

ball travelling over the cross-bar from a difficult angle. Grafton 9, Parnell 6. Several attempts at goal by Hardwicke followed, the Parnell centre-three-quarter placing a nice goal from a penalty, thus equalising the scores. Grafton 9, Parnell 9. The Graftonites made matters lively, and play being confined to the maroons' 25 Eaton attempted a goal from a penalty and was successful in piloting the ball over the cross-bar. Grafton 12, Parnell 9. Both sides settled down to their tasks in a willing manner, and play was very even. Grafton, however, succeeded in shifting play into Parnell's 25, and Power scored a try for the black and whites. Eaton's shot at goal failed. There was no incident of note in the final stages and Grafton left the field victors by 15 points to 9.

Mr. H. Frost was referee.

Without the services of Maguire and Tresize it was thought the Grafton forwards would be on the weak side, but this proved far from being the case. Eaton and Becker both showed up prominently and seemed eager for graft from start to finish.

Kiernan appears to be getting back to his old self and a few Saturdays hence may be seen at the top of his form. Wolfram is a big acquisition to Grafton, and again rendered valuable service on Saturday.

Martin was seen to great advantage among the Parnell forwards, playing a hard and vigorous game. Rhodes and Muir also distinguished themselves, with Schofield, on the wing, was of great service to his side.

Thomas, at half back, gave a worthy display, but would be much better off with a little more weight. Ingle, on the three quarter line, was a disappointment, but Hardwicke and Hogan made up for his poor display by playing creditable games. Twinn was out of his element at five-eighths, but nevertheless shone out brilliantly on occasions.

University v. Newton.

Much doubt was expressed as to whether Newton would be able to place a full senior team in the field, the club having lost the services of many of its leading players who have joined the ranks of the Northern Unionists. When the Newton team came out on Saturday it was seen that they were two men short, while the combination gave evidence of being a weak one. University, however, were not over strong, the absence of Wilson, Walker and Poananga reducing their strength considerably in the backs. Everything pointed to a one-sided game, and from the kick-off until Newton decided to retire the students had matters all their own way. The Newton men were kept in their own 25 during the greater part of the time, and excellent passing on the part of the University backs enabled them to run up a good many points. Not long after the commencement of the game Gray, securing possession, made an opening, and throwing the ball well out to Carr, the latter took it cleanly and succeeded in scoring a well-deserved try. Beamish added the major points. University 5, Newton nil. Campbell, the 'Varsity five-eighths, who was playing a sterling game, was responsible for the next try, which he secured alongside the corner flag. Despite the difficult angle Beamish placed an unmistakable goal. University 10, Newton nil. Soon after a smart passing run in which the ball was handled in turn by Campbell, Carr and Willis, the last-named ran in and scored 'Varsity's third try. Beamish was again successful with the kick. University 15, Newton nil. The whistle sounded for half time with the scores unchanged.

Newton only had eleven men in the second spell owing to the retirement of two of their players. Hunt obtained a try soon after starting and Beamish placed a creditable goal. University 20, Newton nil. Soon after Carr scored his second try for 'Varsity, but Beamish failed to convert. University 23, Newton nil. Willis was the next try-getter for the students, and Beamish added the major points. Univers-

ity 28, Newton nil. At this stage Newton decided to retire, and the game ended in a run-a-way victory for University, who thus won their first match of the season.

For University Gray, at half, gave a brilliant display, and Campbell, the 'Varsity five-eighths, worked like a Trojan, keeping the backs together well. Dineen was the shining light in the forwards, while Hunt showed out conspicuously.

The Newton team calls for little criticism, McElwain and Morrison being the only two that played brilliantly enough for individual mention.

Second Grade.

College Rifles defeated Newton II by 12 points to 6.

North Shore beat Parnell II by 10 points to nil.

Ponsonby II defeated Marist Bros. II by 15 points to 3.

Grafton II won from City II by default.

Third Grade.

University defeated Grafton IIIA by 11 points to 3.

Grafton IIIB beat Marist Bros. III by 8 points to nil.

Newton III had a victory over Manukau by 10 points to nil.

Fourth Grade.

Grafton IV and City IV played a drawn game, each side scoring 6 points.

Ponsonby and Newton IV played a drawn game—3 points each.

Ponsonby A easily defeated North Shore by 30 points to nil.

COUNTRY MATCHES.

At Huntly under the auspices of the Lower Waikato Rugby Union the home fifteen defeated Rangī by 8 points to nil. The junior match between Huntly and the Kia Ora native team was won by the former by 3 points to nil.

At Paeroa the senior match between East and West, resulted in a victory for the latter team by 6 points to 3. The junior match between East and West was also won by West by 6 points to 3.

At Waihi the senior match between City and West resulted in a win for the former team by 12 points to 6. For the winners Hyde kicked two penalty goals and also scored a try. The junior match between City and West was won by the former team by 14 points to nil, while the third grade match City v. West resulted in a victory for the latter by 5 points to nil.

At Thames on Saturday the senior match between City and Suburbs was won by the latter team by 3 points to nil. Suburbs try was obtained by Rickits.

THE GAME IN THE SOUTH.

The senior matches at Wellington resulted as follows:—Oriental beat Petone by 9 points to 6, Ponoka beat Old Boys by 6 points to nil, St. James beat Melrose by 17 points to 6, Athletic beat Victoria College by 6 points to nil, Southern beat Hutt by 8 points to nil.

At Christchurch the senior results were:—Albion beat Christchurch by 17 points to 6, Old Boys beat Linwood by 9 points to 8, Merivale beat Canterbury College by 31 points to nil, Sydenham beat Marists' Old Boys by 3 points to nil. Merivale and Albions to date have each scored four championship points.

The Dunedin senior football results were as follows:—University beat Kaitiaki by 17 points to nil, Alhambra beat Port Chalmers by 18 points to 9, Zingari-Richmond beat Union by 17 points to 3. Southern beat Pirates by 19 points to nil. Dunedin beat Tairā Rovers by 12 points to 4.

NORTHERN UNION NOTES.

At Victoria Park on Saturday a match was played between Newton Rangers and City Rovers, and after a good exhibition of the Northern Union game a draw resulted, each side scor-

ing 8 points. For Newton, tries were obtained by Bradburn and Bonner, one of which was converted by the former player. For City, tries were registered by Denize and Hawthorne, one of which was converted by Kean. Mr. J. Stanaway performed the duties of referee.

A fairly large gathering of enthusiasts assembled at Victoria Park on Saturday to witness the game between Ponsonby United and North Shore Albions. The game was fast and exciting throughout, the Ponsonby men winning by 34 points to 7. For the winning side tries were scored by Carlaw (2), R. McDonald (2), S. McDonald (2). Bettis and Coe. The last-named player converted four of the tries and Chorley one. For North Shore, Jackson scored a try which was converted by G. Seager, while Griffen kicked a penalty goal.

The Northern Union team which is coming out from England on a tour of Australia and New Zealand are bringing with them a valuable cup which has been presented by the Northern Union League at Home for competition among the provincial representative teams of New Zealand. The offer of a trophy such as this should go a long way towards popularising the Northern Union game in this country, and the meeting of the various provinces will cause much excitement in football circles.

The English Northern Union team is to play three matches in Auckland, the teams they meet being the Auckland League representatives, the Maori team, and the New Zealand representatives. Aucklanders should therefore be treated to some remarkably fine displays of Northern Union football, as the pick of New Zealand's best exponents will be engaged in the matches.

Though quite early yet the Club championships in Auckland have already revealed many surprises, and it is indeed a difficult matter to say with any certainty which team will come out on top this season. Last year's champions, Ponsonby, are looked upon to again earn the title this year, but they will assuredly have to give a much better account of themselves than they have done during the past two Saturdays. City, with a strong forward team to pull them through, are given a great chance by their supporters, and it would not be surprising to see the red and blacks at the top of the list when the season finishes. Grafton chances must also be taken into consideration, as their victory over Parnell stamps them as a very solid combination. Their defeat at the hands of City, however, will go against them, but many are of the opinion that the decision will be reversed when next they meet. City's weakness lies in the backs, but with the forwards playing a winning game they would be quite safe with a moderate set of backs. Parnell who started so brilliantly seem to have all the bad luck, and their second defeat on Saturday pretty well placed them out of range of the coveted title. Newton will undoubtedly be found at the bottom of the list, as it is unlikely that they will play throughout the whole round, as it has been found impossible to get a full team together. University and Marist Bros. have little chance of getting in the first three, let alone the winning position, and it is expected that Parnell will beat both these teams. The most exciting match of the season, that is, provided City defeats Parnell, and Ponsonby Grafton, will again be the City-Ponsonby contest, which is set down for decision on June 25.

That rough play is by no means absent from the Auckland Rugby Union's Club competitions has been only too clearly brought under the notice of those who frequented Alexandra Park during the past two Saturdays. The opening day of the season was noteworthy for the vigorous manner in which the various senior teams "put in the boot," and several necessary warnings were given, while the spectators in some instances found just cause to voice their opinions of the offenders. Though not so rough as on the previous Saturday's play, much hard tack-

ing and unnecessary kicking was allowed to creep into Saturday's matches, and in the opinion of the on-lookers several of the players can consider themselves lucky that they were not ordered off the field. Of course, the referee cannot see everything, but by making an example of a player caught indulging in unnecessary roughness, it is possible to effect a much needed reform in this direction. At a meeting of the committee of the Auckland Rugby Union on Monday night a lengthy discussion took place regarding the necessity for taking stringent measures to deal severely with any cases that may come under their notice, the following resolution being unanimously passed:—"That in future members of the Management Committee and Referee's Association be empowered to report any case of rough or foul play or misconduct by any player during the progress of any game played under the auspices of the Auckland Rugby Union."

Football, both Rugby Union and League, is going to make itself felt this winter in Sydney and country centres. The visits of the New Zealanders, Queenslanders, Englanders and Americans will give enthusiasts all the fun they want in the game, but a special feature of one game—New Zealand v. New South Wales—to be played at Sydney on June 11th, is the introduction of the Wolfe's schnapps £25. This competition is advertised in the daily, Sunday and sporting papers, and offers to anyone who successfully predicts the result of this match under certain conditions a prize of £25 sterling. £25 is a good prize, and footballers and others in this Dominion should certainly make a bid for it.

Bennett, who last year was one of the cleverest players in the Waiuku representative team's backs, is to play full-back for the City Club on Saturday.


City and Parnell play on No. 1 ground on Saturday, and a real good game is anticipated. In each of their matches this season Parnell, though defeated, has put up a gallant struggle, and can be relied upon to give the red and blacks a hard tussle. Mr. H. Frost will have charge of the whistle.

Grafton and Marist Bros. try conclusions on No. 1 ground, and the black and whites should add another victory to their credit. If the Marist Bros' form of Saturday last can be taken as a criterion, Grafton should win fairly easily, but football is a game in which surprises are far from being uncommon.

Ponsonby and Newton have been allotted No. 4 ground, but it is extremely doubtful whether the latter team will rake up a fifteen, and even if they do, it is unlikely that they will play full time. Against so weak opponents Ponsonby will have little difficulty in maintaining their unbeaten record.

Football has its sad chapters (says the Australian football writer "Cynic.") The late Alfred Bayly, Taranaki's great player, grand chap that he was seemed to never get over the shock of the death of Barney Armit. It was Bayly who tackled him—a comrade in many games, and a friend in all in which they ever met—when the little man made the fatal jump over his adversary. He had often done it before, but this was the once too often, for he came down, as it had been many times predicted he would, in such a way that he was seriously injured. It killed him, and spoilt the life of the man who had so fairly tackled, bringing him to a premature death. There was the drowning of R. L. Seddon, captain of the first English team, in the Hunter River. The death of Dr. Leo. Neill, "Chunk" Bowman, Jim Carson, H. A. Jones, R. G. Deans (the All Black three-quarter), "Paddy" Lane, S. A. Spragg, Billy Warbrick, and so many other members of the original Maori team, reminds us how fleeting is life.

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