

guards numbers of competitors and good performances. The autumn carnival on April 2, 1910, although perhaps held a little later in the season, proved a success both financially and from an attendance point of view. During the season the committee inaugurated a series of evening meetings, in which there were no gate takings, naturally their was a slight loss to the club on these meetings. It will be noticed from the balance-sheet, that the season's working appears at first sight to have resulted in a loss of £45 9s 5d, almost entirely owing to the fact that the committee, after due consideration, agreed to finance the centre in its deficit of £39 2s 7d on the championship meeting. This amount, of course, appears as an asset, though there may be little chance of obtaining repayment for some years to come, say, until another championship meeting is held in Auckland. Treating this £39 as an asset, the actual loss on the season's work is £6 6s 10d. The hearty thanks of the club is due to those gentlemen who were kind enough to donate trophies during the season, especially to Messrs. F. S. Ballin, W. J. Ralph, and W. J. Rainger, also to our excellent starter (Mr. Austin Smith), to our painstaking handicapper (Mr. H. J. Fielder), to those gentlemen who in official positions so kindly helped us at our various carnivals, and to the press for the attention and space devoted to our club in the columns of their papers."

The receipts totalled £350 3s 4d, including £98 11s 10d in hand at the beginning of the year, and the expenditure left a cash balance of £53 2s 5d. The statement of assets and liabilities is as follows:—Assets: By cash in National Bank, £23 2s 5d; cash in Auckland Savings Bank, £30; working plant, £35; Victor Ludorum cup, £20; Auckland centre, £39 2s 7d; challenge shield (mercantile firms), £12; total, £159 5s. Liabilities: Nil.

BOXING.

MOTORISTS SHUN JOHNSON.

NEGRO NOT WANTED ON RACING TRACK.

The story emanating from Indianapolis to the effect that Jack Johnson, the negro who recently won in the heavy-weight championship battle with Jim Jeffries at Reno, Nevada, would appear in exhibition automobile drive at the Motor Speedway during the present month created a stir in motor racing circles that bade fair to bring a boycott by white drivers against that famous course.

Immediately on receipt of the news that Johnson would be allowed to give a driving exhibition as a feature of the meeting, protests arose from all parts of the country and more than one famous motor pilot refused to ride over the track at Indianapolis, if Johnson were allowed to appear on the course in his machine. In speaking of his attitude Chevrolet, the world-famed motor driver, said: "Jack Johnson is a prize fighter and has become notorious in that particular field. There are no negro automobile race drivers at the present time and if I understand correctly, there is a ban against it. I am not willing to allow my name to be used in the same race programme as that of Jack Johnson, and if the Indianapolis Motor Speedway management cannot confine itself to automobile racing without bringing a negro barnstorming pugilist, I believe it is time for the white drivers to quit the game on that track."

Burman, another famous racing motorist, seconded the sentiments of Chevrolet and added:

"Never before has such a condition arisen, and I believe that the automobile drivers should feel that President Fisher and other officials of the speedway, in even giving publicity to such a project should be the objects of censure at the hands of white men who make a business of automobile racing. I have heard several others say that they will not appear at Indianapolis in September if Johnson is allowed on the track, and although I won many victories at the last Indianapolis meeting, I shall refuse to be a party to any meeting in which Jack Johnson or any other coloured driver is allowed to participate."

Two objecting pilots maintain that the only virtue in Johnson's automobile driving is the fact that he puts money in circulation by paying fines

for speeding. They assert that it would be foolhardiness itself to race against Johnson who has no knowledge of the mechanical and of an automobile. They feel it would place him on a par with them—a position which they do not choose to occupy.

THE PASSING OF A GREAT PUGILIST.

THE LATE JOE GANS.

The one-time world's greatest light-weight passed away to the great beyond on August 10 last, after a year's suffering caused by that dread disease consumption. Gans was born at Baltimore on November 25, 1874, and was therefore nearing the 37th anniversary of his birthday when his death took place. The following are a few extracts from an article written by Mr. Harry B. Smith, which appeared in the 'Frisco "Chronicle" in August last:—

"Modestly, as would best befit the character of the coloured man who held the light-weight championship from the time he knocked out Frank Erne at Fort Erie in one round in 1902 until he was himself beaten down by Battling Nelson at the Colma arena on July 4, 1908, the telegraph dispatches have told the story of the passing of the 'old master.' Anticipated as the death of Gans was by followers of sporting events from the stories that have daily been published, the event nevertheless came with a shock to those who have followed the ring career of this remarkable negro, and more particularly to those who came in personal contact with him.

WHERE GANS WAS SUPERIOR.

"In the private office of James W. Coffroth there hangs a cartoon drawn by a well-known Eastern artist. It depicts Joe Gans as Napoleon searching for new fields to conquer. Underneath is written 'Superiority.'"

"Gans represented what the prize ring has always lacked—the fighter in his place. Further than that, as an exponent of boxing rather than of fighting in its harsher aspect Gans did much to keep the game in a healthy condition. It is because of these features that the death of Gans has attracted so much attention, not only from followers of the game, but from the world at large.

"He was known as a remarkable boxer—a man who won contests by using his brains as well as his fists, and his indifference to weight handicaps and his showing against men who were pounds heavier than himself won the admiration of the sporting world.

WAS A FIGHTER—HIS PLACE.

"The modesty of Gans was a trait which has been commented upon far and wide. Never, if he knew it, would Gans intrude where he thought his company was not wanted, and when conditions compelled him to meet strangers he conducted himself as a gentleman in every respect. This attitude was unflinching, and the championship never caused him to forget it.

"I knew Gans for something like twelve years', was the tribute paid to the departed boxer yesterday afternoon by Jimmy Coffroth, 'and, even though he was a big man in the game, he was always modest. Never did he call me "Coffroth," as so many boxers would do, but always "Mr. Jim." I am just telling this story to show how he conducted himself. He was one of the few coloured fighters to hold himself even in popular favour with his white opponents, and that was simply because he knew his place."

"Having demonstrated his superiority over the light-weights, Gans was forced repeatedly to meet heavier men, one of his successes being against Mike (twin) Sullivan, who was knocked out in the fifteenth round of their San Francisco engagement.

"Gans fought frequently on the Pacific Coast. The biggest purse he ever fought for was in Goldfield, Nev., on September 3, 1906, when 33,000 dollars was given for the Gans-Nelson battle, of which sum Gans received but 11,000 dollars.

"Joe won that contest on a foul in the forty-second round, and after much wrangling and many disputes as to the decision, the men were re-matched by Coffroth to box forty-five rounds at Colma. Gans, under the management of Benny Selig, of this city, was installed an over-whelming favourite, but he had entered one battle too many, Nelson winning by sheer strength in the seventeenth round. Accorded a return engagement on September 9, 1908, Gans was

again beaten by the Dane in twenty-one rounds.

"Although it had been announced that Joe would retire, he broke into the ring in March, 1909, in a ten-round no decision bout with Jabez White in New York. It was a mockery of a fight, and the once brilliant Gans could do nothing.

"Consumption was wearing him down at the time, and his journey to the dry climate of Arizona was too long delayed.

"As one of the leading boxers of the world of any time Gans will long be remembered."

The searching inspection to which visitors to Auckland are subjected on arrival has often been referred to in uncomplimentary terms, and it therefore does not come as a surprise to learn that the Australian boxing team were not at all favourably impressed with the proceedings taken on the occasion of their visit to New Zealand shores. Mr. Steve Hinchy, manager of the Queensland representatives, makes the following reference to the subject in a letter to the boxing editor of a leading Queensland sporting paper:—"We arrived in Auckland on Sunday morning, August 28, a day to be remembered by those who had the opportunity afforded in experiencing the coldest day felt for many seasons in that province. After many hours of waiting, the government medical officer found the Australians free from ticks etc., which in the eye of the average New Zealander, grow to the size of kangaroos on this side of the Tasman. We were then permitted to land, when one was further subjected to a careful and searching inspection by the ever too zealous Customs officials, then came the welcome by officials of the Northern Boxing Association."

Mr. Hinchy has also something to say with regard to the refereeing of the carnival, having commented as follows:—"One regrettable feature about the tournament was the attitude adopted by the referee. He remained outside the ring (which is the old-English style), and in almost every bout he repeatedly stopped the progress of the fight and curtain lectured first one and then the other of the contestants. It showed plainly that the gentleman in question had no control whatever over the boxers. Many a time whilst witnessing his displays did I sigh for the Queensland official, Arthur Austin. "Oh" for his presence in that hempen square—then justice and fair play to all."

For the production of the Reno battle, an electric board, 24 feet long and 15 feet high, is employed in America. The fighters are represented by heroic figures nine feet high, outlined by coloured electric bulbs, Jeffries in pink and Johnson in blue. The board is operated substantially on the same principle as are the animated electric signs that have recently come into vogue. Johnson's terrific uppercuts from the waist line are strikingly portrayed, and the reproduction of Jeffries' three falls in that memorable fifteenth round is said to be realistic to a marked degree.

Jack Johnson, who was engaged after his defeat of Jeffries by a theatrical syndicate at a salary of £600 per week for 30 weeks, will visit every city and town of importance in the United States and Canada. "I think I had better remain here for another reason," said the big negro recently. "If Sam Langford wants to fight me for £4,000 a side, as his manager, Joe Woodman, says he does, I will be in a position to accommodate him at Reno if Mr. Rickard will offer a purse. I have many conditional engagements in Europe for more than a year, but if I can get 90,000 dollars for 30 weeks here I'll stay."

Battling Nelson, former light-weight champion of the world, intends spending the next two or three months at Yellowstone Park, U.S.A., where he hopes to get himself into the best of health and condition. Nelson expressed a wish to meet his conqueror, Ad Wolgast, again, and hopes that the meeting will take place on February 22, 1911, just one year after his defeat.

The blacksmith was hoarse, and feverish too; He lay on his bed and "bellow"-ed tis "shoe." The dreadful cold that he had got Had made him fell,—well, just "red-hot." I'd rather do three years, said he, In prison walls for "forge"-ry, But he took Woods' Great Peppermint Cure, Which put him on his "metal" sure.

FOOTBALL.

NORTH v. SOUTH ISLAND.

SOUTH AGAIN VICTORIOUS.

The North-South Island match, which was played at Lancaster Park, Christchurch, on Saturday, resulted in one of the fastest and finest games that has been seen in the Cathedral City. The weather conditions were all that could be desired, and fully 5000 spectators assembled to witness the battle royal between the chosen of both islands. The South Island succeeded in adding another win to their list of victories, the match ending in their favour by 14 points to 10. The game, which was of a very willing character from start to finish, was devoid of any rough play, and the excitement was intense throughout, the forwards making the game as open as possible. The superior play of the South Island forwards won the match, the Southerners beating their opponents both in the close and open work. The teams lined out as follows:—

North Island.—Fullback, J. O'Leary (Auckland); threequarters, T. M. Grace (Wellington), F. Mitchinson (Wellington), H. Dawson (Wellington); five-eighths, T. Kaipara (South Auckland), M. McLeod (Wellington); halfback, E. Roberts (Wellington); forwards, H. Avery (Wellington), A. Francis (Auckland), J. F. Wylie (Auckland), H. T. Whittington (Taranaki), T. Rapson (Wellington), W. Winiata (Horowhenua), P. Leahy (Wellington), E. Perry (Wellington).

South Island.—Fullback, A. Scott (Otago); threequarters, P. Wall (South Canterbury), P. A. Anderson (Greymouth), R. Colvin (Buller); five-eighths, G. D. Gray (Canterbury), G. Coles (South Canterbury); halfback, C. Green (Buller); forwards, H. Murray (Canterbury), T. Bain (Canterbury), J. Ridland (Southland), J. Graham (Otago), A. Patterson (Otago), H. Paton (Otago), C. Fitzgerald (South Canterbury), R. G. Forbes (Marlborough).

Mr. A. Hooper (Canterbury) was referee.

The Northerners were captained by Francis, while Paton acted as skipper of the South Islanders. Francis set the ball moving, and an exchange of kicks followed. Weak defence by Grace gave the Southerners a chance in the North's 25, and Green securing possession from a scrum made a tricky run through the opposition and scored. He took the kick himself, but was unsuccessful: South, 3; North, nil.

The Southern forwards were displaying magnificent form, and gave the Northerners an anxious time. The North being penalised, Paton had a shot at goal, which, however, resulted in failure. A moment later Patterson made a brilliant attempt at potting a goal, the ball just missing its mark, and the Northern representatives forced. From the kick-out the Northern men livened up, and good work by Francis carried the leather into the South's 25. The Northern backs failed to make use of a good opportunity, and Gray cleared the danger, the ball eventually finding its way into touch in North's 25. The Southerners were having the best of it, Murray particularly playing a sterling game, and Green again securing the leather from the scrum, scored another clever try behind the posts. Paton sent the ball over the bar: South, 8; North, nil.

The Southerners continued to hold the advantage, and Paton, being entrusted with a kick from a mark taken by Green, the Otago man sent the ball fairly between the uprights: South, 11; North, nil. The Northerners then took a turn at attacking, and Paton being penalised in South's 25, O'Leary piloted the ball over the bar, half-time being sounded shortly after with the score: South, 11; North, 3.

The Southern men were early on the attack in the second half, and Anderson raised the excitement of the crowd by putting in a good sprint until grassed by O'Leary. The Northerners were now playing with better combination, and Coles securing, kicked to O'Leary, and the Auckland potted a superb goal: South, 11; North, 7.

A series of forward rushes by the Northerners had the South Island men in trouble, but the latter soon returned to the attack, Patterson finally scoring a good try. Paton made a fine, though unsuccessful, shot at goal: South, 14; North Island, 7.

The Southern forwards were putting considerable dash into their ef-