

It was generally considered that Auckland's main point of superiority (if any) would be in the forward division, but this did not turn out to be the case, as in this respect the two teams were fairly evenly matched, the local vanguard being perhaps slightly the better. In the back division, however, the Aucklanders showed to great advantage, and it would have taken an exceptionally brilliant set of backs to have coped with them on Saturday's form. For one thing, they were very much faster, and at times completely outpaced their opponents.

The scores, Auckland 14 points, made up of four tries, one converted, to 4 points, a potted goal, shows very fairly the difference between the two teams, but had the Aucklanders played all through the second spell in the same way as they did the last quarter of an hour, there is no telling what the score would have been.

Winning the toss Wellington elected to kick with the wind, which was fairly strong when play started, though it fell slightly later on. From Auckland's kick off the ball was carried to the blacks' 25, but it did not remain there any time, and for the next few minutes play was confined to the local quarters. At this stage Roberts injured his ribs, and a considerable delay took place before play was resumed. The blacks continued to attack, but the defence was very sound, and eventually play was removed to near the centre. From a line out Wellington got on a good rush, and the ball was carried over the Auckland line, Hay just managing to save in the nick of time. Calnan, who started the attack, was, to all appearances, very badly off side, but evidently the referee did not notice it. On resuming the blue and whites carried the ball to the other end of the ground, and almost immediately Gallaher obtained the ball from the line out, and whipping through, passed to McGregor, who went straight for the line, and then passed to Harrison, who dashed over and scored. The kick at goal, a very difficult one, was entrusted to A. Wilson, but the attempt failed. Encouraged by their success Auckland played up in grand style, and during the remainder of the spell did by far the greater part of the attacking, but they failed to increase the score, though Doran on one occasion, and Harrison on another, just missed tries, forces resulting each time.

For some considerable time after the opening of the second spell the play was not of the most interesting character, nothing brilliant being done on either side. Wellington was forced a couple of times, and A. Wilson had a fruitless shot at goal from a mark. A little later on a nice passing run by the Auckland back endangered the Wellington line, but Woods averted the danger. A few minutes later the ball was kicked to McFike who, so far, had had few opportunities. He apparently made up his mind to make the most of this one, and dashed down the boundary line at a great pace, beating several of his opponents, and was over the line like a flash. Unfortunately in crossing the line he lost the ball, which rolled into touch in goal. Wellington now took a turn at attacking, and mainly through the instrumentality of Woods, the ball was carried right down to the Auckland line. Directly afterwards a poor kick of Hay's went to Hales, right in front of Auckland's goal, and that player potted a neat goal, all the Auckland team looking on and making no attempt to prevent the score. Roused by this reverse, which gave the blacks a lead of one point, the Aucklanders seemed to wake up, and during the 15 minutes that remained for play, fairly walked over their opponents, the ball seldom being out of the Wellington twenty-five.

From a throw in Kiernan obtained possession, and passed to Riley, who in turn handed on to McGregor, and the latter, at the right moment, transferred to Harrison, who ran right round behind the posts, and registered his second try; Kiernan, though as a general rule very deadly at short shots, failed in his attempt at goal.

From the kick out the ball was immediately brought back to the Wellington line, and Doran kicked it off and following up fast fell on it, the ball subsequently escaping from him and going into touch in goal. It was apparently a fair try, but the referee could not see Doran's hands on the ball, so the score could not be allowed.

Auckland again attacked strongly and the ball being kicked over the line by the Auckland forwards, Harrison

was after it and beating the Wellington backs, scored his third try near the corner flag. A. Wilson made a splendid attempt to convert, but just missed.

The repeated attacks of the locals had by this time told on the blacks, who were showing evident signs of breaking up, and from the kick out the play was soon back in its old quarters, and a good bit of passing by the Auckland forwards allowed Riley to drop over the line and score between the posts. This time Kiernan did "the necessary," bringing Auckland's score to 14 points. Hardly had the ball been kicked off when the bell went for no-

NOTES.

It is beyond doubt that the better team won, and that the accident to Roberts had any material effect on the result I very much doubt. It was suggested that the fact of the ball and ground being wet was all in favour of the visitors, as they are more used to playing under such conditions. Such did not appear to be the case, however. So far as could be judged the individual members of the Auckland team seemed to have considerable difficulty in handling the ball, but on the whole both teams shaped equally well in this respect, and the weather seemed to have much less effect on the play than one would naturally have thought.

In the forward ranks the rival teams were pretty evenly matched, though I am inclined to award the palm to the Aucklanders, who were the better in the pack. At hooking the ball and in line play there was not much to choose between them, and the same applies to work in the open, but in this department the blacks, if anything, were the better, their following up being particularly good. The Auckland wings, Gallaher and Doran, quite or more than held their own, the only defect in this respect being that Doran was hardly strong enough to protect the half from the attentions of the opposing wing, otherwise this player was in greater form, as was also Gallaher, who was mainly responsible for Auckland's first try. All the local forwards did splendid work, none being more conspicuous than A. Wilson, McGregor, and Cunningham, whilst in line work H. Wilson takes the palm.

The visiting vanguard quite upheld the reputation of the windy city of always being able to put a good team of forwards in the field. Calnan and O'Brien were the most prominent, but the former appeared to be playing a "bit cunning," and was lucky on several occasions to escape being penalised.

In back play the blue and whites were certainly superior, and in pretty well every department of the game they much more than held their own, and although the Wellington backs are not slow, they appeared so alongside our men.

At full-back Hales made a very fine showing, especially in kicking, and his handling of the ball was also good. His defensive work, however, was a trifle weak. The three-quarter line was naturally somewhat disorganised owing to the absence of Roberts and De Vere, but Woods at centre played a slashing game, and had he received better support would have been very dangerous on several occasions. Kelly at five-eighths, and Meredith at half, are a fine pair, and both did excellent work, their game having an amount of variety about it.

D. Hay made his first appearance in a big match as full-back, and on the whole acquitted himself really well, his defence being of the soundest, but his kicking was hardly up to his usual standard.

The three-quarters all did well, though to Harrison, who got the most opportunities, must be awarded the palm, his three tries being thoroughly well deserved. McGregor, in the centre, though not quite so prominent as usual, put in any amount of solid work, and had a hand in at least two of Harrison's tries. It goes without saying that his defence was perfect. McFike, on the other wing, had not a great number of chances, but he did everything that came his way, and had very hard luck in not scoring a try. In the latter part of the second spell both Harrison and McFike seemed to be taking things rather easily at times, and a bit inclined to leave the ball to the next man. The same remarks apply to Riley at five-eighths, who otherwise played a good game. Kiernan at half was at times greatly

FOR BABY'S SKIN SCALP AND HAIR

Something for Mothers to Think About

EVERY CHILD born into the world with an inherited or early developed tendency to distressing, disfiguring humours of the skin, scalp, and blood, becomes an object of the most tender solicitude, not only because of its suffering but because of the dreadful fear that the disfiguration is to be lifelong and mar its future happiness and prosperity. Hence it becomes the duty of mothers of such afflicted children to acquaint themselves with the best, the purest, and most effective treatment available.

That warm baths with CURTICURA SOAP to cleanse the skin and scalp of crusts and scales and gentle applications of CURTICURA Ointment to instantly allay itching, irritation, and inflammation, and soothe and heal, to be followed in the severest cases by mild doses of CURTICURA RESOLVENT are all that can be desired for the alleviation of the suffering of skin-tortured infants and children and the comfort of worried mothers has been demonstrated in countless homes in every land. Their absolute safety, purity, and sweetness, instantaneous and grateful relief, speedy cure, and great economy leave nothing more to be desired by anxious parents.

Complete External and Internal Treatment for Every Humour. Consisting of CURTICURA SOAP, to cleanse the skin and scalp of crusts and scales, and soften the thickened cuticle, CURTICURA Ointment, to instantly allay itching and irritation, and soothe and heal, and CURTICURA RESOLVENT, to cool and cleanse the blood. Sold throughout the world. Aust. Depot: R. TOWNS & Co., Sydney, N. S. W. So. African Depot: LEWIS LIND, Cape Town. "How to Cure Baby Humours," free. POTTER DRUG AND CHEM. CORP., Boston, U. S. A., Sole Props. CURTICURA REMEDIES.

hampered by the attentions of the opposing wing, and he occasionally failed to take the ball cleanly from the scrum. His line kicking, however, was wonderfully good, and he made some splendid openings for his backs.

Taken all round, the local men acquitted themselves excellently, and it is not at all likely that Mr Arneil will make any alterations in the team for next Saturday.

Mr W. G. Garrard, of Christchurch, had charge of the whistle, and gave satisfaction to both players and spectators. It was very noticeable that he often overlooked unintentional breaches of the rules from which the offending side gained no advantage, and this at times made it appear that he was rather slow in blowing the whistle, when in fact he was merely waiting to see how play would go. Though not, perhaps, according to the strict letter of the rules, it appears to me to be quite a proper thing to do, and it certainly tends to make the game faster.

GOLF NOTES.

(By Boggy.)

The steady downpour on Saturday precluded any possibility of playing off the final for Mr Bruce's prize. It is doubtful, indeed, if the keenest of beginners would have ventured on a round under the distressful condition of the weather, and the committee not only postponed the matches but also closed the green! This course was a wise one, for the putting greens would have been much enjoyed if even a few players had gone over them, and the tees would have been sadly knocked about. In view of the closing of the green all golfers felt free to go to the football match between Auckland and Wellington, and watch the fine old game they used to play. The club has among its members many old representative footballers, and the sight of a match like that of last Saturday stirs the fierce joy of other years once more to a red heat. Most of us can now only enthuse over a great match, for we feel that our real interest in the game has died down since we ceased to play, and a new generation of players has risen which knows less of us than we of them. Nevertheless we shall return to the link, strengthened in the memory of the past; by having watched a good fight on our old battlefield.

Mr Stanley Todd, from Dunedin, is at present on a visit to Auckland. The Todd family is very well known on New Zealand links and Mr Todd, the father of Mr Stanley Todd and Mr George Todd, of Wellington, is distinctly the G.O.M. of New Zealand golfers. Though in his 85th year, his tall commanding figure may be still seen on the Otago Golf Club links. Mr Stanley Todd won the New Zealand championship in 1896 on his home green, and is perhaps the only well-known golfer who adheres to the old long form of club head. He has used some of his clubs for the last twenty five years.

The Ladies' Championship is in course of being played during the week at Christchurch.

The "Stimy" question is still agitating the minds of golfers in the Old Country, but it is doubtful if the reforming party will be able to succeed in abolishing the stimy for some time yet. Perhaps the best means of dealing with the question in order to arrive at a compromise would be to adopt the method recommended by Mr Horace Hutchinson, who says:

The stimy question in match play still remains a vexed one in the general golfing mind, and on some greens it is rather the exception than the rule for stimies to be played. By mutual consent they are often abolished, and none of the inconveniences, such as disputes as to the exact position of the removed ball, which the lovers of the stimy urge as likely to arise, and as a motive for its retention, seem to occur, but there is a particular mode of doing away with the stimy which seems preferable to any other, and this is to give the player whose stroke is intercepted the right to say to the opponent: "I give you that in; take the ball away." That is to say, that if the intercepting ball is so close to the hole that the opponent thinks there is no reasonable chance of the putt being missed, he will "give it in" as if the ball had been actually played and holed. If, on the other hand, he thinks there is a reasonable doubt of the ball being holed he will naturally prefer to try to loft or circumvent the stimmy ball, and so the delicate and difficult stroke will be retained. The suggested plan has these peculiar excellencies: First that it does away with the possibility of dispute about the replacement of the ball, since it is not to be replaced, and secondly that