, which had arisen between the various centres and the old council of the New Zealand Athletic Association in Christchurch. Mr. Follock said: "The real issue in members of the Otago, Wellington and Auckland centres are well

aware, and as the Canterbury and Auckland centres have also realised, is that our late Athletic Association Council adopted an illegal and unconstitutional attitude in connection with the election of a council to act as the authority of the association for the season 1908-1909. It is a matter of history how certain nominations which were in accordance with the rules, and which were forwarded by the Wellington and Otago centres were refused."

The Wellington delegates represented thirty-seven out of fifty amateur athletic clubs. The question of headquarters was not involved in any way, the delegates realising that an election had been denied them, there was no council in existence, the one nominated being properly ignored. The council which was elected by the representative 27 clubs cannot be a council of the association, termed self-elected. The gentlemen composing the council were nominated solely by the Otago and Southland delegates; no Wellington delegate even made a suggestion with reference to the necessity of the new executive, under whose control the amateur athletic affairs of this Dominion should progress. With regard to the well-meant suggestions of the Auckland centre, I would like to say that it is a matter of regret that the centre was not represented at the last conference of centres held at Christchurch. Amateur athletic unities have for some years been in such a normal condition in Auckland and had but to be recognised that the officials of clubs or the centre there would keep themselves posted up in the doings of the Council of the N.Z.A.A.A. Auckland appears to have taken the initiative to put before the Council, the main duties of the Auckland centre secretary (Mr. Olsson), being to send along the fees due and to record the centre's vote when invited by the executive of the Council, for the purpose of finding the Auckland centre under the able guidance of Mr. Leo Myers, is awakening to a sense of its responsibilities, and I feel confident that as soon as they become fully conversant with the duties that lie before the Otago, Wellington and Southland centres to move in the direction of setting up a fresh amateur athletic governing body, so soon will they fall in line with the executive, of which Dr. Newman is the head. It is not out of the question that from a geographical point of view Auckland and Wellington have much in common, and there is just now much jubilation in Wellington that the centre there, at the prospect of Wellington and Auckland athletes foregoing occasionally at amateur sports meetings and contesting in friendly rivalry for amateur athletic supremacy.

The Professional Dispute.

The Executive of the New Zealand A.A. (Invercargill) decided to decharge the Wanganui Canadian Society's meeting an unregistered meeting, and to disqualify all competitors thereat. The reasons for this state that they have considered all means of conciliation, and used every endeavour, but fruitlessly, to arrive at an amicable settlement. The N.Z. Sports Federation will be asked to enforce the disqualification, and those disqualified will not be permitted to take part in any class of sport affiliated to the Federation. This dispute arose out of the disqualification of the directors of the Wanganui Society, who competed at the Christchurch Scottish Society's gathering at Exhibition time.

FOOTBALL.

Professionalism Discounted.

The Scottish Rugby Union has cancelled its annual match with England, one of the six international for the Calcutta Cup which have been played without intermission since 1890.

The grounds of the cancellation are that the E.R.U. sanctioned payments to the All Blacks and Wallabies of a guinea per week each, in addition to their travelling and hotel expenses. The Union also complains that the Anglo-Welsh team of 1908 received a daily travelling allowance.

The committee of the S.R.U. was unanimously of opinion that these payments are contrary to the principles of amateur football and amount to professionalism.

Mr. Jas. MacMahon, manager of the Wallabies, states that allowances to footballers on tour were unthought of in Australia until the visit of the Rev. Mulhenny's team, the members of which all received daily allowances for expenses over and above the cost of board and travel.

Mr. MacMahon reminds the Scottish Union that the team captained by D. K. Bedford-Stevright, one of Scotland's foremost internationalists, also received allowances during its tour of New Zealand and Australia.

The Wallabies were simply following the English Union's rule, and they were confident that they were not infringing the laws of amateurism in any shape or form.

The Australian Footballers.

Batley defeated the Australian League players by 12 points to 5, the home team scoring three goals and two tries to the Australians' goal and a try.

The Wallabies beat a British and Chiffton team by one goal and two tries (11 points) to one try (3 points).

SCULLING.

The Sculling Championship.

In conversation with an Ellitham "Argus" reporter, Arnd stated that he had heard Webb's people were prepared to put him forward in another match for the championship.

Fogwell-Welch Match.

In connection with the Fogwell-Welch match, to be rowed on Easter Monday at Akaroa, it is very probable that arrangements will be made for W. Webb to act as pacemaker and also trainer for Welch. The latter is very anxious to secure Webb's services, and there is every prospect of the ex-champion of the world assisting the Akaroa sculler. The latter's friends are determined to spare no expense to give their man every opportunity of being fit to do himself justice on the day, and it is safe to say that Webb is just the man to bring out the best that is in Welch, who should benefit very considerably by having the Wanganui sculler's assistance in his preparation.

ROWING.

West End Club's "At Home."

The trials fours rowed by the West End Club, Auckland, in connection with their "at home," were won by G. L. Dixon's crew, who led H. Rowe's crew by a length, A. Carlaw's crew being third.

AQUATICS.

Royal N.Z. Yacht Squadron.

Rawene and Kotiri ser, Ngatira 14m, and Wairere 54m, were the only starters in the R.N.Z.Y.S. race on Saturday for the thirty feet and under class of yachts. Rawene finished first, followed by Ngatira, Wairere and Kotiri, but on corrected time the prize goes to Wairere with Rawene second and Ngatira third.

Ponsoby Cruising Club.

Ronaki finished first in the Ponsoby Cruising Club's ocean race on Saturday last, with Alva second and Gladly third, but on time allowance the placing was Ronaki and Gladly a tie for first prize and Alva third.

North Shore Rowing Club.

The final of the trial fours held on Saturday by the North Shore Rowing Club was won by T. Davis, G. Buchanan, P. Kessell, J. Williams, and A. Hongard (cox), who defeated W. Logan's crew by half a length the finish being a mere keel one.

Motor Launch Races.

The New Zealand Power Boat Association held a series of launch races in the Harbour on Saturday, for trophies presented by the vice-commodore (Mr. Jaggard) and the rear-commodore (Col. White). The commodore's launch Allyette acted as flagship, and the officers of the day were Mr. P. Howden, starter and timekeeper, and the commodore, Mr. A. Brett, and the vice-commodore, Mr. Jaggard. During the absence of the Allyette, which took part in the last race, the Roma acted as flagship. Following are the results:—

Under 7 knots: Mr. A. J. Parker's Cymet, 3m, 1; Mr. J. Cropper's Winkie, 4m, 2; Mr. W. R. Twigg's Sport, ser, 3.

Also started: Eagle 3m, Euna 6m, Nelson 8m. The finishing times were: Cymet 3h 2m 25s; Winkie, 3h 4m 14s; Sport, 3h 5m 2s; Euna, 3h 5m 2m; Nelson, 3h 6m 5s; Eone, 3h 6m 5m; Eagle, 3h 13m 4m.

Under 8 knots: Mr. C. Bailey's Alice, ser, 1; Mr. G. Brocklebank's Imperial, 8m, 2; Messrs. Huby and Lowe's Florin, 2m, 3. Also started, Imushee, Buffalo, Kotiro, Buffalo, and Mureo, ser.; Kelvin 2m, Valite 4m, Marero 6m. The finishing times were: Alice, 3h 4m 54s; Imperial, 4h 20m 2s; Florin, 4h 20m 2s; Marero, 4h 21m 4m; Kotiro, 4h 22m 42s; Kelvin, 4h 23m 16s; Marero 4h 23m 58s; Valite, 4h 23m 42s; Buffalo, 4h 24m 24s; Mureo, 4h 24m 52s.

Under six knots: Mr. Dryland's Portico, 2m, 1; Mr. Locke's Blue Bell, ser., 2. Nukū Matareka did not start. The finishing times were: Portico, 3h 50m 27s; Blue Bell 4h 6m 2m. Over 8 knots: Mr. J. Reid's Seabird, ser., 1; Mr. A. Brett's Allyette, 8m, 2. The only starters. On the completion of the first round, Seabird had the issue of the race beyond doubt, being close on her rival. The men were: Seabird 4h 55m 42s; Allyette 5h 0m 19s.