

TRIES THAT LIVE IN THE MEMORY



INTERNATIONAL Rugby matches are remembered by their highlights rather than by their final scores. Long after the flush of victory or the gloom of defeat have passed there remains the memory of incidents which, though they may have occupied only a few seconds in their unfolding, live in the mind of the true enthusiast for years. New Zealand Rugby history fairly sparkles with such gems—brilliant tries and sensational goals which have at times turned defeat into triumph, at others have served to raise particular matches above the normal plane. And not all those incidents, be it said, have been on New Zealand's side.

There are many members of 2 NZEF who will remember the two spectacular tries scored in the second Test match between New Zealand and South Africa at Christchurch in 1937. The first was the work of the New Zealand centre, J. L. Sullivan, who had already scored a try to place New Zealand three points up after the first half-hour's play. From the new-kick-off the Springboks, concentrating on getting possession from the tight scrum-mages, were soon hammering away at the All Black defences and had gained a strong foothold on the New Zealand line when a scrum was ordered almost in front of the posts. From New Zealand's point of view the worst had happened when the Springbok hooker, J. W. Lotz, hooked the ball cleanly and

the half, D. Craven, sent out a long pass to T. A. Harris, at stand-off half. The New Zealand defence was on tenterhooks. The South African five-eighth, L. Babrow, called for a pass and Harris fired the ball at him. But even as Babrow put his hands out to seize the ball Sullivan dashed up, intercepted the pass and in a flash was through the South African three-quarter line.

Only one man turned fast enough to give chase, and that was the winger, D. O. Williams, who came tearing after him. Even as Williams got to him Sullivan kicked the ball over the head of the South African full-back, G. H. Brand, who had naturally come well up while his side was attacking. Then it became a duel between Sullivan the opportunist and the flying South African winger. Almost shoulder to shoulder they ran, with Sullivan always able to get to the ball just a shade in front, and each time he reached it he kicked it on. The crowd was on its feet as the pair continued their race right to the Springbok line, where Sullivan had only inches to spare as he dived on the ball to score one of the most thrilling individual tries in the history of Test Rugby in New Zealand.

Later in the same match it was the Springboks' turn, and this time the star performer was the winger, F. G. Turner. In a loose melee the ball