

346 for the sixth wicket. Bradman scored 270. England was left with 689 runs to make. They fell 365 runs short of the total, in spite of a sound 111 by Leyland and attractive innings by Hammond and Robins. The fourth Test was won by Australia by 148 runs. Bradman played at the top of his form for 212 in the second innings, and England could not reach the required total. The sides were all square. Bradman won the toss in the final Test, and Australia scored 604 (Bradman 169, McCabe 112, Badcock 118). England followed on 365 runs behind, and on the fourth day had lost eight wickets for 165 runs. Two balls from Fleetwood-Smith finished the game next morning—and Australia still held the Ashes.

The last series before the outbreak of war left Australia still in possession of the premiership. The first Test was drawn, England making 658 for eight wickets, declared (Hutton 100, Barnett 126, Paynter 216 not out, Compton 102), and Australia 411 (McCabe 232) and 427 for six wickets declared (Brown 133, Bradman 144 not out). The second Test was a most interesting struggle between two well-matched sides. It, too, was drawn. England made 494 (Hammond 240) and 242 for eight wickets declared, and Australia 422 (Brown 206) and 204 for six wickets (Bradman 102 not out). Rain prevented the third Test from being played. Scoring was low in the fourth

Test which was won by Australia by five wickets. England made 223 and 123, and Australia 242 and 107 for five wickets. It was a dour struggle. Australia owed her win to Bradman who scored a 103 at a most critical time, to the brilliant bowling of O'Reilly and Fleetwood-Smith, and to Barnett's wicket-keeping. The fifth and final Test was a triumph for England and, individually, for Hutton. England batted brilliantly on a perfect wicket and scored 903 for seven wickets declared (Hutton 364, Leyland 187, Hardstaff 169 not out). Australia's luck was out. The side was without its fast bowler McCormick, and Bradman and Fingleton were unable to bat in either innings because of injuries. Australia scored 201 and 123, and England had squared the rubber.

How long it will take cricket in both countries to recover from the war no one can accurately predict. But it is safe to say that cricket will be the same again and the struggles for the Ashes will be followed with the same avid interest as they were before the war. For cricket will always be part of the British character.



The gunners took possession of the casa in the evening. They wandered through its abandoned rooms, selecting their sleeping positions and a spot for the thermette and the primus. On the door of the room housing the stock was a large notice. It was written in English, strangely worded and spelt. It was a list of instructions to the "liberating" troops as to how the stock should be fed and watered in the owner's temporary absence. The Kiwis grinned as they read the naive sentences, and grinned more widely still when they read a sentence added in a bold hand: "We have taken care of the pigs, one sheep, and the galenas—they've fed us, not us them!—Hori."