

hibition of football was not at all bad. Carroll got in some solid work on the wing, and Desmond, Winiata and Downing made headway for their side in the forward division; Bruce, Wilkes and Hall doing similar service for the local men. The visiting backs again got going, Montgomery, Darby, Lennard and Miller setting up a passing run, but the latter, not receiving neatly, lost a good chance to score.

The visitors kept up the pressure, Carroll getting on to McGregor before he could kick had the Auckland line in danger. Stewart saved. Bruce put in a useful dribble and reached the full-back, who beat him for the ball and kicked into touch near his own 25. From the line the visitors got away, with Desmond and Smith in front, carrying play to Auckland's quarter when the bell sounded half-time.

Third Quarter.

Play settled at the half-way, from the line the Auckland forwards took command, Tyler, Herring and Bruce leading the way. The visitors were now slinging the ball about, keeping the game as open as possible, and Auckland were having a bad time of it defending. Play was here stopped on account of Carroll being temporarily hurt. Starting again, Auckland became aggressive, and receiving a penalty made further headway. Wilkes put in a dribble carrying play well into the visitors' 25, Stewart gaining further ground by kicking into touch close to the corner flag. The visitors got away from the line with Downing leading on. The locals retaliated with a rush in which Cunningham and Herring were prominent, and took the ball to their opponents' quarter. Auckland were fighting hard to keep the advantage, and from the loose Harper transferred to McGregor and he to Hall, who fairly struggled over the line with a couple of the visitors hanging on to him. O'Leary failed with a difficult shot. Auckland 8, North Island Country 5.

From the kick-out Auckland set up a dangerous attack. Power marking a quick return punted for the touch line, but the ball crossed the goal line and a force resulted.

From the kick-out the visitors were making strenuous efforts to level up the scores, Darby and Morgan getting in some useful work. Carroll got to O'Leary before he could kick and bumped the ball out of his hands, and what looked like a certain score was saved by McGregor getting in a timely kick. The visitors continued to keep the advantage, till Wilkes obtained a mark, and Tyler taking the ball put in a short kick to set his forwards going, but Darby got in and saved. Auckland still pegged away and in a loose rush Stewart set out after the ball when he collided with Miller close on the touch line in the visitors' 25, the ball going out near the corner flag. Neither of the men seemed any the worse for the bump. Shortly after the visitors forced just as the bell rang for change ends.

Final Quarter.

Cunningham started for Auckland, the kick being returned to centre. Darby received the ball from the loose after the throw-in and got the line well in Auckland's 25, where play was kept for some little time. In fact, the visitors were now having all the best of it, both on the line and in the scrum work. Off-side by Desmond, who was particularly aggressive, gave the local team much needed relief. From a mark by Montgomery McKenzie had a shot but failed, a force resulting. Shortly after Lennard and Desmond charged down, and, beating the opposing backs, carried the ball over the line. O'Leary nipped in with a timely kick to dead ball area. On coming out again Auckland took a hand in attack, Bruce and Hall being conspicuous, but McKenzie sent them back with one of his long kicks. The visitors still maintained the upper hand, and but for the fine defence of Murray and Stewart a score would have been registered. Hall and Wilkes were now working hard in the line play, and the forwards joining in a body gradually reached their opponents' quarters, and eventually got across the line, but a force resulted. The combined team rushed the ball down from the kick-out. Murray and McGregor, mulling between them, let the visitors on to their line, where several scrums took place five yards out. Excitement was great indeed at this juncture; the ball being kicked hard by one of the Auckland pack to McKenzie, who made a pot shot without effect, Auckland forcing. Shortly

after McKenzie had another shot from a mark without increasing the score. The visitors were still having the best of the play, and, coming down in a forward rush, badly beat the defence, the ball crossing the line where Barry made a desperate effort, and, diving on the ball, secured his second try under the feet of O'Leary and McGregor. McKenzie again failed in his attempt to get the bar.

The game ended in a draw, eight all.

Notes on the Game.

The visitors are a fine combination in both divisions, and, had the day been fine, there is no doubt they would have secured a victory.

Comparing the merits of the forwards there was little that the Auckland pack could show them. In the scrum work the visitors screwed time and again, much to Auckland's disadvantage.

Of the individual forwards, Carroll (on the wing) and Desmond and Downing were a tower of strength to their side, the former for their fast following up and the latter in starting rushes from the line. The visiting backs stood out in bold contrast when compared with their opponents. Their handling was much cleaner and surer, but in defensive work they were not up to the standard shown by Auckland. In fact, it was the solid defence of the local backs that prevented a win being registered against them.

Owing to the heavy state of the ground the game was essentially a forward one, but the conditions prevailing did not stop the visitors' half from initiating several brilliant passing runs.

The Auckland forwards stuck to a hard task well, and it would be difficult to individualise, for all worked like Trojans.

UNIVERSITY DEFEATS FRANKLIN.

The University team journeyed to Pukekohe on Saturday, where they met and defeated the Franklin representatives by 12 points to 3, after an exciting game. The 'Varsity Club was not represented by nearly its full strength, three notable absentees being Wilkes, Gray and Otterson, who played for Auckland against the North Island country representatives at Alexandra Park. Nevertheless, University were able to place a powerful team on the field, and the inclusion of Ifwerson, the College Rifles' three-quarter, proved a valuable help to the light blues, who also had the services of Dickeson, one of their juniors, whose brilliant displays for King's College have so often been witnessed in "curtain raisers" at Alexandra Park. The Franklin team compared very favourably with the students, and it was mainly due to the superior play of the 'Varsity backs that the local men experienced defeat. The Franklin forwards were a willing combination, and included Rhodes, the ex-Parnellite, who was very conspicuous throughout, his dashing runs proving of great assistance to the home team.

Despite the match being played under showery conditions, it was remarkably fast and open, both sides throwing the ball about a good deal. Franklin's main strength lay in the forwards, but their backs showed up well at times. 'Varsity's superiority undoubtedly rested with their rear division, who frequently nonplussed the country players with their cleverly-manoeuvred runs. Wilson took a big hand in the students' attack, his pace and quickness in handling the ball enabling him to accomplish much good work for his side. Bamford, McDuff and Bilkey comprised a trio of grafters in the 'Varsity forward division, the last-named player getting in some highly serviceable play on the wing. Of the Franklin representatives Burgess and Harris acquitted themselves well, while Pollock, the wing forward, played an exceptionally good game.

University attacked from the kick-off, and Wilson, who made a fine opening, was instrumental in Ifwerson scoring the students' first try. Schofield was entrusted with the shot at goal, which, however, proved futile. University 3, Franklin nil. Following this the Franklin forwards made several likely-looking attempts to break through 'Varsity's defence, but without success. Good work by the light blue backs saw Wilson distinguish himself by sending the ball out nicely to MacKenzie at an opportune moment, and the latter ran in and scored University's second try. Ifwerson failed with the kick. University 6, Franklin nil. The score was unaltered at half-time.

Shortly after the resumption of play Rhodes, heading a Franklin rush, succeeded in getting over 'Varsity's line, but the pass was forward. Webb, the 'Varsity half-back, marking, Ifwerson piloted the ball over the cross-bar. University 9, Franklin nil. The home team were determined to score and finally their efforts were rewarded, Hatrick securing a try from a passing run. Adams failed to add the major points. University 9, Franklin 3. Before the close of the game 'Varsity obtained another try, Bilkey getting over after a pretty piece of passing. Ifwerson's shot met with failure, and the game ended with the score: University 12, Franklin 3.

JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES.

The junior championship matches of the A.R.U. were continued on Saturday, the results being as follows:—

THIRD GRADE.

Onehunga Methodists won from St. Benedicts by default.

City won from Grafton by default. Parnell beat No. 2 Natives by 3 points to nil.

Engineers and North Shore drew, each side scoring three points each. Engineers played two men short.

FOURTH GRADE.

Ponsonby A v. Grafton: Drawn game, neither side scoring.

City won from Parnell by default.

FIFTH GRADE.

Ponsonby B won from City by default.

Newton A beat Marist Bros. by 6 points to nil.

Ponsonby A beat Grafton A by 6 points to nil.

Parnell beat Newton C by 19 points to nil.

NOTES.

Southern football critics are unanimous in their opinion that the New Zealand University team's trip to Sydney, where they played the New South Wales students, is of no good to anyone, but rather the reverse.

The Otago Rugby Union's senior competition has been won by the University fifteen, while Zingari and Richmond fill the position of runners-up. University had a close call in their match against Southern at Dunedin on Saturday, the game ending in their favour by the narrow margin of 12 points to 11. Throughout the season University have played clean and heady football, and their success in winning the Otago Rugby Union's club championship was most popular with patrons of the winter game in Dunedin.

Pountney, one of College Rifles most prominent forwards, will assist the Parnell senior team in their match against City on Saturday.

Eckhold, who was a member of the 1907 New Zealand team, has been playing well behind the pack for Southern in the senior competitions at Dunedin, and it was thought that he would be selected as half-back in the Otago representative team. However, J. Sutherland has been chosen to represent Otago in that position in their match against the South Island minor Unions on Saturday. Sutherland, it may be mentioned, donned the jersey for his old club, Alhambra, only three Saturdays back, after a season's absence from the game, and as he was able to reproduce his old form, his selection as Otago's half-back followed.

The following team has been selected to represent Canterbury against Marlborough, Nelson, Buller and West Coast to-day (Thursday): Doell, D. Guthrie, Jacobson, Pyie, Burns, Gray, H. Taylor, Murray, Hassell, Burgess (Ashburton), Morgan, Auld, Ward, Morris, and Bain.

An amusing incident is reported from Ashburton in connection with the Canterbury-Ashburton match, on which occasion Don Sandman, familiarly known as "Sandy," who is at present on the disabled list with a broken bone in his foot, was an ardent barracker. One of the Canterbury forwards is the brother of a well-known member of the Christchurch detective force, and is, by the way, generally very prominent in his football. In this particular match, however, he was rather inclined to take things easy, probably in view of the Sydenham match the following Saturday. At any rate, little was seen of him until near the end of the

game, when it suddenly entered his mind to have a "go." Kicking the ball through the scrum, he set after it at top speed, when, before he reached it, a loud call from "Sandy" rang across the ground: "Hullo, Bill, got a clue at last." Bill collapsed, the whistle blew, and the game had to be stopped till he recovered consciousness, while "Sandy" was taken into custody.

The following team has been chosen to represent Otago against the South Island minor Unions on Saturday:— Backs: Scott, Norrie, Bennett, O'Sullivan, Cockroft, Black, Sutherland. Forwards: Casey, Scott (Pirates), Symonds, McDonald (Taiari Rovers), Brown, Graham, Johnson, A. McDonald (Kaikorai).

The football umpire's lot is not an enviable one in Melbourne, judging by the following paragraph:—Late at night after the North Melbourne-Preston match, in which North lost several goals on the first quarter for having played with more than the customary number of men in the team, the field umpire, Hume, was brutally assaulted on his way home at North Melbourne. His nose was fractured by his cowardly assailant.

Walshe, the Ponake wing-forward who was injured in the Athletic match a few Saturdays back, had a parlous time following his accident (says a Wellington writer). At one stage his medical attendant considered it doubtful whether he would ever again be able to watch a football match, let alone play in one, a knock below the heart having caused that organ to be so slow in its action as to reduce his pulsations to thirty-eight to the minute. I am pleased to say, however, that Walshe is now making a fine recovery—so much so that he was permitted to witness the recent victory of his team against St. James. Walshe has been playing Senior football now for about fourteen years, and this season was showing form equal to that of his best days.

The amended dates for the Auckland representative team's proposed southern tour do not improve Otago's position, which is the same as under the original dates, providing for the match against Otago being played on a Wednesday (says a Dunedin writer). It may be that this is the best Auckland can do, but the opinions expressed by members of the Otago Rugby Union are in the direction of the Otago team on its northern tour next season playing Auckland on a Wednesday. This is not in a spirit of retaliation, but it is argued that if Taranaki plays Otago on a Saturday this year, as arranged, Otago is morally bound to give Taranaki a Saturday match on the northern tour next season, and as one of the provinces must accept a Wednesday match that one, in the circumstances, should be Auckland. Before this matters may be arranged providing for both Taranaki and Auckland getting Saturday matches, though, with the limited time at the disposal of the players, one cannot see how it is to be done.

WANGANUI NOTES.

RANGITIKEI v. WANGANUI.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

The weather was fine for the match played on the Recreation on Saturday, between teams representing the Rangitikei sub-Union and Wanganui. The game was not very interesting, though at times it was fast enough. In the first spell, Percival and Schmidt scored tries for Wanganui, neither of which were converted. On changing ends, S. Swan and Phillips were found to have taken the places of Percival and Campion, both of whom had been injured in the first spell. After Rangitikei had done some attacking, in the course of which A. Signall got over, but was tackled before he could ground the ball, Wanganui rushed play to the visitors' quarters, and Cunningham snatched the ball from Bignell and darted over. The kick failed. A little later, Coutts wound up a passing rush by scoring, and Phillips converted. Just on time, Rangitikei got on a fine rush, and Parkes scored a try at the corner. The kick failed, and the game thus ended in a win for the locals by 14 to 3.

The Junior Cup match, College v. Pirates Juniors, followed the rep. match, and resulted in a win for the school by 22 points to nil. Hives again distinguished himself, scoring four tries. On his form he is en-