

Sports and Pastimes.

CRICKET.

Auckland.

The first matches of the second round in the matches played under the auspices of the Auckland Cricket Association were concluded on Saturday. Wins in the first grade were recorded by Eden Colts, Parnell, North Shore, and Ponsonby.

Eden Colts' sterling innings of 202 put up on the previous Saturday was too much for City, who could only reply with 48 in the first innings, and in the follow on the total was not much better—68. The only double figure men during the afternoon were Neill (25) and MacCormick, who made 23 and 13. Of the Eden trundlers, Relf took four wickets for seven runs in the first innings and eight wickets for 11 runs in the second. Beech, the only other bowler to annex any wickets, took four for 28 runs.

With University's first innings score at 68, and that of Parnell at 247 for seven wickets, this match looked like a three-point win for the eastern suburb; but the Varsity made an unexpected stand, and their opponents had to be content with a two-point victory. Varsity rattled up no less than 327, of which Robinson and Wallace were responsible for more than half, the former making a century and five, and his partner 90, in two hours' batting. Good scores were made by A. Gray (26), Speight (23), and Ellis (17), not to mention extras, which provided 26 runs.

The North Shore versus Grafton match was decided on the first innings. In response to Grafton's 141, the Shore team had six wickets down for 92 runs the previous Saturday. The tail proved to have some vitality in it, however, and before the innings was closed the score had been helped along to 236. Hadden topped the list with 62, McMahon made 53 (not out), Prime 36, Phillips 35, and Spence 20 (not out). Mason took five wickets for 73, and C. Hay two for 59. When stumps were drawn Grafton had 93 up with three wickets down.

Ponsonby's total of 192 was not reached by Eden A, who could only muster 133, playing one man short: Robinson headed the list with 34 (not out), and other double figure scorers were Mills (29), Smith (21), and Murdoch (16). Most of the execution was done by Woods, who took four wickets for 55 runs, and the other wickets fell to Sneedon (two for 18), Hobson and Kavanagh (who captured one each). When time was called Ponsonby had made 223 for nine wickets, Kavanagh making 72, McClellan 50, and Jacobson 34. Stephens had four wickets to his credit for 54 runs, Robinson two for 15, Smith two for 45, and Murdoch one for 47.

Among the second grade players, Eden A secured a three-point win against Parnell B. Grafton beat City by an innings and 54 runs, Parnell A had a three-point win in their match with University, and Ponsonby also had a three-point victory over North Shore A.

In the third grade, University beat Eden by 53 runs, Eden had a three-point win over City, Grafton defeated Ponsonby by nine wickets, and North Shore were defeated by Parnell by an innings and nine runs.

Waihi.

In the cricket matches under the auspices of the Waihi Cricket Association on Saturday afternoon, City defeated West by 138 to 116. For the winners, Quintal (39), Taplin (33), Jones (19), Mitchell (22 not out) were the chief scorers, and Jack (39), Kennedy (40), McLeod (19), for the losers.

Thames.

In Saturday the match between United and Hauraki, commenced last week, was concluded, the game resulting in a win for Hauraki by four wickets and 3 runs.

Hamilton.

The weather was fine for the cricket championships on Saturday. East A met East B, the latter scoring 58 (Lucas 14, Ricket 16, and Milliner 18). East A responded with 73 (James 19, Church 17), Rangitira played, Kaikaha, and in their

first venture totalled 164 (Blamires 38, Thompson 24, Connolly 13). Kaikaha were all dismissed for 85 (Mahon 30 not out, Vincent 19, Burt 12, Barras 11).

Otago v. Canterbury.

The cricket match Otago v. Canterbury was concluded at Dunedin in splendid weather. As was expected, the game resulted in an easy win for Canterbury, the home team being beaten by 245 runs. The display given by Otago at the wickets was again disappointing, the only men to make a stand being Rutherford (42, not out), Wilson (18), and Ayres (15).

The following are the scores:—
CANTERBURY, first innings 201
Second innings 259
OTAGO, first innings 75
Second innings 143

The Plunket Shield.

Mr. J. H. Watts, secretary of the Auckland Cricket Association, has received a challenge for the Plunket Shield next season, from the Wellington Association. The dates suggested for the match are next Christmas or New Year, 1910.

The Australian Eleven.

The second of the matches between Australia and the Rest of Australia, which are being played to aid the selectors in their task of choosing a team for England, was concluded last week, Australia winning by innings and 158 runs. The Rest made 305 in their first innings, and, following on, were dismissed for 185 in the second.

The selectors have chosen W. J. Whitty, P. A. McAlister, J. Carkeek, S. E. Gregory, and W. Bardsley to complete the Australian eleven. They recommend Hopkins as fifteenth man.

Clem. Hill strongly objected to the choice of McAlister and Carkeek, and urged Gehrs' claims.

He told his co-selectors that he did not think the best men had been chosen, and that he intended to wash his hands of the whole affair.

The team for England is now complete, and consists of the following:—New South Wales: M. A. Noble, V. Trumper, W. Bardsley, A. C. C. G. Macartney, H. Carter, S. E. Gregory; Victoria: V. Ransford, W. W. Armstrong, P. A. McAlister, W. Carkeek; Queensland: R. Bartigan; South Australia: W. J. Whitty; and J. O'Connor. F. Laver, who will act as manager of the team, will also be available as a playing member of the team, and in the light of past experience the selectors are advising that a fifteenth man be sent, enabling four to rest each match.

Following are the inter-State averages of the fifteen this season:—

BATTING.					
	In.	N.O.	I.S.	Tl.	Ave.
M. A. Noble	6	1	213	513	102.60
V. Ransford	7	1	182	720	120.00
W. W. Armstrong	7	0	171	235	33.57
J. O'Connor	8	1	40	84	12.00
A. C. C. G. Macartney	5	1	24	56	14.00
H. Carter	4	0	15	34	8.50
C. G. Macartney	6	2	100	229	57.25
P. A. McAlister	7	0	103	280	40.00
S. E. Gregory	6	0	179	363	60.50
A. J. Hopkins	5	0	218	261	52.20
W. Bardsley	6	0	102	430	71.66
W. J. Whitty	7	3	23	46	11.5
F. Laver	7	1	47	163	27.5

Carkeek has made 15 and 135, and Trumper has not played in inter-State matches this year.

BOWLING.			
	R.	W.	Ave.
Noble	265	11	18.63
Armstrong	283	12	23.58
Ransford	41	2	30.5
O'Connor	685	26	26.34
Carter	422	13	32.46
Macartney	179	7	25.57
McAlister	21	0	
Hopkins	283	7	29.00

FOOTBALL.

England Beats Ireland.

In the international match on Saturday last, England beat Ireland by a goal and two tries to a goal.

Australian Footballers.

St. Helens defeated the Australian League by three tries to nil.

The match between Warrington and

the Australian League resulted in a draw, each side scoring a goal and two tries.

The third test match between the Australians and the Northern Rugby Union ended in a victory for the home team by six points to five, the Union scoring two tries and the Australian League a goal and a try.

The Wallabies (the Australian amateurs now in America), beat a team from the Leland-Stanford University by 13 points to 3, and defeated a represented Californian combination on Saturday by 17 points to nil.

LAWN TENNIS.

Auckland v. Taranaki.

The following players have been selected to represent Auckland in the interprovincial match with Taranaki, to be played on Saturday, February 20th, at New Plymouth.

Men's Singles.—Upton, Brown, Hickson, Skirrits, Simpson, Longuet.
Ladies' Singles.—Miss Gorrie, Miss Woodroffe, Miss Walker, Miss Harvey, Miss Parsons, Miss Walker.
Men's Doubles.—Upton and Brown, Hickson and Skirrits, Simpson and Longuet.
Ladies' Doubles.—Misses Harvey and Woodroffe, Misses Gorrie and Martin, Misses Parsons and Walker.
Mixed Singles.—Upton and Miss Gorrie, Hickson and Miss Woodroffe, Skirrits and Miss Harvey, Simpson and Miss Parsons, Brown and Miss Martin, Longuet and Miss Walker.

Te Awamutu v. Cambridge.

A most enjoyable afternoon was spent by the tennis players of Cambridge and Te Awamutu last week, on the courts of the former, when the visitors were defeated by a narrow margin, namely 9 games to 7, or counting the whole of the points, by 100 to 103. The following are the scores:—Gentlemen's Singles.—Miss Cox (Cambridge) beat Miss Bond (Te Awamutu), 7-6; Miss Clark was defeated by Miss N. Bond, 3-7; Miss Jeffries beat Miss Mandeno, 7-2; Miss R. Nixon was defeated by Mrs. Henderson, 7-5.

Gentlemen's Singles.—G. Court (Cambridge) beat S. Empson (Te Awamutu), 9-6; C. P. Stone beat J. McGovern, 9-6; G. Simpson beat Dr. Henderson, 9-7; A. Nicoll beat F. Wood, 6-7.

Ladies' Doubles.—Misses Cox and Clark were defeated by Misses B. and M. Bond, 3-7; Misses Jeffries and Nixon were defeated by Mrs. Henderson and Miss Mandeno, 5-7.

Combined Doubles.—Miss Cox and Mr. Court were defeated by Miss Bond and Mr. Empson, 4-7; Miss Clark and Mr. Stone beat Miss Bond and Mr. McGovern, 5-6; Miss Jeffries and Mr. Simpson were defeated by Dr. and Mrs. Henderson, 6-7; Miss Nixon and Mr. Nicoll were defeated by Miss Mandeno and Mr. Wood, 6-7.

Doubles.—Gentlemen.—G. Court and C. P. Stone beat S. Empson and J. McGovern, 9-5; G. Simpson and J. Wood, 9-5. This gives the total points, 100-103, and the individual games, Cambridge 9, Te Awamutu 7.

ATHLETICS.

Half-mile Championship.

An attempt is being made to induce Trearbach, the half-mile, Australasian champion, to meet Haskins, the American intercollegiate champion, at Dunedin on March 20. The local man is agreeable providing that Haskins is reasonable in his conditions for the distances. He felt that the match should be run in Gore.

YACHTING.

History of the Sayonara Cup.

An interesting review of the history of Australia's "America Cup," from the pen of "Forward Hand," appears in the current issue of the "Sydney Mail," from which the following excerpts are taken:—

"Inter-State contests for yachts date back to the adventurous voyage in 1882 of the little Doris from Sydney to Port Philip. Although this little craft measured only 43 tons, she fought her way against exceptionally heavy weather to Melbourne, which she made after 12 days of hard battling. Dr. Milford was then the owner of the Doris, and to him, therefore, belongs the honour of being the pioneer of intercolonial racing. He sailed his boat to easy victory against a large and representative fleet of Victorians.

"Five years later, in 1887, our southern sister made a bold attempt to retrieve her lost laurels, and found a champion in Sir W. J. Clarke, who sent his 34-tonner, Janet, to Port Jackson, to meet the best of our yachts, Mr. A. G. Milson's Waitangi, 21 tons, and Sir James Fairfax's Magic, 28 tons, representing this colony, in a series of three races. The Waitangi was originally a product of New Zealand, but was to a large extent remodelled in Sydney by Mr. Walter Reeks, who then found his first opportunity of showing that he was no 'pretentious hand.' The Waitangi showed a great turn of speed, and well sailed by her owner, won the first two races of the series; the Magic was unable to beat the Janet in the third race, which was held for the purpose of deciding to whom second place should be awarded.

"The intercolonial regatta of 1888, given by Victoria, was too tempting a feast to be missed by Mr. Milson. Accordingly, the well-known Era, 40 tons, which had been built by Mr. Reeks for Mr. Milson, made her way to Melbourne. She was followed a day later by the Volunteer, 32 tons, another of Mr. Reeks' creations; both boats made the passage in about nine days, after encountering some heavy weather. The Sydney boats met South Australian as well as Victorian yachts, and among the latter was the Iduna. The Iduna won the first race, but a re-sail was ordered on the ground of some informalities, and the Era then won easily, and took the trophy—a handsome golden anchor—provided by Sir W. J. Clarke, and the substantial prize of £400.

"During the late eighties and up to the end of 1903 a storm of financial depression broke over Australia, and these intercolonial contests were only happy recollections of days which to many seemed a long way back in the depths of the past. Brightness, however, broke across the gloom, when, in 1904, Mr. Alfred Gollin opened up negotiations through his club, the Royal Yacht Club of Victoria, with the two Sydney clubs—the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron and the Prince Alfred Yacht Club—with a view to a revival of inter-State contests. He was successful in this attempt, and a series of three races was appointed for a cup presented by the two local clubs. Mr. Gollin was then the owner of the Sayonara, and in her he made his way to Port Jackson to meet Mr. Herbert Binnie's Bona, 42-rater, designed and built by Bailey, of Auckland, in 1900, which had been nominated for the defence by the squadron. Sayonara won the first race, but local hopes rose high when, in the second race, the Bona, well sailed by Mr. S. Dempster, showed some of the speed that was in her. It was not known then what a good boat the Sayonara was, but the third race proved that she was a hard boat to beat, and that the cup was hers.

"On his return to Melbourne, Mr. Gollin donated the cup as a perpetual challenge cup, under the name of the Sayonara Cup, to be raced for by boats belonging to his club and the two Sydney clubs. Further proof of her capabilities was given by the Sayonara in 1907, when she met Mr. C. T. Brockhoff's Rawhiti in the races which followed the first challenge for the cup. The Rawhiti, which is still in active racing trim, is one of the good boats sent us by Logan, of Auckland, but the reliable Sayonara was too much for her, and won the first two races of the three provided for by the deed of gift—the first race in a moderate southeaster and the second in a howling northeaster. Her owner found some consolation, however, for his defeat by winning the Carabine Cup, which was sailed for a few days previously to the Sayonara Cup races, and provided the unusual case of three boats winning the same number of points each after sailing three races, necessitating a fourth race to decide the matter.

The Sayonara beat the Thelma this year, and still retains the coveted cup.

SWIMMING.

N.Z. Amateur Championships.

The N.Z. Amateur Swimming Championship meeting was held at Timaru last week under the auspices of the Timaru Centre. Visiting swimmers from Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, Dunedin, Oamaru, and Nelson, together with the local talent, provided for the audience of about 500 spectators a splendid exhibition of aquatic sport. The official list was as follows:—Judges, Messrs. J. J. Mulholland (Auckland), A. W. Price and G. Ganger (Timaru), starter, Wm. W. Johnson (Christchurch); timekeepers, Messrs. F. G. Williams (2), A. Calvert, and J. O'Leary; handicapper, Mr. W. Jordan; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. A. Gordon Sanderson.

50 Yds. INTER-CLUB HANDICAP.

The winner, D. Jones, of Christchurch, swam from the 9 sec. mark in 35 1/2 sec., thus setting the scratch men, Stewart and Bishopp—an impossible task.