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YULE SMILE

OH, YE OF LITTLE FAITH

The old negro parson had called his flock together during a drought to pray for rain. Entering the pulpit he gazed sadly down upon his congregation.

"De faith ob you niggahs is deplorable," his began. "Here we are gathered together to ask the good Lawd to send us rain—and not one of you has brought an umbrella."

* * * * *

The sweet young member of the W.A.T.S. had a message to deliver. "May I see the Captain?" she asked a sailor on the gangway.

"Yes, miss," came the reply. "You will find him forward."

"Oh, I'm not afraid," she answered cheerfully, "I've been out with the boys of the R.A.F."

* * * * *

ONE FOR EVERY PORT

The good-looking A.B. had been looking through all the Christmas cards in the shop, yet he seemed uncertain as to which he should choose.

"Here's a lovely sentiment," said the young saleslady: "To the only girl in the world I ever loved."

"Splendid," cried the sailor. "I'll take a dozen of those, please."

* * * * *

Stated that, as the law stands, the army provides no escape from alimony. More evidence of how recruiting is being discouraged.

SERVICES RUGBY

Win For South Island Team

SPECTACULAR SCORING

Brilliance Of McAuliffe And Finlay

As a fitting climax to a wartime season of Rugby football, teams representing the Services, designated as North Island and South Island, on Saturday provided a crowd of about 10,000 with one of the most exhilarating displays of Rugby seen at Athletic Park for many years. Sixty-one points were piled up after some dazzling football, the team designated as the South Island winning 38-23. Conditions were ideal and from whistle to whistle the match was brimful with incident.

The game was the only one of the season under the auspices of the New Zealand Rugby Union, being a substitute for the annual North-South fixture. At the same time, it was not strictly an interisland match. The nominations included a great preponderance of North Islanders, some of whom were placed in the South Island team.

The match was a benefit for the Patriotic Fund. Spectacular scenes were seen before and during the game. The teams marched round the ground headed by the Central Band of the N.Z.R.A.F., under Drum-Major A. V. Brown, which took a prominent place in the proceedings. Among the guests were the Governor-General Lord Galway, the Prime Minister, Mr. Fraser, and members of Cabinet.

Enterprising Forwards.

South's victory was largely the result of the superlative play of their forwards, who were vastly more enterprising collectively than their opponents, and received excellent support from their backs, of whom McAuliffe (Canterbury) was one of the outstanding performers on the field, scoring a try and converting seven of his side's eight tries. Finlay (Manawatu), who has previously demonstrated his claim to be regarded as one of the best loose forwards in the country, was in magnificent form, being ideally suited by the open game and taking a prominent part in most of the South's scoring movements. Metcalfe, though much more burly than in his palmy days as a Southland representative and All Black, played no small part in his team's success, and Canterbury was worthily represented by Rhind and McPhail. Fearn (Manawatu) also played well, and McDonald, a former Berhampore and Wellington representative, figured in much clever play.

The South five-eighths, Jackson (Taranaki) and Wagstaffe (Auckland) were two improvers who did their work efficiently. Donovan was the pick of the three-quarters, most of the breaks coming his way.

A feature of the team-work of the South Island was the almost uncanny ability of backs and forwards to link up. A favourite practice in the second spell—launching passing rushes after fielding the kick-off—brought some spectacular results.

Bowman's Solid Game.

For the North Island Bowman was the outstanding forward; indeed for all-round play he had no superior on the field, though for spectacular football the palm would go to Finlay. Barton was the king-pin of the North rearguard, which did not have as many opportunities on attack as their opponents. The five-eighths, Gibson (North Auckland), who participated in the All Black trials last year, and Sargisson, the former Hutt and Wellington representative, showed plenty of thrust when the chances came their way. Both scored well-deserved tries.

The high scoring did not signify weak tackling. Both teams set out with the purpose of throwing the ball about, and succeeded admirably.

Details of Scoring.

North scored first. From a scrum the ball went out to Sargisson, who found a gap and threw out a long pass to McAneney, who beat Bush to score, Barton converting. Bush was responsible for

putting South on attack, and from a ruck McAuliffe sent to Wagstaffe, who raced through a gap and passed to Donovan, who sent infield to Fulton, who scored, McAuliffe converting. A neat break from a ruck by McAuliffe had the defence rattled. Metcalfe coming up on the inside of him to take a pass and race across, McAuliffe converting. A few moments later McAuliffe scored. His kick missed narrowly. The South backs and forwards then linked up in a great rush, in which Donovan completely beat the defence. McAuliffe converted. Sargisson retaliated for North, racing through a gap to score. Barton converted. Just before half-time Finlay thrilled the crowd by taking a centre-kick magnificently in full stride and scoring under the posts. McAuliffe converted to make the scores 23-10.

South scored first in the second spell, Jackson securing a cross-kick which bounced awkwardly for McAneney, and crossing at the corner. McAuliffe converted with a great kick. A fine movement, in which McAneney, Bowman and Guineven were prominent, saw the last-named score for North. Barton converting. South increased their margin. Rhind and Donovan scoring. McAuliffe converted both tries. Barton and Gibson added tries for North. Barton converting one to make the final scores 38-23.

The teams were:—
South Island: Bush; Schubert, Fulton, Donovan; Jackson, Wagstaffe; McAuliffe; McPhail, McDonald, Rhind; Mills, Chalmers, Fearn, Metcalfe; Finlay.

North Island: Donnelly; McAneney, Barton, Sherratt; Sargisson, Gibson; Sloane; Hansen, Warren, Elliffe; Spence, Fraser-Smith, Bowman, Guineven; Overton.

Referee: Mr. H. B. Simmons.

PROFESSIONAL BOXING

Gildo v. Rayner

The Wellington Boxing Association is catering well for its patrons this season, and will increase its prestige with the attractive programme which will be staged in the Town Hall on Saturday night, when Young Gildo will meet Clarrie Rayner over 12 three-minute rounds.

This pair have proved themselves to be the outstanding lightweights in the Dominion at present. The Filipino has shown his ability this season by his victories over Jack Jarvis and Johnny Hutchinson, the highly-rated American negro. Rayner beat Gildo at Blenheim this season, but on that occasion the "Filipino Flash" was nursing an injured right hand. The pair had a thrilling contest in Palmerston North on Saturday week, which ended in a draw, and their tussle in the Wellington Town Hall on Saturday night should be just as evenly fought. There should be something doing in every round.

Attractive amateur bouts will precede the professional contest.

RACING FIXTURES.

OCTOBER:

- 3-5—Hawke's Bay J.C.
- 12-14—Dunedin J.C.
- 12—Otaki Maori R.C.
- 12-14—Auckland R.C.
- 17-19—Masterton R.C.
- 17-19—South Canterbury J.C.
- 19—Rotorua and Bay of Plenty Hunt.
- 19—Stratford R.C.
- 24-26-28—Wellington R.C.
- 26—Poverty Bay Turf.
- 26-28—Gore R.C.
- 28—Waikato Hunt C.
- 28—Poverty Bay Hunt.
- 28—Waverley R.C.
- 28—North Canterbury R.C.

TROTTING FIXTURES.

OCTOBER:

- 5—Methven T.C.
- 5—Thames T.C.
- 12—New Brighton T.C.
- 23-26—Wellington T.C.
- 26-28—Greymouth T.C.
- 28—Oamaru T.C.
- 26-28 or 30—Auckland T.C.

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The men in the Navy to-day never go short of their rum ration, we read. However, this has nothing to do with that "zigzag course" we so often hear about.