

morrow (Friday): Should Lang succeed in defeating Ketchel, who bears a big reputation in the States as one of the greatest fighters of modern times, he will undoubtedly have a brilliant career before him during his boxing tour of the world. It will be remembered that Ketchel recently stood up to Jack Johnson for 12 gruelling rounds.

Speaking of a return match with Battling Nelson, Ad. Wolgast, world's lightweight champion, who recently defeated the Battler in the fortieth round, says that he promised the ex-champion in San Francisco that he would give him another chance, and it is now up to him to say what he is going to do. "He made the terms in the last battle and got the lion's share of the coin. Now it is my turn to dictate. I feel that he would draw more money at the gate than any other fighter. Nelson is a game man, but he is the meanest fighter I ever met, and I don't fear him. I will simply be a walk-over for me if we meet again. I was half scared the first time I met Nelson at Los Angeles a year ago. Up to the fifth round I didn't know where I was.

WRESTLING.

GARDINER DEFEATS HANSEN.

The Theatre Royal, Napier, was largely patronised on Thursday evening last by an enthusiastic audience of lovers of sport. The evening's entertainment consisted of several amateur bouts of wrestling, followed by a contest between Joe Gardiner (9st 7lb), champion of catch-as-catch-can style, and Dick Hansen (12st 2lb), a local man from Waipawa, and an exponent of no mean merit of the art. Mr. Alex Bain, the champion heavyweight of Scotland, acted as referee, and judging by the applause that followed his decisions, the audience was perfectly satisfied with his verdict.

Both Gardiner and Hansen stripped in splendid condition. The arrangement was for bouts of fifteen minutes each, with a five minutes' interval in the event of a fall. Shortly after commencing Hansen made a good escape from an arm hold and a further Nelson. Then Gardiner tried the further Nelson and nearly gained a fall. The head hold was tried by Gardiner but without success. The clutch hold and swing was next resorted to by the Londoner, but Hansen blocked it by a leg hold. The scissors and the near Nelson was also eluded by the Waipawa man. Gardiner tried the leg hold and the Nelson, but the heavy-weight elbowed himself out of danger. Hansen locked Gardiner, who escaped cleverly, Gardiner then locked Hansen, but the latter dodged with a swing. With scissors and on the neck, Gardiner tried a hammer lock on the back and almost succeeded. Gardiner arm-rolled Hansen, and put on the half Nelson with it. A fall nearly resulted, Hansen's strength alone saving him. The struggle became very strenuous in the fourth round it seemed that Gardiner had gained a fall, but two inches were between Hansen and defeat. The commencement of the fifth round saw Hansen in grave difficulties with the arm and lock. Gardiner tried a full Nelson from the front and succeeded, but the wrestlers had gone off the mat and Mr. Bain did not allow the fall. A full Nelson from the front with the introduction of the scissors was then resorted to by Gardiner, this time with success, after 1 hour and 12 minutes wrestling.

The winner received his due meed of applause. It was a battle between science and strength and science told.

Hackenschmidt is receiving offers galore, the latest being a purse of £1,500 from Mr. Hugh McIntosh for the "Russian Lion" to wrestle Dr. Roller, the famous American grappler, in the Stadium at Sydney, on December next. In all probability Hack will fulfil the engagement, as it is believed that he has already given his word to Mr. McIntosh that he will sign for the match. The Russian is at present on the Continent.

He took hot whisky, gin and rum,
To cure a nasty cold!
His home was Pandemonium
For weeks and weeks I'm told;
He made a fearsome hullabaloo,
And smashed the furniture!
But now he's well (and sober, too)
Through Woods' Great Peppermint
Cure.



BRITAIN v. NEW ZEALAND AT THE AUCKLAND DOMAIN—G. SEAGER TACKLING A BRITISH BACK.

FOOTBALL.

AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES v. AUCKLAND.

A DRAWN GAME.

VISITORS DISPLAY FINE FORM.

Followers of the Rugby game were favoured with ideal weather on Wednesday last for the match between the American Universities team and the Auckland representatives, and fully 3000 persons journeyed to Alexandra Park to witness the final match of the Americans' Australasian tour. In view of the defeats suffered by the Americans in their matches against the Southern provincial teams of New Zealand, a win for the holders of the Ranfurly Shield was regarded in the light of a certainty, but a surprise was in store for Rugbyites, the visitors, after giving a highly creditable display, succeeding in making a draw of the match—a most satisfactory termination to their tour. In place of the one-sided game which was anticipated, onlookers were treated to a keenly-contested, and at time most exciting, match, in which the Americans were loudly cheered for the splendid account they gave of themselves. Such a team of well-proportioned young athletes as the Americans is seldom seen on a football field, while they lacked nothing in the matter of dash and willingness. They also showed a good knowledge of the game, and with a little coaching will undoubtedly prove a first-class combination. Their defensive tactics were of a very sound order, their tackling especially being of a high standard. They put plenty of vim into their work, and may well be termed a team of "bustlers." One noticeable feature of the Americans' play was the manner in which they supported one another; if one player got into difficulties the rest would be round him in very quick time. They

appeared to be able to pass the ball about with no little accuracy even in the close work, but a failing they frequently displayed was the passing of the leather in their own 25. The Americans lost several good opportunities in not taking marks in their opponents' territory, and would only take advantage of a mark to relieve them when defending. Their line-kicking, particularly that of F. Brown, was well up to representative form, while the majority of the team handled the ball cleanly. With plenty of weight and in the best of condition they were able to give the Aucklanders a hard tussle, and those who attended the match formed a very favourable opinion of the visitors' play from every standpoint.

The form of the Aucklanders was, to say the least of it, nothing short of disappointing. There were certainly no glaring errors in their play, but they gave a rather lifeless exhibition, and did not exhibit the dash one expects from an Auckland rep. team. No fault could be found with the individual showing made by a number of the players, but their combination was weak, that of the forwards being in need of much improvement, while the backs were patchy. The inclusion of Hayward, Hall and Cunningham in the forwards, and Murray in the backs, should make a great difference in the strength of the team, and the 1910 representatives may again be found equal to retaining the title of Rugby champions of New Zealand.

Prior to the match the American students gave their "Skyrocket" and "Siren" college cries, while at half-time they rendered their queer salutation "Give 'em the axe," much to the amusement of the spectators. The match was played under the auspices of the New Zealand Rugby Union, a sum of £100 being taken at the gate.

The teams were represented as follows:—

American Universities.—Fullback, F. Brown; threequarters, E. Kern, Allen and A. E. Roth; five-eighths, C.

Cerf and T. Sanborn; half-back, B. Erb; forwards, W. Pauly, G. Cheda, C. A. Phleger, D. Hardy, L. Minturn, J. Fitting, B. Schwarz, A. Bennett.

Auckland.—Fullback, D. Miller; threequarters, Stewart, O'Leary and Wilson; five-eighths, Magee and Armstrong; halfback, Morse; wing-forward, Wilkes; forwards, Tyler, Sellars, Francis, Bigelow, Maguire (Grafton), Wyllie, Tresize.

Mr. A. Campbell was referee.

Auckland had the advantage of the sun behind their backs in the first spell, but the Americans were favoured by a fairly strong north-east breeze. Francis set the leather rolling for Auckland, Kern returning to centre with a useful line kick. Miller let the Aucklanders in badly by missing the take, and the American forwards swept down on to the home team's line, where some exciting play took place, the visitors making desperate attempts to score. Hard graft by the Auckland forwards shifted matters from the danger zone, and the local team set up a hot attack in the Americans' 25, and a passing rush by Francis, Wilkes and Stewart, went very close to ending in a score, the visitors' fullback bringing Stewart down within a couple of yards of the line. A lively few minutes followed in America's 25, but the visitors rallied, and by clever line-kicking removed play to half-way. The Americans were playing hard football and Wilson, mulling the ball, he was charged by several of the visiting forwards, but he made amends for his mistake by beating them badly and finding the touch-line. Later Wilson distinguished himself by centring the leather in America's 25, and O'Leary taking the ball cleverly, sprinted for the line, and when almost up to it, handed the leather on to Stewart, who had a clear run in, the Auckland three-quarter registering the first try of the match. O'Leary piloted the ball over the bar from a difficult angle. Auckland 5, America nil.

Not in the least discouraged by the score registered against them, the Americans worked all the harder, the forwards doing their utmost to get over the local team's line, but being driven back, Morse initiating a smart passing run, enabling the Auckland backs to clear the threatened danger. After a period of play in which honours were even, Allen, the American three-quarter, secured the leather, and on coming into contact with Miller after a brilliant sprint, he transferred to Bennett, and the latter failing to take the pass, Phleger availed himself of the opportunity by snapping up the leather and diving over to the accompaniment of loud cheering. Brown added the major points amid further applause: Auckland 5, America 5.

A forward rush headed by Francis saw the Aucklanders attacking in the visitors' 25. Wilson, securing possession, repeated his performance of centring, and the ball eventually finding its way into O'Leary's hands, the Auckland three-quarter was instrumental in Stewart scoring a good try after the leather had been handled in turn by several of the backs. O'Leary failed with the kick, and the bell went



THE WOODEND (CANTERBURY) MAORI RUGBY FOOTBALL FIFTEEN, THE CRACK MAORI TEAM OF THE SOUTH ISLAND. G. U. Adams, photo., Kalapoi.]