

match, as the vacancy in the Marist Bros. team probably cost them the game, and robbed the remainder of the fixture of a large amount of interest. If only in fairness to those who had paid for admission in the anticipation of seeing an exciting cup final, some provision should have been made to avoid one side's prospects being shattered so completely and interest reduced in so regrettable a manner; for instance, it would have been far better to have allowed another man to come on in McDevitt's place, seeing that the championship was at stake. Had McDevitt been the sole offender in Saturday's match the position would have been far different, but as there were fully half-a-dozen instances of brutal play, the Marist Bros. forward may well consider himself harshly dealt with. The rough element has been prevalent in quite a number of games played at Alexandra Park during the past season and will certainly have to be eliminated at all costs, but when one recollects the questionable tactics and unnecessary roughness that have been tolerated Saturday after Saturday in games played at Epsom, it seems unfortunate that a player should be ordered off in the last match of the season, particularly when the A.R.U. championship depended upon the issue.

Apart from the fact that roughness was one of the pronounced features of Saturday's match, there were many bright incidents in connection with the game, Olson's try, which won the match for City, being a brilliant piece of work that was loudly applauded by the onlookers. The dare-devil rushes of the Marist Bros. vanguard repeatedly had the excitement of barrackers at high tension, and some very lively attacks ensued within a short distance of City's line, but it was due more to the slowness of the Marist Bros. backs than the sound defence of the Cityites that the red and blacks' citadel remained free from invasion. The Marist Bros. hookers did well against the City front rankers, which included that past-master G. Tyler, but their backs did not make use of their opportunities to the same extent as the City rearguard. The Marist Bros. backs were greatly hampered by their half-back, who was painfully slow in getting the leather away from the scrum, the result being the City forwards were down on them in an instant. Some golden opportunities were missed by the Marist Bros. when attacking near the line, owing mainly to the ball travelling so slowly to the three-quarter line, the wings generally getting the leather when almost in the arms of the opposing players. The manoeuvres of the City backs were the reverse to this. Olson lost no time in sending the leather on to the five-eighths, and seldom did the City backs fail to take the ball cleanly, while their passing was splendidly judged, and it was only the sound tackling of the Marist Bros. that prevented several tries being registered by the City men.

Considering the strenuous nature of Saturday's struggle, both teams lasted the game out well, and the last quarter was contested almost as hotly as the first spell. This speaks well for the condition of the players, as the day was warm enough to test the best trained men, and a good many weeks had elapsed since the last series of cup matches were decided, which meant that the majority of the players had not donned a jersey except at night practice for quite a long period. City's win was very popular with the onlookers, although it was plainly evident that Marist Bros. claimed the greatest number of supporters. It is four years since City won the A.R.U. championship, and since their victory in 1900 they have annexed the cup on no less than six occasions—a record which they may well feel proud of.

#### HOW THE SCORES WERE OBTAINED.

The Marist Bros. had the assistance of a strong sun at their backs in the first quarter, but City were early on the attack, and the Marist

Bros. had an exciting time in their own 25. After successfully defending their goal line, the Marist Bros. were penalised as the result of B. O'Brien getting off-side, and Magee being entrusted with the kick, he landed a good goal for City. The score registered against them spurred the Marist Bros. forwards on to greater efforts, and City's line was continually in danger, but time after time the wearers of the dark and light blue spoilt excellent chances of scoring, through over-anxiousness. They kept up a dangerous attack on City's line until the bell rang for the quarter, with City leading by three points to nil.

Even with the sun in their eyes the Marist Bros. continued to have the best of the game, the excellent work accomplished by their forwards keeping the City men hard pressed. Again and again the Marist Bros. appeared to lose certain chances of scoring, merely because of the raggedness of their attack, and when half-time was sounded they were still pointless, though the play had been all in their favour.

On resumption City livened up considerably, and both teams set a merry pace, the forwards playing particularly hard games. The forwards were more evenly matched in this quarter, the Cityites showing to better advantage than in the first half. City having a penalty kick given against them near the 25yd. line, B. O'Brien had a successful shot at goal, and a great roar went up from the Marist Bros. supporters as the ball soared over the crossbar, thus equalising the scores. Just before the quarter ended, the referee ordered McDevitt off the field for striking Bruce on the line-out, and the Marist Bros. were left to finish the match without the services of one of their hardest grafting forwards.

It now appeared fairly certain that City would be returned victors, as the loss of McDevitt was too much of a handicap for the Marist Bros. to overcome. City played with renewed vigour in the final quarter, in which honours were with them for the greater part of the spell. Olson securing the ball from a scrum in Marist's 25, he sent it on to Stewart, and the speedy three-quarter, after making a great dash for the line, returned the leather to Olson, who raced in and scored. R. Magee failed to convert. City 6, Marist Bros. 3. The match was now practically won, but Marist Bros. continued to dispute their uphill battle to the bitter end. Herring and Grace headed rush after rush for the Marist Bros., and once or twice it looked as though the Old Boys would yet pull the match out of the fire, but City's determined defence was found impenetrable. Finally the bell rang without any further score, and City left the field as the champion team of Auckland for the 1911 season.

#### COMMENT ON THE PLAYERS.

"Sam" Magee, the City wing forward, played a dashing game, and was a thorn in the side of the opposing backs. Tyler was conspicuous from start to finish, and was one of the hardest grafters among the City pack. Bruce gave a fine display, and was generally to be found at the head of the majority of the rushes organised by the Cityites.

Olson, at half-back, fully justified his inclusion in the City rearguard. He is an ex-Grammar School boy, and is well versed in all the points essential for a first-class half-back. He got rid of the ball smartly, giving his fellow backs plenty of opportunities, while his defence even under the most trying circumstances was thoroughly sound. Barclay was a great success at five-eighths, his handling of the ball in the passing runs being the subject of much favourable comment among the onlookers. Webb is a consistent little player, and on Saturday he played right up to his customary form, working in splendidly with the other City backs. R. Magee, at centre, was very solid on the defence. Stewart was the pick of the three-quarter line, and though he did not have a great deal of work to do,

whatever came his way he accomplished in smart fashion. Fitzgerald, at full-back, was not up to his usual form, but little fault could be found with his display.

Harris, the Marist Bros. winger, got through a great amount of graft in a highly serviceable manner, and deserves much praise for his efforts. Herring, though paid undue attention by several of the Cityites, played an unflinching game, taking a hand in most of the splendid onslaughts in which the Marist Bros. forwards figured so prominently. Dennehey gave his best display of the season, and after Saturday's showing there can be little doubt he is one of the crack forwards in Auckland. He simply revelled in the hard task Marists had before them, and towards the end of the game was playing with greater vigour than ever.

P. Sheehan, at half-back, was a big disappointment, and was undoubtedly out of his position. With a player of Olson's calibre behind the pack the Marist Bros. backs would certainly have given a better taste of their quality. Curran, at five-eighths, showed up well, particularly towards the end of the game, and proved himself a good all-round back. B. O'Brien made one or two mistakes, which, however, he fully compensated for by his brilliant play. White, on the wing three-quarter, was patchy, and was very weak on the attack on several occasions. J. O'Brien gave a convincing display at full-back, saving his side with remarkable coolness and first-rate judgment.

#### THE INTER-ISLAND MATCH

##### TEAMS FOR SATURDAY.

Little interest is being taken in the North v. South Island match, which will be played in Wellington on Saturday. The teams will be represented as follows:—

South Island:—Full-back Scott (Otago), Three-quarters, Guthrie (Canterbury), Lynch (South Canterbury), Burns (Canterbury). Five-eighths, Gray (Canterbury), Irvine (West Coast). Half-back, Green (Buller). Wing forward, Murray (Canterbury). Forwards, Biggar (Southland), Dalton (South Canterbury), Forbes and McDonald (Marlborough), Pater-son (Otago), Hassell (Canterbury), Best (Nelson).

North Island:—Full-back, O'Leary (Auckland). Three-quarters, McGregor (Auckland), Mitchinson (Wellington), Rawiri (Horowhenua). Five-eighths, Geddes (Auckland) Kaipara (Poverty Bay). Half-back, F. Roberts (Wellington). Forwards, Coleman (Taranaki) (wing), Sellars (Auckland), Cane (Taranaki), Tamu (Taranaki), Smith (Taranaki), Young (Taranaki), Downing (Hawke's Bay), A. Wilson (Wellington).

In regard to the selection of the North Island team great surprise is expressed in Auckland football circles at the forwards chosen. It is in the forwards that Auckland's main strength lies this year, and the recent successful tour of the South by the northern city representatives was largely due to the splendid efforts of the Auckland front division. Being the champion team of the Dominion it was naturally thought that Auckland would have a big hand in supplying the North Island forwards, yet Sellars is the only Auckland chosen among the forwards. Auckland's two best forwards, Hayward and Bruce, have been overlooked in making the selection, and it is little wonder that those in a position to judge are somewhat puzzled at the omission of two of the Dominion's most prominent players from the North Island team, particularly when three of the seven backs chosen are, curious to relate, Aucklanders.

#### WELLINGTON DRAW WITH OTAGO.

The annual interprovincial match between Wellington and Otago was played at the Caledonian Ground, Dunedin, on Saturday in the presence of some 6000 spectators, and resulted in a drawn game, each side notching nine

points. McKenzie, Ryan and Grace each scored tries for Wellington, while for Otago Symonds notched a try, which was converted by Norrie, and Scott potted a goal from the field.

#### NORTHERN UNION GAME.

##### AUSTRALASIANS AGAIN VICTORIOUS.

##### FRANCIS' FINE FORM.

The Australasian League team defeated Lancashire on Monday by 25 points to 12. Lancashire scored in the first couple of minutes, but after that the colonials, although outweighed, were always the cleverer, both in attack and defence. They led at half-time by 15 points to 10, and in the second put on ten points to their opponents' two.

Francis scored two tries, and Williams, Gilbert and McMurtie one each, while Francis converted the whole five, thus being directly responsible for 16 of the 25 points.

The losers' score was made up of two tries, which were converted, and a penalty goal.

The Northern Union match between Rotorua and Hamilton which was played at Hamilton on Saturday, was won by the visitors by 15 points to 14. For Rotorua the trygetters were Rowson and Reke (2), while two of the tries were converted, and Rowson kicked a penalty goal. For Hamilton tries were obtained by S. Hughes, A. Cranston, Hogg and Prouse, one of which was converted.

#### ATHLETICS.

##### WORLD'S SPRINT CHAMPIONSHIP

##### DONALDSON BEATS HOLWAY.

It was recognised that the race on the 23rd ult. for the world's sprint championship, between the holder, Jack Donaldson, of Victoria, and C. E. Holway, of America, would be productive of something sensational in the way of "clocking," and, in very truth, it was. The outcome was the establishment of the sensational time of 12sec. "dead" as the new 130yds. record (says "Mercury" in the "Dominion.")

Think of it! Ten seconds inside even time. Truly a magnificent run—granted that everything connected with the achievement proves to be in order. The cable messages announced it as a record, so, while awaiting details by mail, we must assume that the usual requirements were complied with. The figures are the more surprising from the fact that they were made on a grass track, and in the open. Even in an indoor cinder path such a performance would be phenomenal, albeit we live in these days of record-breaking. The previous best appears to have been put up in England 'way back in 1867, when one W. Johnson was credited with 12 1-8sec. for the distance, but this performance has always been looked at sideways by the old-timers.

If the present performance of Jack Donaldson's is substantiated by compliance with all the necessary record conditions then he must be a marvel and, undoubtedly, the fastest sprint runner of this or any other time. That he is a great sprinter he has proved before. His previous best time was hoisted in the great triangular test race at Johannesburg on February 12 of last year, when he met his fellow-Australian, A. B. Postle, and his challenger of last Saturday, C. E. Holway.

This was also for the world's championship, and in addition a purse of £500 and a sweepstake of £200 per man—truly a race worth winning. The result was: Donaldson, 1; Postle, 2; Holway, 3. The timing was in the hands of three expert watch-holders—not, as the account before "Mercury" as he writes) states "a trio of ancient 'peds' with fatty fingers," and the figures returned stood at 9 4-16sec. twice, and 9 6-16sec. once.

## STRIKING EXPERIMENTS AT THE REQUEST OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD FOR IRELAND.

The remarkable feeding experiments conducted in the School of Physiology, Trinity College, Dublin, at the request of the Local Government Board for Ireland, prove that

# BOVRIL

when added to a fixed diet, has a body-building effect equal to from 10 to 20 times the weight of the Bovril taken.

DETAILS OF THESE EXPERIMENTS CAN BE HAD UPON APPLICATION.