

Carlton had rather the better of their game with W.Y.M.I., eventually winning by five goals to one. The scorers for Carlton were Nyberg (2), C. Borten (2), and Morrison, and for W.Y.M.I., Booth.
This game ended 4-0 in favour of Carlton as Goals were scored by Grevas 60, Maclester, and Whinna.

THIRD GRADE.

St. John's College beat Mt. Albert by 4 goals to 3. Goals were scored for St. John's by Robertson, Dentith, Budd, and Werley.
North Shore beat W.Y.M.I. by 8 goals to one. The scorers for the winners were: Cardna (2) and Woolley (1).
The match, Guild v. St. David's resulted in a draw, each side scoring 3 goals.

FOURTH GRADE.

Carlton v. Gordon.—Carlton won by two goals to nil. Burton and Pratt scored for Carlton.
North Shore beat W.Y.M.I. very easily by seven goals to nil.

HOCKEY.

The championship matches under the auspices of the Auckland Hockey Association were continued on Saturday at Remuera, Domain, and North Shore; United, University, North Shore, and Graton securing wins in the three grade matches. An unfortunate deadlock between the Referees' Association and the Hockey Association resulted in the different games being played without the services of recognised members of the former association, several of the junior games having as a consequence to be played on the mutual understanding basis as to the observance of legitimate play.

SENIOR GRADES.

In the senior grade, United defeated Auckland, last year's champions, by 2 goals to one. The other senior matches resulted in wins for Graton, who defeated College Rifles by 4 goals to 1; University, who defeated St. George's by 5 goals to 4, and North Shore, who defeated Y.M.C.A. by 3 goals to nil.

SECOND GRADE.

Ponsonby (5) beat Auckland (1). D. Spencer (2), Furness (2), and Wilson scored for Ponsonby, and McKean for Auckland.
College Rifles (2) beat Y.M.C.A. (0). Ribworth and Woodward scored.
Trailing College (3) beat Varsity (0). Sneddon (2) and Johns scored for the winners.
Pimpernel (3) beat Espoon (2). Murray (2) and Macdonald scored for Pimpernel and Becioff (2) for Espoon.
Ellerlie won from North Shore by default.

THIRD GRADE.

St. Mary's beat North Shore by 5 goals to 2. For the winners, Noble (3), Dufaur (1), and Beresford scored goals, and Grace and Hunt for the Shore.
St. George's (5) beat University (2). Pycroft (3), Hill, and Brockless scored for the winners, and Bishop and Spencer for the losers.
Epiphany (3) beat United B (1). Pearson (4), Catebeon (3), and Hogan (2) scored for the winners, and Webster for the losers.
Unitarian (5) beat Varsity A (0). Wright (3), B. Hobson, and Cullimore scored for Unitarian.

LADIES' ASSOCIATION.

The only ladies' match played at Remuera on Saturday, between Rawhiti A and Ladies' College, the former team winning by 3 goals to one. The match occasioned a good deal of interest, and during the greater part was fast and exciting, although the winners had the best of the play most of the time. The scorers were: Miss Probert, who registered all Rawhiti's goals, and Miss Massey, who found the net for the Ladies' College.

CRICKET.

THE AUSTRALIAN XI IN ENGLAND.

Programme of Matches.

JULY.

- 1.—THIRD TEST MATCH, at Leeds.
- 5—v. Warwickshire, at Birmingham.
- 8—v. Worcestershire, at Worcester.
- 12—v. Gloucestershire, at Bristol.
- 13—v. Surrey, at the Oval.
- 16—v. Yorkshire, at Leeds.
- 22—v. Derbyshire, at Derby.
- 23—FOURTH TEST MATCH, at Manchester.
- 29—v. Yorkshire and Lancashire, at Hull.

AUGUST.

- 2—v. South Wales, at Cardiff.
- 5—v. Lancashire, at Liverpool.
- 9—FIFTH TEST MATCH, at the Oval.
- 13—v. West of England (Devon, Cornwall, etc.), at Exeter.
- 16—v. Gloucestershire, at Cheltenham.
- 19—v. Kent, at Canterbury.
- 23—v. Middlesex, at Lord's.
- 26—v. Sussex, at Brighton.
- 30—v. M.C.C., at Lord's.

SEPTEMBER.

- 3—v. Essex, at Leyton.
- 6—v. An England Eleven (Mr. Bamford), at Leicester.
- 8—Scarborough Festival, at Scarborough.
- 12—v. South of England, at Hastings.

Australia v. Yorkshire.

The match between Yorkshire and Australia had to be abandoned owing to the weather.

Following are the scores:—

YORKSHIRE.—First Innings.

E. R. Wilson, st Carter, b Macartney	17
W. Rhodes, c and b Laver	42
W. H. Wilkinson, b Laver	0
G. H. Hirst, c Armstrong, b Cotter	14
J. R. Rothery, b Cotter	2
H. Myers, b Noble	53
D. Denton, c Macartney, b Laver	106
A. Radcliffe, c Macartney, b Laver	5
J. F. Newstead, c Carter, b Laver	19
L. Haigh, not out	10
D. Hunter, b Macartney	14
Sundries	17
Total	299

Bowling Analysis:—Laver, five wickets for 75 runs; Macartney, 2 for 20; Cotter, two for 68; Noble, one for 54; Armstrong, 0 for 65.

AUSTRALIA.—First Innings.

P. A. McAlister, c Myers, b Hirst	0
W. Bardsley, b Rhodes	5
M. A. Noble, c Rothery, b Rhodes	27
V. Ransford, not out	32
Armstrong, not out	12
Sundries	1
Total for three wickets	78

Bowling analysis: Rhodes took two wickets for 45; Hirst, one for 19; Haigh, none for 12.

A One-Day Game.

The match between the Australians and Lancashire and Yorkshire combined, the starting of which was delayed on account of wet weather, took place on June 16, and resulted in a draw.
The weather was gloomy and the wicket soft, but not treacherous. About 3000 were present.

Following are the scores:—

AUSTRALIA.—First Innings.

Bardsley, b Hirst	1
Armstrong, not out	110
Noble, b Hirst	13
Ransford, lbw, b Rhodes	39
Trumper, c Hornby, b Rhodes	10
Hopkins, b Huddleston	1
Macartney, c Hunter, b Rhodes	0
Carter, not out	31
Extras	12
Six wickets for	217

Bowling Analysis: Hirst two wickets for 45, Brearley none for 29, Huddleston one for 35, Rhodes three for 61, Haigh none for 35.

YORKSHIRE AND LANCASHIRE.—

First Innings.

Hartley, c Ransford, b Whitty	1
Rhodes, not out	2
Tyldesley, c Carter, b Whitty	8
Denton, not out	0
Two wickets for	13

Another Wet Day.

Drizzling rain fell all day on June 24, saturating the wicket at Old Trafford, on which the Australians were to have met Lancashire and Yorkshire to-day.
There was no sign of the weather clearing at 3 o'clock, and at that hour it was decided to abandon play for the day.

A Match Abandoned.

Rain fell continuously all night and continued on June 25, with the result that the match between the Australians and Lancashire and Yorkshire combined had to be finally abandoned without a ball being bowled.

The Cricket Nursery—the Development of a Cricketer.

(By J. T. TYLDESLEY.)

The increasingly exacting nature of the work demanded from members of a first-class county team has brought about a great change in the average county player. In the early days of the modern development of the game the number of matches played by all county elevens was small, and not only could most professionals affiliated with local clubs accept the invitation to play when it was extended to them, but most amateurs could find it convenient to devote an occasional three days during the summer for the purpose. To-day matters are very dif-

ferent. The leading counties are practically engaged in match-playing during the whole of the season. No sooner has one match finished than all the paraphernalia has to be packed up, and in many cases a bolt for the next train takes place, with perhaps a hurried visit to pay one's bill at the hotel. And it does happen occasionally that the team arrives at their destination in the early hours of the next morning. And if that team after a night's rest all too short, should happen to lose the toss on a broiling hot day, they are not feeling too fit at 6.30 p.m.

The batsmen of the team may not suffer to any great extent, but it has been palpable to me on many occasions after a long journey and a lost toss that the bowlers have suffered much more than they care to admit. A big score has been the result. Many bowlers find it extremely difficult to keep fit for the whole of a season, and in the case of professionals, who have to look at the financial aspect of the case, have taken the field with one leg and a "swinger" when a good week's rest would only have been their due.

Advantages of a Regular Team.

Consequently county committees find that it is becoming increasingly difficult to play their best eleven regularly, and all who have played the game will acknowledge that one of the first conditions of success is that the members of a team shall be thoroughly acquainted with each other's play. The captain must know the capabilities of each fieldman if each is to be placed in his correct position, and in batting one always feels more satisfaction if he knows something of the man at the other end. Many a match has been lost simply because the members of the team have not been sufficiently acquainted with one another's powers or weaknesses.

An example of this is invariably furnished by the Australians when on tour in England. They know their colleagues' play exactly, and, in the case of short running only, they add scores of runs to the total that would never have been recorded had not each batsman the confidence that his partner would always run when called upon to do so.

It therefore means this, that if a team is to go through a season with a fair amount of success it must consist almost exclusively of men who can place their services during the whole summer months at the disposal of the committee. The inevitable result is to reduce the probabilities of a fair proportion of capable amateurs being found who can meet the requirements expected. The demands of a commercial or professional career have claimed many of them just at the time when their services were likely to be most useful. Most counties have not been so fortunately circumstanced in this respect as have Lancashire, for during the past few years we have been lucky enough to possess a good few amateurs whose powers have placed them high amongst their fellows.

An Experiment.

County Committees are therefore compelled more and more to rely upon professional assistance. Here again a development of comparatively recent growth has intervened. The league system has got such a hold in some districts, and interest in their games has reached such a high pitch, that high rates of pay are offered to available capable professionals.

Some of these positions are sinecures in comparison with the hard and strenuous life the county cricketer leads, and have been accepted by many players as being far preferable, and although there are exceptions to every rule, it may be taken for granted almost, so long as a professional is engaged by a League club he can only be a very occasional player in county cricket. Therefore at the very time when committees are compelled to rely more than ever on professionals, another attraction has developed that seriously reduces the numbers of capable available players. It follows therefore that if teams are to be kept up to concert pitch a further development must take place. At first it was thought the running of a second eleven would in itself be sufficient. It was urged, and that correctly, that it would act as a training ground for the younger players, a sort of stepping stone or link between the ordinary club cricket and first-class, and that with a number of reliable youngsters of known powers at call no difficulty would be experienced in filling up vacancies in the first eleven as they arose, and that the players themselves would benefit by being associated with a number of better players than are met with in the average local club.

Drawbacks and Suggestions.

The prospect of success that has attended the experiment has not been so great as anticipated, for which a variety of reasons must be assigned. First of all they do not play sufficient games to make them entirely useful, but as some counties have found the running of a second string to be rather expensive, increasing the number may prove to be a formidable obstacle.

Apart from the captain, who should be a man who has gone through the mill, an old player who is a judge of a good youngster when he sees one, the remainder of the second team ought to consist of very young players. Too much attention is given to the winning of their matches, and with this idea it is quite apparent that too many men have been selected whose powers are known to be so limited that no hope can be entertained that they would ever be in the front rank. These players ought to be filled by younger players, who may not be quite so good for the time being, but who by reason of their age and the experience they would gain by the association with more experienced players have a far better chance of becoming serviceable first eleven men. Many youngsters are spoiled for the want of opportunities. When once it has been decided that a certain youth has the makings of a good cricketer in him, he ought to be given every opportunity of taking part in the second eleven matches. To only receive an invitation intermittently is discouraging and disheartening. It may be that all he requires to make him blossom out as a first-class player is experience, and it seems a pity if he cannot get it, just because he may fail in his first match or two.

Several counties have what is known as a ground staff attached to the county ground, whose duties in part consist of bowling to the members in the nets. They do, of course, practice amongst themselves during a quiet interval, but it is questionable in the absence of someone to direct, control, and overlook their practice, whether so much progress is made as is expected. The system has something in its favour, but much may be said against it. Here again young players should be in the majority. It is fatal to the success of the system if too many of the staff are "old hands," some of whom, disappointed at their own failure to secure a place in their county team, are ever ready to poison the minds of the young players, and to make them dissatisfied with their lot.

Choosing their Players.

Although a marked improvement has taken place of late years in the manner of engagement of a staff player, a further improvement, I think, could be made. Years ago engagements were given to men recommended, perhaps, by the president or secretary of the local clubs with which they were connected. To-day trials are given to a few as wanted.

But why not go further and try them in batches? Let the last fortnight of a season be set apart for the purpose. Advertise for young players, get them in numbers of so many per day, and let four or five experienced old players weed them out. The latter end of the summer is much better for the trial than in the spring. After a winter's rest the men cannot show their true form; the arms and shoulders are stiff. A bowler has not his length, and a batsman has not his eye in. Try them at the end of the season when they can give a better account of themselves.

Let it be known amongst all the local clubs that this trial fortnight is going to be an annual affair, and let any lad who feels eligible apply for the trial. Under this system everybody, recommended by president or no, gets the same chance. The recommended youth, in spite of his success with the local club, may not be the promising member after all. If this system was carried out year by year, a good and young staff would probably be the result.

Success in Kent.

Apart from the second team and the ground staff, it has remained for Kent to make a still further experiment in the training of first-class players, and one which has been attended by the most flattering results.

A few years ago the "Nursery at Tonbridge" was inaugurated, and the results of its labours were seen in Kent's record in 1906. There, under the eagle and zealous eyes of Mr. Tom Pawley and Captain McCallis, the youngsters practice systematically. Each in turn is coached during his limited batting pro-